



Concerned Residents for West Kambah
www.crowk.org.au

A Community Centre for Active and Positive Aging

Discussion Paper

INDEX

Introduction	3
Context	4
Summary of concept	5
Evidentiary basis	9
Key issues	11
Design features	13
Consultation on CROWK proposal	14
Adjacent sports oval	15
Taking the concept forward	15
Appendix 1 - Abstract	18
Appendix 2 - Media release	19
Appendix 2 - References	20



Concerned Residents for West Kambah
www.crowk.org.au

A Community Centre for Active and Positive Aging Discussion paper

Introduction

This Discussion Paper is from a community group called Concerned Residents for West Kambah (CROWK). CROWK is liaising and working with the local community to help build an environmentally and socially sustainable precinct in West Kambah and neighbouring regions. Government assistance through ACT Health Promotions has supported us in this role.

Because of our work within the region, CROWK has a strong interest in the future of the Mt Neighbour Primary School site in Kambah. We propose the development of a Centre for Active and Positive Aging at this former school site closely linked with other community functions. Our concept is very different from past models of aged care facilities, but is in line with new approaches starting to be implemented overseas. It therefore has a strong interest in and proposes the development of a Centre for Active Aging at the former Mt Neighbour Primary school site in Kambah. However, the concept proposed here is very different from what has been undertaken in the aged care sector to date. This will be explained below but in essence the concept is of an ecologically sustainable development to support and encourage the establishment of a socially powerful hub of positive aging, community interaction and learning.

This paper starts by using the term ‘active and positive aging’ in preference to ‘aged care’ to help change the often prevailing view of older people from a passive and frequently negative perspective. We aim to encourage a view of older people as part of a sustainable local community underpinned by widespread social wellbeing.

CROWK believes that considering a site for such a facility without acknowledging and engaging with the wider social and physical context would effectively reproduce the old paradigm for aged care known colloquially, but powerfully, as ‘God’s waiting room’. Therefore CROWK proposes that a regional approach be integral to thinking on the issue of the Mt Neighbour primary school site. Consideration needs to be taken of the local suburb, its environment, connected parks and walkways, shopping centres, associated sporting facilities and social support systems. CROWK also proposes that an all weather athletics and multi sports ground is built on the adjoining oval, the future of which we understand may also be under consideration. If this is not the case, then we still propose that improved facilities be constructed around the existing grounds and linkages be facilitated with our positive and active aging centre.

The paper is set out as follows:

1. Context
2. Summary of concept
3. Evidentiary basis
4. Key issues
5. Design features
6. Consultation on CROWK proposal
7. Adjacent sports oval
8. Taking the concept forward
9. Appendices

1. Context

CROWK is a not-for-profit, community-based, organisation, incorporated in the ACT in 2003. The CROWK mission is to support residents in their development of a socially vibrant, environmentally sustainable, local community, ensuring that community resources are protected and maintained as community assets.

We have developed this Discussion Paper because of our core interest in, and major project focus upon, building a stronger, inclusive, local community in Kambah and parts of Weston Creek, operating in line with ecological sustainability principles and fostering wellbeing among all residents, old and young.

CROWK believes establishing practical examples in support of our key social capital objectives is extremely important if we are to achieve the objectives of social and environmental health and well-being in the area. The opportunity to establish an example of an innovative centre for active aging comes about in the circumstance when a closed school site is to be utilised for new purposes. A school site was originally a centre of many community-building activities. Future site uses need to strengthen social capital, not reduce it. A visionary example of a sustainable aged living facility offers such an opportunity to achieve these aims.

There is also a wider context of significance. It stems from a rapidly rising flow of key reports about the vulnerability of our planet... The release last year of the Stern Report in the UK, Al Gore's film called 'An Inconvenient Truth', the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report in February this year, the most recent release of the draft Garnaut report on emission trading, and discussion of a post oil economy, highlight that we cannot continue to act as we have in the past. Thus, urban design and social infrastructure need to be considered very differently now and in the future. With investment periods for infrastructure ranging up to 20-30 years into the future, the imperative to act locally in a very different way is vital.

Associated with these developments is recognition of the issue of public health. A recent Public Health Congress held in Brisbane from July 6-9th, demonstrated this. The ACT Government, through its Health Promotions Branch, subsidised a CROWK representative to attend this Congress. The Congress highlighted that the nature of the social and physical urban environment has direct and important impacts upon the health of its citizens. We are not talking here of a

better application of the past bio-medical model of health, but a wider socially driven appreciation of the nature of community wellbeing

This Discussion Paper reflects the issues raised above. The concepts proposed stem from research work carried out by academics of whom two in particular, have been important, namely:

