



27 August 2021

Dear Supporters,

This update comes to you from locked-down Canberra. The Australian War Memorial was directed to close to the public, with staff working from home, and the Development Project construction works have paused.

Lockdowns notwithstanding, we have now entered the final stage of the National Capital Authority (NCA) public consultation process. With early and enabling works approved, the current national consultation seeks public feedback on the architectural designs of our three Main Works packages: the new Southern Entrance, the CEW Bean Building extension, and the new Anzac Hall and Glazed Link.

Public submissions are **now open**. This is an opportunity for all Australians to offer valued feedback on the project's proposed designs, and to share ideas for design improvements. **Submissions close at 5pm on 10 September.**

I encourage you, as supporters of the Memorial, to participate in this consultation. It is important for the NCA to hear from you, especially if you believe, as I do, that the architectural solutions will enhance the Memorial's important role, in generating a deeper understanding of the contribution made by our service personnel to upholding Australian values. **Submissions are to be made directly to the NCA via an [e-form](#).**

Information on the consultation process, the architectural design plans, and video presentations on each package of work are available for review on the [NCA's website](#).

In response to concerns raised in earlier phases – and to some you might also see online – I want to be clear: the iconic heritage façade of the Memorial building will not change. Nor will the Commemorative Area housing the Roll of Honour, the Pool of Reflection, the Hall of Memory, and the First and Second World War galleries. The Development does not come at the expense of our veterans, but instead is key to their support, which is needed now as much as ever.

While I hope that our lives may soon return to a new normal, my thoughts are with the people of Afghanistan and our remarkable women and men who have served there with courage and compassion over 20 years. The Development will give us the space to honour the 39,000 women and men who served in Afghanistan as well as those who served in other recent conflicts and operations. We will tell their stories, in their words.

In coming weeks we will be in touch with advice to support your visitor experience. We look forward to welcoming you back, but until then visit us at www.awm.gov.au, where we have much to share.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Anderson", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Matt Anderson PSM
Director

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