

31 May

2016

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**The Australian Capital Territory represented by
the EDUCATION DIRECTORATE**

AND

The EMBASSY OF ITALY IN CANBERRA

PROMOTION AND TEACHING OF THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**, the body politic established by Section 7 of the *Australian Capital Territory (Self Government) Act 1988 (Cwlth) (Territory)*, represented by the ACT Education Directorate (**the Directorate**) and the **EMBASSY OF ITALY IN CANBERRA**, represented by the Director of Educational and Cultural Office or His Excellency the Ambassador (**the Embassy**), in accordance with the current *Program of Cultural Co-Operation Implementing the Cultural Agreement between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia*.

Background:

This Memorandum of Understanding outlines the support to be provided in collaboration between the two parties for the education cooperation in Canberra public schools and collaborative activities undertaken by the two Parties to promote opportunities for students and teachers to enhance Italian language programs in Canberra public schools.

The current *Program of Cultural Co-Operation Implementing the Cultural Agreement between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia* was signed on the 8 May 2015 and includes supporting and promoting the teaching of Italian language , literature, culture and civilisation in primary and secondary schools.

1. Interpretation

In this Memorandum of Understanding, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1.1 The Term of this MoU is set out in Schedule 1 Item 2.
- 1.2 The definitions set out in Schedule 2 apply to this MoU.

2. Memorandum of Understanding

- 2.1 **Intention of MoU:** This MoU is a statement of intent and does not create legal binding obligations between the signatories.
- 2.2 **Variations of MoU:** This MoU may be varied only by the written agreement of the signatories prior to the expiration of this MoU.
- 2.3 **Extension:** This MoU may be extended by the written agreement of the signatories prior to the expiration of this MoU.
- 2.4 **Term:** The term of this MoU is set out in Schedule 1 Item 3. The Parties may agree to extend the term of the MoU by mutual consent in writing from time to time.

3. The Parties agree to the Embassy:

- 3.1 Identify and provide access to resources to support the delivery of quality Italian language teaching and learning programs, in alignment with the Australian Curriculum requirements.
- 3.2 Identify and provide opportunities for Canberra public school teachers and students to access cultural events to develop language proficiency and cultural awareness.
- 3.3 Organise seminars, conferences, workshops and other professional learning opportunities relating to the teaching, learning and assessment of Italian.
- 3.4 Identify schools in Italy interested in establishing Sister School partnerships with Canberra public schools and providing support for these partnerships to be formally established.
- 3.5 Support teachers engaged in bilingual programs in the ACT by providing advisory services, professional learning opportunities and resources.
- 3.6 Promote and provide support of immersion programs (Content and Language Integrated learning – CLIL) for the study of Italian language and culture.
- 3.7 Collaborate with the Directorate to investigate and promote annual professional development language scholarships in Italy for Canberra public schools teachers and hosting the teachers in Italian schools.
- 3.8 Collaborate to explore the possibility of an annual Italian Language Teacher Assistant Program within Canberra public schools to provide native speaker support to classroom teachers and students in Italian language programs.
- 3.9 Collaborate to explore the possibility of Visiting Teachers from Italy being placed for short periods within Canberra public schools as part of an Italian Teacher Short Stay Program to provide native speaker support to classroom teachers and students in Italian language programs.
- 3.10 Explore opportunities for Canberra public school principals and schools leaders to undertake study tours of Italy and provide this opportunity for Italian principals and schools leaders in Canberra.
- 3.11 Organise access to external intensive Italian language programs which provide teachers and students with the opportunity to gain international certification.

4. The Parties agree to The Directorate:

- 4.1 Identify opportunities for the Embassy to support delivery of quality Italian language programs in Canberra public schools, in alignment with the Australian Curriculum requirements.