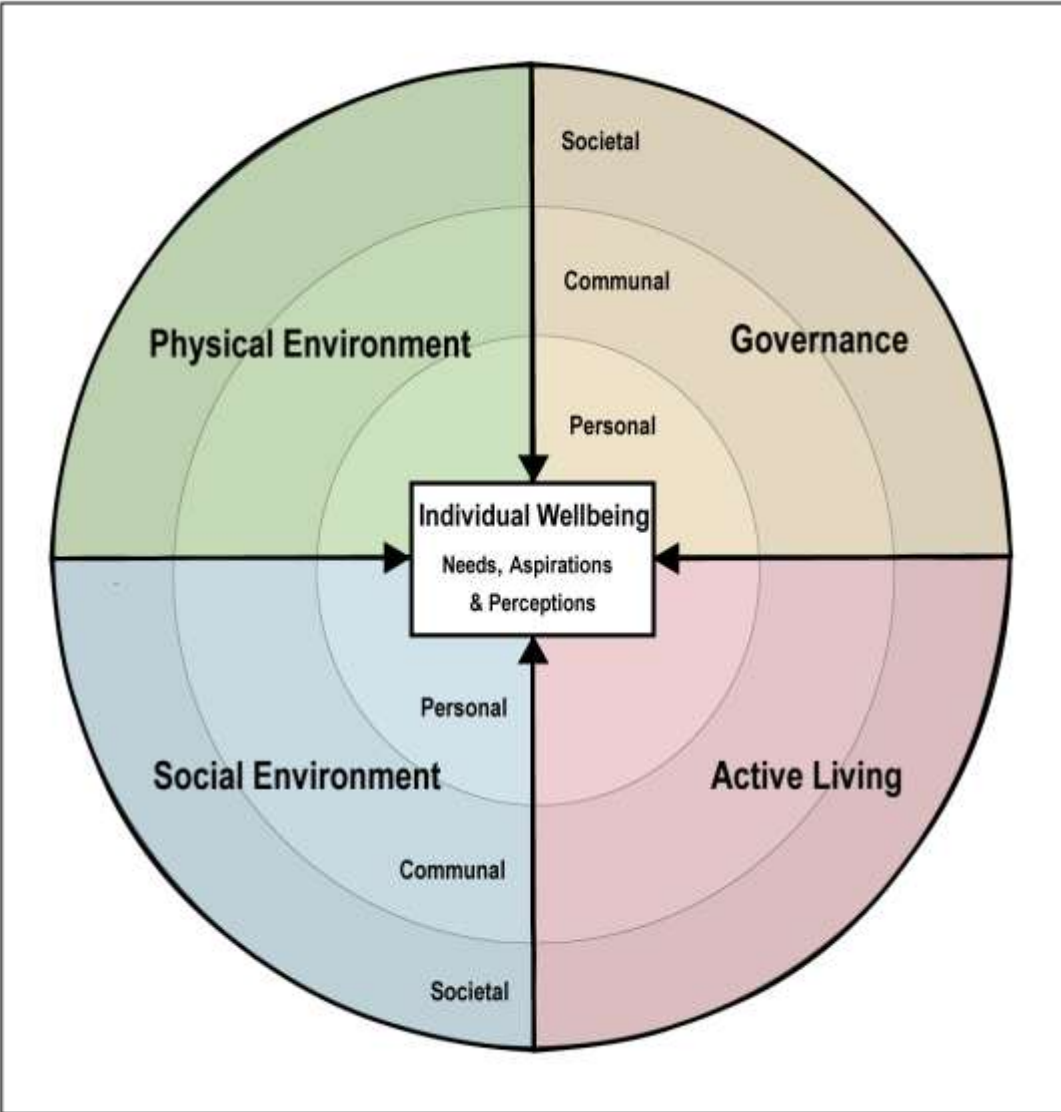
- Dr John Grootjans University of Sydney
- Dr Neil Harris Griffith University

We will also refer to work from other academics such as Emeritus Professor Val Brown University of Western Sydney and Professor Steve Garlick, University of the Sunshine Coast. CROWK has been fortunate in that these and others have personally given their time to support CROWK at its public events on this subject and providing material to assist in producing this paper.

Finally, in terms of a context, our local community is aging. An analysis of the Census data suggests there might be over 4% of our Kambah population in need of an aged care facility in the next 5 years. There is no such local facility present.

