



## Anna Burke MP

Federal Member for Chisholm

Level 1, 207 Blackburn Road, Syndal 3149 Ph: (03) 98020566  
Fax: (03) 98020588 | [anna.burke.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:anna.burke.mp@aph.gov.au) | [www.annaburke.com](http://www.annaburke.com)



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### TIME TO APPLY - MEN'S SHED FUNDING

Applications can now be submitted for funding from the Federal Government for tools, new activities and more local workspaces under the men's sheds program, the Member for Chisholm, Anna Burke, said today.

"Up to \$10,000 in federal support is available to men's sheds in our area – and I encourage them to apply under the Federal Government's latest funding round, which continues until 28 October", Ms Burke said.

There now are more than 700 men's sheds in Australia, with more than 55,000 members. The sheds are facilitated locally by a number of organisations. They provide tools and space primarily for men to work together on meaningful projects.

The program is funded by the Federal Government because it helps encourage preventive health care among men who work in the sheds alongside their friends.

The sheds offer social connection and opportunities for men to work together on positive activities. They can also provide a way to overcome the tendency of men not to speak about their wellbeing to others.

"I encourage men's sheds, or those wishing to start one up, to apply for up to \$10,000 in funding under this unique Australian program," Ms Burke said.

"Our local sheds can apply for up to \$4,000 for tools and equipment such as power and hand tools, wood or metal lathes, work benches and safety equipment", Ms Burke said.

"Sheds can also apply for up to \$6,000 to improve existing buildings or make improvements like better disability access, insurance and connection to utilities such as power, water, and communications", Ms Burke said.

"Or they can apply for up to \$5,000 to help improve their local fundraising through events like sausage sizzles. This may cover costs of venues for public meetings, barbeques, cold storage, print flyers or other promotional items", Ms Burke said.

Application forms are available for the three types of funding from the Australian Men's Sheds Association website at: [www.mensshed.org](http://www.mensshed.org)

**Media Contact:** Simon Miller (0417 140 935)