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### **Time to shine for ACT exporters**

The hunt is on once again for Canberra businesses making their mark around the world, with the 2017 ACT Chief Minister's Export Awards now open for nominations.

Formally launched today by the Chief Minister, the awards are a chance to recognise the many ACT businesses leading by example and showcasing our region to the globe.

The region continues to grow as a major player on the world stage. According to research released in August 2016, the ACT's total trade in services grew by 11 per cent in 2015, to reach \$3.5 billion. This was the second largest increase across all jurisdictions, just behind NSW's 11.4 per cent annual growth.

The ACT's top services exports by value are: travel (\$783m), government services (\$416m), and other business services (\$306m).

Now those businesses who have broken into overseas markets have a chance to share their stories of success and inspire others.

Applications are being sought in the following categories:

- Exporting Government Solutions
- Exporting to Asia
- Emerging Exporter Category
- Agribusiness
- Business Services
- Creative Industries
- Education and Training
- Health and Biotechnology
- Information and Communication Technology
- Manufacturing
- Online Sales
- Small Business

The ACT Award winners will be announced in August this year, with ACT category winners progressing through to the Australian Export Awards, which will also be held in Canberra later in the year.

Canberra Business Chamber is very excited that the ACT's positive contribution to Australian trade is being noticed and it has been chosen to host the Australian Export Awards.

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