2. Summary of concept

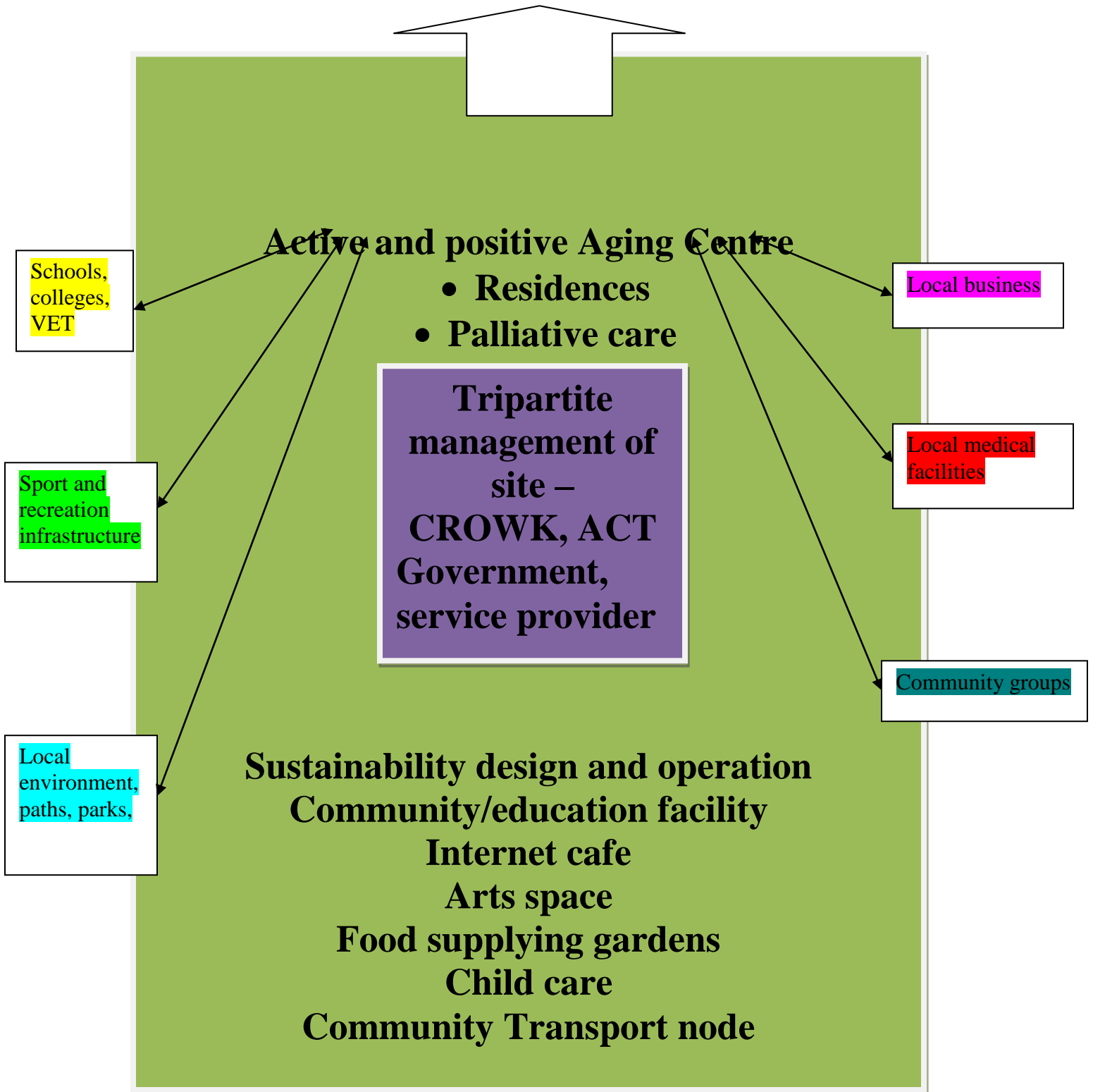
What follows is a summary of the proposed concept. A schematic representation appears below of the results of research which demonstrates the wholeness of older people's lives.



A schematic diagram of the model CROWK is proposing follows.

Model: Positive Aging Centre and its connectivity

Outreach aging services



CROWK believes this innovative positive aging and active community hub concept would be of significant benefit to the ACT Government and its community.

We propose a visionary active and positive aged living model. It is to promote positive aging, is socially inclusive and a community-connected facility, resulting in a stronger, healthier local society.

The underlying premise of this concept is to maximise the ‘quality of life’ for residents and, via an outreach approach, those living at home in the community who can be connected with the facility. Such an approach incorporates, but is different from, the existing principle in operation of aged care facilities in our community where there is a focus upon ‘quality of care’ for residents. The difference between a ‘quality of life’ versus a ‘quality of care’ paradigm is significant. The quality of life paradigm engages residents, active and less active, as part of society and where things are happening around them. When this happens people are not separated from society but remain part of it. There are improved direct health benefits and better quality of living standards for residents and community alike. See Attachment 1 for an Abstract of an article just published on this matter.

There are many practical ramifications from this concept in terms of the design, construction and operation of the facility, including site management.

A CROWK visionary model of an aged living facility aims to engage from the beginning a wide ranging number of stakeholders in the project. Naturally, such a list includes potential residents and their families, government and possible providers, but CROWK asserts stakeholders also include the local community, young people in nearby schools and colleges as well as local businesses.

