



MEDIA RELEASE

Casino Canberra unveils \$14m refurbishment.

More than 600 guests will get a preview of a very different Casino Canberra tonight when Aquis Entertainment re-opens the doors to the casino following a \$14 million refurbishment. Aquis and COX Architecture will launch the refurbished casino at a glittering function for invited guests with proceeds from the event donated to charity partners, The Ricky Stuart Foundation and Lifeline Canberra.

The new casino – which will open to the public on Friday – features an enhanced arrival experience and boasts a new gaming floor and VIP gaming salon along with new offerings – *The Chandelier Bar*, *Onyx Lounge* and *Natural 9* restaurant. All new state of the art gaming equipment has been installed as part of the refurbishment, including 50 gaming terminals in the first ever live stadium gaming experience in the ACT. A sports bar and the *The Lotus Room* – a new poker lounge will open upstairs later this month.

Casino Canberra Vice President and General Manager Rhiannon Bach thanked the large team of local contractors who worked on the project. “I’m confident that people will be impressed by the transformation and this is a reflection of the high quality work of our large team of local contractors led by Hindmarsh Constructions” she said.

As part of the re-opening, Canberra’s dining scene is set for an exciting new entrant in *Natural 9*, led by Director of Food and Beverage Chad Ogden and highly regarded Chef de Cuisine David Black. The restaurant will serve modern Australian cuisine with French, American and Asian influences throughout the menu while ‘*The Kitchen*’ will offer a traditional Asian menu.

Aquis Entertainment Executive Director Jessica Mellor said she was proud to be able to deliver on the first part of the company’s vision for a revitalised entertainment offering in the CBD. “We acquired Casino Canberra because we could see, with the right management and investment, its potential to start to compete with other Australian casinos” she said. “The new Casino Canberra has surpassed our own high expectations and I’m confident that it will be seen as an exciting taste of what we hope to deliver as part of our longer term redevelopment plans”.

The new Casino Canberra opens to the public on Friday 10 June.

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