- 4.2 Promote opportunities for students of Italian in Canberra public schools to access competitions and cultural events.
- 4.3 Promote seminars, conferences, workshops and professional learning events organised by the Embassy for teachers on learning, teaching and assessment of Italian.
- 4.4 Provide access to ACT Education Directorate facilities, as available, to host seminars, conferences, workshops and professional learning events organised by the Embassy for ACT teachers of Italian.
- 4.5 Promote professional development language scholarships in Italy for teachers in Canberra public schools.
- 4.6 Promote Sister School partnership opportunities identified by the Embassy with Canberra public schools and provide support for these partnerships to be formally established.
- 4.7 Collaborate with the Embassy to explore the possibility of an annual Italian Language Teacher Assistant Program within Canberra public schools providing native speaker support to classroom teachers and students in Italian language programs, in accordance with ACT legislative requirements.
- 4.8 Promote opportunities for Canberra public school students and their supervising teachers to participate in excursions to Italy organised by their schools.
- 4.9 Explore the possibility of Visiting Teachers from Italy being placed for short periods within Canberra public schools as part of an Italian Teacher Short Stay Program, to provide native speaker support to teachers and students in Italian language programs, in accordance with ACT legislative requirements. Canberra public schools will support this program by providing Visiting Teachers with host family arrangements.

5. Dispute Resolution

- 5.1 If a difference or dispute (Dispute) arises in relation to this MOU, the parties agree to resolve the Dispute by friendly negotiations, including by referring the Dispute to persons who have authority to intervene and direct some form of resolution.

6. Notices

- 6.1 Any notice, or other communication, required to be given or sent to either party under this MoU must be in writing and given to the relevant Representative. A notice will be deemed to have been given:

- if delivered by hand, on delivery;
- if sent by prepaid mail, on the expiration of two business days after the date on which it was sent;
- if sent by facsimile, on the sender's facsimile machine recording that the facsimile has been successfully and properly transmitted to the recipient's address; or
- if sent by electronic mail, on the other party's acknowledgement of receipt by any means.

7. Variations

7.1 Variations to the MOU must be made before the Term has expired.

7.2 Variations may include extending the Term of the MOU.

7.3 Any variation shall be made in writing and signed by both parties. Such variations will be appended to the body of this MOU as addenda, and will have the same non-binding nature as this MOU.

7.4

SCHEDULE 1

Item 1. Representatives

For the **Directorate:**
Director General
ACT Education Directorate
Level 6
220 Northbourne Avenue
BRADDON ACT 2612
Ph (02) 6205 9158
Fax (02) 6205 9139

For the **Embassy:**
His Excellency the Ambassador
Embassy of Italy Canberra
12 Grey Street
DEAKIN ACT 2600
Ph (02) 6273 3333
Fax (02) 6273 4223

Item 2. Term

The term of this MoU is from 31 May 2016 to 31 December 2020 with the possibility of a one year extension.

SCHEDULE 2

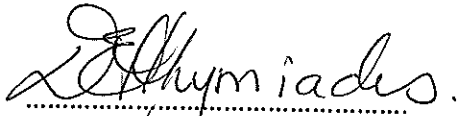
DEFINITIONS

In this MoU, unless the context otherwise requires:

Directorate	means the ACT Education Directorate
Embassy	means the Embassy of Italy in Canberra, represented by Director of Educational and Cultural Office
MoU	means this Memorandum of Understanding
Parties	means both the Directorate and the Embassy
Representatives	means, in relation to each party, the representatives whose positions and contact details are specified in Item 1 Schedule 1 , or as notified in writing from time to time by one party to the other
Term	means the term specified in Item 2 Schedule 1
Territory	means: (1) when used in a geographical sense, the Australian Capital Territory; and (2) when used in any other sense, the body politic established by section 7 of the <i>Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Act 1988</i> (Cwlth)


This memorandum is signed in Canberra on: 31 / 5 / 16

SIGNED
in the presence of:


.....
Signature of Witness

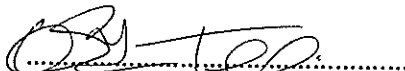
Ms Deb Efthymiades
Deputy Director-General
Education Strategy
ACT Education Directorate

SIGNED for and on behalf of the
Australian Capital Territory represented
by the **ACT Education Directorate** by:


.....
Signature of Territory representative


Ms Diane Joseph
Director-General
ACT Education Directorate

SIGNED
in the presence of:


.....
Signature of Witness

Dr. Anna Rita Tamponi
Director of Educational and Cultural Office
Embassy of Italy in Canberra

SIGNED for and on behalf of the
Embassy of Italy in Canberra by:


.....
Signature of Embassy representative

The Ambassador of Italy
H.E. Pier Francesco Zazo
Embassy of Italy in Canberra