The CROWK model is based around a whole-of-community approach. Through the stakeholders engaged with this facility it will become an exemplar of a community hub incorporating life-long learning, active elders, well supported older residents off site and outreach exchanges with students and the wider community, engaged staff, smart industry training, connection to the world via electronic communication. All of these would be provided within a positive ecological design and operation. It is this socially inclusive, community hub concept which is the essential difference compared to what has previously been developed in the ‘aged care’ market, notwithstanding changing market demands and responses in recent years.

To succeed in its aim of establishing a different type of facility, the management of the site will itself need to be innovative. CROWK believes its proposed approach will be an excellent opportunity to effectively explore new site management options, beginning from the process of collaborative conceptualisation and subsequent design. The aim is to deliver better outcomes and generate good returns for all stakeholders. The development should include a Health Assessment Impact investigation which is carried out via action research methods.

In terms of the overall facility and site design and operation, the concept promoted by CROWK necessitates action based on principles of smart, net positive ecological design. With regard to construction, it is proposed eco-technologies based around natural systems be used. It is

potentially important to consider participation by the community with the various aspects of 'living machines' as elements to the workings of the site, beyond landscaping, garden development and general up-keep.

When it comes to operation of such a centre, management must address base line care issues and response to market service provision developments. This would need to be underpinned by the best of knowledge organisation principles, smart use of IT, innovative staff engagement and job satisfaction results (if for no other reason than to reduce turnover while maintaining excellent service delivery) and reporting upon outcomes achieved. This process is also envisaged to include community stakeholders, not only aged residents or the operator's management and staff. CROWK regards this element of governance as central to successfully developing an innovative approach to an aged living facility and community centre.

In sum, the principles which underpin what CROWK proposes as an active and positive aging facility at the Mt Neighbour site are that the facility:

- design and operation is consistent with academic research findings which calls for a 'settings' approach to shift the emphasis in operation to a 'quality of life' for residents rather than a traditional 'quality of care'
- is a leading edge example of sustainable urban environmental design incorporating the concepts of positive ecological thinking, construction and material re-use
- is a model of practical sustainable management operations
- operates by incorporating lifelong learning principles including U3A
- is itself a learning institution with connections to TAFE, University, Erindale and Lake Tuggeranong local colleges and a revamped Kambah High school
- integrally operates, via various layers and forms of social engagement, with the local community
- promotes social capital building and a 'sense of place' in Kambah
- operates with linkages to the surrounding physical parks, spaces and bio-physical corridor.

3. Evidentiary basis to support a call for a visionary aged living facility

The issue of the increased numbers of older aged people and how society presently supports and meets their needs is well documented. This applies to the ACT as well as to the rest of Australia. However, since both the absolute numbers and the proportion of the total population who are 'older' is rising, there are important consequences for policy and service planning.

Additionally, there has been considerable discussion of the financial impacts of these emerging circumstances. "Population aging now affects economic growth, formal and informal social support systems, and the ability of states and communities to provide resources for older citizens."¹

¹ P5 Why Population Aging Matters - a global perspective. National Institute on Aging
National institutes of health U.S. department of health and human services, U.S. Department of State

Influences from these considerations have been slow however to percolate into the nature of the delivery mechanisms for the care of older aged people. That is, there are lots of good policy statements, but not so much on-ground application of these good intentions.

Government policies are now developing which envisage more home-based delivery approaches in response to people's expressed needs, the potential benefits to older people and their families and the pressures on the existing system to deliver quality services in line with available resources.

Within this framework, academic research locally and internationally is also emerging in support of the need to address aged living in a different way from the past.² Above, reference was made to assistance provided by academics in producing this paper and a list of articles we have been referred to in support of the approach developed in this concept paper appears at the end of this Discussion Paper.

As already mentioned, the current paradigm in Australia regarding aged living is focussed upon quality of care whereas the new paradigm needs to be about quality of life. The need for this shift in focus has emerged both from the sector itself and the voice of aged people experiencing aged living arrangements. Underpinning it is a genuine respect for older people and the value of their contribution to society rather than the implicit view that they need to be cared for in a way that suits the provider.

These ideas are in congruence with the ACT Government vision for a healthy, inclusive and productive older population. If this vision is to be achieved then facilities and environments need to be developed which enable social inclusion, participative governance and active living for residents.

In addition to the place-based concept of an active aging hub, it is important to acknowledge that there is a significant opportunity to engage older people of the surrounding parts of the Kambah site in significant community activity. Research suggests "opportunities for accelerating the enterprising human capital contribution of senior aged population in these (study) regions (and applicable to Kambah) by enhancing (i) their engagement with targeted learning, innovation and entrepreneurial initiatives through higher education institutions, and (ii) the physical and intellectual mobility of seniors through innovation and informatics."³ CROWK believes that its own research in the precinct is important in this regard. This included holding seven cafe style workshops at each of the local shopping centre which revealed not only an interest on the part of older people in future developments in the region but produced excellent ideas such as "Adopt a Park" or community food production ideas. These are areas of activity where engagement of residents might become very significant and assist in building strong community connections.

