

# Interim CPO aims to continue good work

**Assistant Commissioner Andy Hughes assumed the position of the Australian Capital Territory Chief Police Officer (CPO) from 7 May and will remain in that role until a permanent arrangement has been finalised.**

Announcing the appointment, Commissioner Keelty said Assistant Commissioner Hughes was a highly qualified and dedicated police officer with exemplary skills in leadership and community policing.

A career police officer of 30 years, Assistant Commissioner Hughes worked for three years on major transnational crime investigations as an AFP liaison officer in London during the 1990s. In 2000, he co-ordinated major operations nationally and internationally before being appointed Deputy Chief Police Officer of the ACT in 2001. He continued in this position until he was appointed Fiji Police Force Commissioner in 2003.

Assistant Commissioner Hughes holds a Bachelor of Science (Honours) Degree in Policing and Police Studies and postgraduate qualifications in both Applied Management and Executive Leadership.

"Assistant Commissioner Hughes brings a wide range of qualifications and skills to this position, as well as a sound knowledge and expertise of policing at local, national and international levels. These skills were demonstrated during his two-year tenure as Deputy Chief Police officer of the ACT and his position as Commissioner of the Fiji Police Force," Commissioner Keelty said.



Assistant Commissioner Andy Hughes fields questions at the media conference held in Canberra to announce his appointment as interim Chief Police Officer for ACT Policing. He appeared with Commissioner Mick Keelty (left) and ACT Minister for Police and Emergency Services Simon Corbell (right).

Assistant Commissioner Hughes would also build on the key ACT Government, community and business relationships Assistant Commissioner Audrey Fagan had developed during her time as Chief Police Officer," he added.

Welcoming the appointment, ACT Minister for Police and Emergency Services Simon Corbell said the ACT was fortunate to have someone as experienced as Assistant Commissioner Hughes to take on the role of Chief Police Officer in the interim.

"I look forward to Assistant Commissioner Hughes continuing the implementation of the ACT's policing initiatives, including bringing on line the 60 police that were funded in the 2006-07 Budget and the

Suburban Policing Strategy," Mr Corbell said.

Assistant Commissioner Hughes, said that he would continue to progress and develop the innovative programs, such as the Suburban Policing Strategy, introduced by Assistant Commissioner Fagan.

"There is no doubt that all AFP members, but particularly those within ACT Policing who worked closely with Assistant Commissioner Fagan on a day-to-day basis, felt her loss keenly," Assistant Commissioner Hughes said.

"I am really enjoying being back in uniform again and have a great respect for the work our officers perform in the ACT."