



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

## **Temporary closure of Old Bus Depot Markets due to Covid-19**

Canberra's Old Bus Depot Markets regret to advise that the Markets will be closed temporarily from this coming Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020, due to the Covid-19 crisis.

"Our closure is due to Covid-19 cases rising the ACT, along with the subsequent restrictions around crowd numbers and the implementation of social distancing measures across Canberra," said Old Bus Depot Markets Director, Anthony Niravong.

"We've operated for the most part of 25 years in Canberra, with a number of our stallholders trading with us since the very start. We are deeply saddened by the closure and the impact that this is having on our stallholders. Many are small businesses that rely on our Market to trade. Many have also experienced hardship following the summer bushfires, smoke and closures earlier this year due to hailstorms in the ACT. But we fully understand the possible implications on people's health if we do not temporarily close," Anthony continued.

The Market will remain closed until further notice, and Anthony is encouraging Canberrans and visitors from further afield to continue to support the Markets' stallholders during the closure.

"These are uncertain times and at this point we do not know how long the Markets will need to remain closed. We would love it if people can continue to support Markets' stallholders by seeking them out online and placing direct orders where possible.

"We need to ensure these businesses survive and can come back again once we reopen. Rest assured that the Markets' team remains busy behind the scenes to ensure that we are ready to return as soon as we are able, and to ensure that events such as the Canberra Wool Expo in May can go ahead if permitted," concluded Anthony.

To find out which stallholders have an online presence and may be able to fulfill orders directly, see the Old Bus Depot Markets' Stallholder Directory <https://obdm.com.au/stallholders/> Stay up to date on the Markets' reopening via Facebook or Instagram @oldbusdepotmarkets

**For more information, images or to arrange an interview, please contact Lauren Griffiths at Threesides on 0417 409 264 or [lauren.griffiths@threesides.com.au](mailto:lauren.griffiths@threesides.com.au)**