² Title: Ecological Ageing: The Settings Approach in Aged Living and Care Accommodation. Harris, Grootjans and Wenham

³ Human capital, regional growth and the productive ageing: New perspectives for policy and practice. Garlick

The previously mentioned Population Health Congress recently held in Brisbane had researchers reporting upon these matters. A simple example follows. Researching contemporary literature and local case studies researchers reported that “the key elements of a successful physical activity program that promotes community development were identified as localised action, group cohesion, broad based community engagement, personal development, flexibility, feedback and evaluation and sustainability.⁴ CROWK envisages this happening through the aging centre as proposed here and linkages to the associated sports field adjacent to the site, along the various nearby pathways and parks and also at the small exercise and gym facilities presently provided by nearby local businesses.

4. Key issues

In reflecting upon the concept proposed by CROWK it is worth noting at this early stage some of the important issues that need to be considered in order to make this visionary idea become a practical reality.

These range from wider societal and even philosophical issues to much more prosaic challenges. In brief issues which are integral to this concept include the:

- place of older people in society
- narrowness of the community debate to date on becoming an older person
- straight jacket effect of language in such debates
- focus on a clinical solution at the expense of holistic and public health
- fulfilment for older people in having real choice, respect and self determination
- new and emerging trends in government policy and programs
- impacts of the standards/regulations and directives to assessors set by government and whether they are constraining to new models
- service priorities based on available resources
- better service delivery systems
- implications for the community of implementation of triple bottom line accounting processes
- identifying what are better outcomes for consumers
- need for transparency in decision making
- role of IT
- need for greater accountability to the community for decisions made
- innovative and productive working partnerships which are possible with local community representatives
- significant opportunity for the ACT of a leading edge model for providing for the aged
- realities of what does a new approach entail including reducing economic and social cost of aged living.

While public discussion about an aging population is occurring, it tends to take place within a very narrowly defined framework where easily measurable associated costs to the economy – as opposed to less obvious costs - are what matters most. It is however important not to disregard

⁴ Integrating Physical Activity and Community Development Stoneham, Baldwin, Earl and McCue. Congress Presentation abstracts p 158

economic costs and to ensure options for older people are affordable. We note in this regard the July 2006 study by Dr Anna Howe for ACT Chief Minister's Department. If the present framework of discussion is maintained then costs would seem to be likely to increasingly rise making available options less affordable to many older people, and especially those who now live in Kambah and other suburbs of the upper reaches of the Tuggeranong Valley.

These practical issues are important, but usually what remains unspoken in such public discourse are the deeper issues of the place of older people in our community and how we provide for them and also the savings that stem from having a healthier more socially active aged community.

There are important practical ramifications flowing from such a view about the way we care for older people. For example, until the community values older people, the reality is that we will not be valuing those who work for them including those who design, manage and operate the necessary facilities to support older people. To change this 'mindset' is no easy task.

The value in a conceptualisation of honouring the dignity of each older person will lead to overcoming many of the problems now found in the sector, both in terms of money spent and lives unfulfilled. We want to reconceptualise communities of older people as places which are integral to society and where the location is a centre of opportunity and human activity for residents and for the surrounding community.

A change in perspective enables us to see that we are dealing with issues that go beyond just providing institutions for 'care'. A centre such as that proposed by CROWK envisages a social setting, where the notion of 'community' is positive and real. By taking 'community' and 'home' away from older people, there are negative impacts upon their health. Anecdotal evidence regarding the perception of people about these matters is clear enough. Why do so many people simply not want to go into 'aged care'? Not unrelated is the evidence that people in our general hospitals regain their health more rapidly in a context with flowers and animals, access to natural light and breezes and friends and relatives. In addition to this view of community is the recognition that the community has knowledge and experience when it comes to living with the aging.

As previously indicated, the issues listed above not only refer to those people we aim to support, older people and their families, but also the people who seek employment in caring for our older citizens. A new environment and perspective can bring about a change in the work environment of this sector. CROWK envisions that a new exciting and ecologically smart centre of social and active aging will be facilitated by connections to schools, colleges and the tertiary education sector. Fostering an interest among young people to work in such places will potentially attract a more highly skilled work force which, in turn, generates the knowledge and momentum needed for sustained smart and positive outcomes.

The benefits for the ACT government are also potentially very significant. These include:

- demonstrating how to foster a powerful health-enabling environment for older people
- providing a model of effectively building social capital in line with existing ACT Government social policy
- demonstrating building innovation through high quality sustainable site design, construction and management operation in line with the ACT being seen as a leading

example of a sustainable community consistent with its Weathering the Change, Sustainability and Biosphere policies

- gaining improved returns from outlays, achieving reduced longer term outlays
- improving public health outcomes
- providing a practical model of efficient and sustainable operations
- generating a stronger local community that cares for its natural environment

The CROWK concept is to put into place a facility which addresses all these issues. Expectations are that by approaching this project as proposed by CROWK, there will be significant benefits not only to the government but also to the local community of Kambah and the wider ACT.

5. Design features

The Mt Neighbour school site has an area of 33,849m². The consultation documentation suggests that the type of facility envisaged will contain approximately a 100 bed Nursing Home/Hostel plus 80 – 120 Supportive Housing Units.

There are some important assumptions behind these figures which need to be teased out. The type of accommodation envisaged under the combined term of Nursing Home/Hostel also needs to be explored further. Additionally, to achieve a 100 plus Nursing Home/Hostel facility requires in all probability, a multi story building. This design trend is emerging in the US and the Netherlands in order to better fit the quality of care paradigm as costs for care are lowered or to fit the society profile and geography.

The number of units proposed is no more than a generalisation at this stage but in all likelihood the numbers guesstimate is focussed upon ‘separateness’ and ‘single’ dwellings. However, alternatives to this model which offer privacy and the necessary facilities, but may not depend upon such an isolating housing models, are an option on this site and which may be even more effective than the initial proposals.

The CROWK process regarding design includes the following:

- a design brief developed as an action research process, with a contribution from the results of a Health Impact Assessment
- the design for the site actively takes into account neighbourhood and regional linkages, including a proposed athletics facility on the adjoining oval
- the design for the site should go beyond green buildings to positive ecology and considering them as part of a sustainable urban environment
- layout and placement of buildings on the site maximise solar power opportunities
- buildings and site landscaping facilitate people movement, social connections and external services for all stakeholders
- open and accessible buildings to enable easy external access for disabled and bed ridden patients alike
- build in community stakeholder facilities
- have out-door facilities such as sheds, recycling and composting, water harvesting, seed collection and propagation technologies and domestic food production.

Aside from resident spaces and associated living and treatment support facilities inside buildings, the CROWK active and positive aging centre would have spaces to facilitate a range of local activities around administration, learning, recreation and various other past times and activities.

These might cover:

- gym, and other health related activities
- resident and community training and study spaces for U3A, course work, possibly delivered by private providers
- training rooms (staff, young people, trainees etc)
- spaces for arts and crafts and other activities, also available for private providers
- resident and community events, music, functions, lectures and forums
- IT facilities – an internet cafe
- administration facilities for community groups
- an outreach program management centre
- other - as residents and community decide.

From this perspective, the site is envisaged as a centre of real and constructive community activity. It would not be a walled facility, away from the normal noise and activity of suburban living, nor a place where older people passively await their last days.

6. Consultation on CROWK proposal

The original CROWK proposal for an innovative Aged Care facility emerged in mid 2007 as a result of discussions which CROWK facilitated amongst its members. However, CROWK's connection with the aged care issue dates from the situation which catalysed the group's formation, namely the idea that an aged care facility might be built on the Murrumbidgee golf course.

In October 2007, CROWK put out a media release, Attachment 2, proposing its concept and gained some media interest.

CROWK also prepared and submitted an earlier version of this document to the ACT Government initiated consultations undertaken by Purdon and Associates during the first round of consultations regarding potential use of the Mt Neighbour Primary school site.

Subsequently, CROWK held a well attended public forum at the Burns Club in February 2008 where presentations were made on the concept followed by discussion by forum participants. . In addition CRIOWK held several local shopping centre forums at which the issue was raised and discussed. Most recently at two events in June this year, one for members of CROWK and one a larger public forum of stakeholders from other local community organisations and interested parties, the subject was again publicly raised and discussed,. At the latter event it was decided this ought to be a priority project for CROWK.

Finally, as well as these public processes a series of more sharply focused individual stakeholder discussions were also undertaken.

All these consultations produced considerable support for the development of an aged living centre such as the one proposed in this paper at the Mt Neighbour site demonstrating that the CROWK concept is well founded and well supported by the local community.

7. Adjacent Sports oval to become an all weather athletics and multi sport facility

Since the CROWK concept has been made public, a number of related ideas have been forwarded or raised with us. One is of especial interest. A number of years ago an all-weather athletics oval was proposed for a site in Deakin. CROWK understands this proposal did not proceed for a number of reasons largely unrelated to issues of the value and need for such a facility.

There is no such facility generally available to the public in Canberra and certainly nothing of the kind available in southern Canberra. CROWK therefore now proposes that in the context of its centre for active and positive aging and with the associated transport and available parking, this concept be rejuvenated and the potential for constructing an all weather athletics and multi sports centre on the oval adjoining the positive aging hub should receive serious consideration.

8. Taking the Concept forward

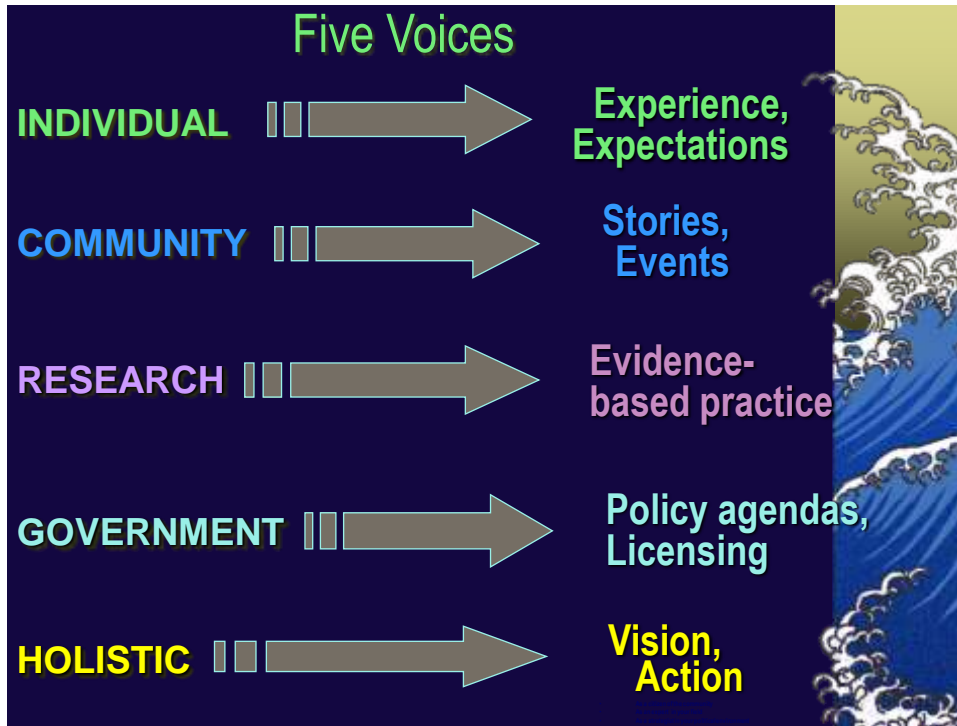
CROWK proposes that a series of steps be instigated to advance the concept of developing a Community Centre for Active and Positive Aging on the Mt Neighbour site. These steps are outlined below.

Following discussion and agreement to the core concepts outlined in this paper by the ACT government, CROWK is provided with financial resources to undertake a staged process of engagement and investigation to work with the local community, technical experts and government officials.

The result of the first stage of the process would be a detailed project brief which can then be used to advance a subsequent practical project implementation process.

We note that the 2006 Dr Anna Howe study for the ACT on ‘Demand and Supply’ was developed through workshops of sector stakeholders, while the East Lake Draft plan preparation has also a similar concept development process underpinning it.

One of the many academic contacts CROWK has who have supported the development of this innovative proposal has been Emeritus Professor of Environmental Health at the University of Western Sydney, Professor Val Brown. At the CROWK public workshop held in February to discuss this proposal, Professor Brown identified the voices in the process of sustainable urban development as shown in the following diagram.



Professor Brown also highlighted a social process that applies to the process of developing the CROWK concept. This is summarised in the slide of her presentation on the following page.

CROWK has the links to bring together the stakeholders encompassed in the 'five voices' listed above and has the status within the local community to enable it to facilitate further constructive discussion of the ideas presented in this Discussion Paper.

Diagram of a possible social process to facilitate stakeholder engagement and constructive design



CROWK has people with the requisite professional skills in its organisation and its networks who would undertake this facilitation work and who would identify and work with other professionals as required. CROWK also has the advantage of its own local area research and key academic support.

We would begin the proposed process by facilitating the development of a model of engagement with the key stakeholders along the lines described by Professor Brown above. The result of this work would be the following:

- a model process of stakeholder engagement
- a detailed project brief expanding and developing the initial CROWK concept
- identification of key issues to be addressed in the process of putting such a concept into practice – this would also include a Health Impact Assessment
- identification of the specific outcomes to be achieved from the project
- a design brief for subsequent implementation of the specific elements of the facility
- an action and implementation plan.

For further information:

CROWK PO Box 2115 Kambah Village, Kambah ACT 2902
 Geoff Pryor Tel 62316423

Attachment 1 – Journal article: Ecohealth - June 2008

- Neil Harris and Kathryn Wenham
School of Public Health, Griffith University, Meadowbrook, Queensland
4131, Australia
- John Grootjans Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery, The University of Sydney,
Sydney, New South Wales 2006, Australia

Abstract:

As the proportion of older people increases within populations, financial demands related to the cost of health service delivery threaten global stability. This population trend challenges the traditional approach to health service delivery to older populations. This article presents the Australian context as a case study to argue that the application of a health promoting settings approach to aged care may lead to improved well-being for older people to the extent that the periods of chronic morbidity often associated with aging can be compressed into an ever shorter period of time. Promoting an ecological perspective to aged care suggests that there is no need to manage older people in isolation, as is common practice, but as integral to the way society lives, works, and plays. The article maps parallels between characteristics of health promoting settings such as Health Promoting Schools and the aged living and care industry, arguing that the setting encompassing services for the elderly is a prime location for the establishment of a new health promotion setting. Supporting life opportunities for our aged is central to such an approach. More broadly, an ecological approach orients us toward the connection between environment and health, and encourages increased attention and action within the aged living and care sector on reducing environmental impacts of this growing population. As such, the application of this approach to the aged living and care sector has the potential to reduce the threat that a dependant older population has on global sustainability.



Concerned Residents for West Kambah and Weston Creek

Replacing ‘God’s waiting room’ with active aged care

A Kambah-based community group, CROWK, is urging the ACT Government to seize the opportunity to develop and showcase a leading edge aged care facility in Kambah.

CROWK Vice-President, Geoff Pryor said today that the former Mt Neighbour school site was ideally placed to house an aged care development based on holistic determinants of health such as life-long learning, and engagement and interaction with the wider community, including nearby schools.

“The Government is currently going through a consultation process on use of former school sites and we understand that developing the Mt Neighbour site for aged care may be on the agenda,” Mr Pryor said.

“This would give our region a rare opportunity to throw out the ‘God’s waiting room’ model of passive, walled retirement villages and replace it with an ecologically smart development that encourages active engagement between elderly Australians and the wider community.

CROWK - Concerned Residents for West Kambah – has received funding from ACT Health Promotions for a three year project aimed at involving the community in fostering environmental and social sustainability in West Kambah and Weston Creek.

“Recent research suggests that the emphasis in aged care should turn to quality of life rather than focus just on quality of care,” Mr Pryor said.

“CROWK would like to see the Government take the opportunity to develop a visionary open and active facility for our older citizens on the former Mt Neighbour school site.

“Such a development would ensure the site continues as a valued regional resource making a positive contribution to community health.

“This is directly in line with CROWK’s objective of helping our region develop into a precinct where environmental and social wellbeing is high on the agenda.”

Mr Pryor said the former Mt Neighbour school was situated on a major bus route close to other schools, shops, playing fields and housing.” This provides an ideal focal point for community exchange and activities involving people of all ages,” he said

“Development of an aged care facility on the site should encompass environmentally and socially sustainable design of buildings and surrounds. This would aim to encourage joint involvement between residents and the community ranging from gardening to creative, social and educational community activities.”

Further information.

Geoff Pryor - Vice President CROWK Tel 0428 930 196; Mob 62316 423.

Attachment 3 References

CROWK has begun the process of reviewing available materials which assist in developing its different approach. Some recent references to support its ideas are listed below.

1. Fujitsu - A Generational Shift: The Next Wave of Aged living. A Report by Fujitsu Australia And New Zealand, October 2007
2. Ecological Ageing: The Settings Approach in Aged Living and Care Accommodation
Harris Neil, Griffith University, Lecturer, Doctor of Philosophy, Bachelor of Science (Hons), Bachelor of Behavioural Science.
Grootjans John University of Sydney, Lecturer, Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Science (Social Ecology), Graduate Diploma (Adult Education Nursing), Bachelor of Applied Science (Advanced Nursing) conversion.
Wenham Kathryn, Griffith University, Project Officer. Master of Public Health, Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Bachelor of Social. Science
3. Resident Identified Issues Shaping Wellbeing In Retirement And Aged Living And Care Facilities - Harris Neil, Grootjans John, Wenham Kathryn
4. Developing an Ecological Framework To Promote Wellbeing For Communities Of Older People Harris N, Grootjans J, & Wenham K
5. Garlick, S Human capital, regional growth and the productive ageing: New perspectives for policy and practice
6. Garlick, S, and Waterman P 2005 Regional growth, enterprising human capital and community engagement”, Paper to the International Conference on Engaging Communities, Brisbane, August 2005
7. Garlick, S, Soar, J and Waterman P 2005 :Engaging the Productive Aging: Mobilising an Under-utilised Source of Human Capital for Enterprising Regional Development Outcomes”. Proceedings 9th Annual SEGRA Conference, Yeppoon, Queensland, 4-7 September.
8. Garlick, S, Soar, J and Waterman P 2005 “Engaging the Productive Ageing: Enhancing regional and university viability, and senior health through an enterprising ageing population”, Paper to the International Conference on Engaging Communities, Brisbane, August 2005
9. Soar, J., and Garlick, S. “Innovation in Ageing for Regional Communities”, Paper to Australian Association of Gerontology Conference, November 2005, Gold Coast,
10. Soar, J., and Garlick, S., Waterman, P. “Building a National Program of Innovation in Ageing for Regional Communities”, Seniors on the Move Conference, Hervey Bay, November 2005.