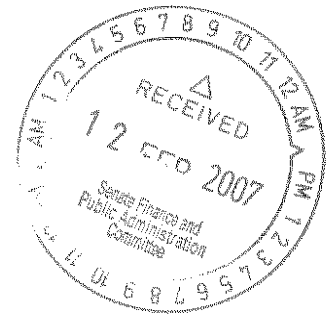


Clerk/President: Additional Estimates briefing for 12 February 2007:

Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)

Summary of developments



1. Parliament interaction with DEST in CVP/PACER handover

- Regular interaction and communication is between Serjeant at Arms' office and DEST – mostly about school bookings and cross referencing PEO attendance with payments
- PEO is rarely involved in this dialogue
- PACER is administered by National Capital Education Tourism Project (NCETP) on behalf of DEST
- PACER Advisory Committee established – first meeting December 2006– Parliament, represented by Serjeant-at-Arms (who consults with PEO), is a member of this committee. Four meetings scheduled in 2007
- Changes to PACER guidelines – Parliament request to remove "where possible" to make participation in PEO role play mandatory.

2. School bookings

- Booking taken at Feb 2006 against Feb 2007 (ie. after 6 months of PACER) show a 5% increase in students booked in
- NSW, Vic and QLD account almost all of 5000 new students (and provide 90% of all bookings)
- Minor decrease recorded from less traditional areas: WA, NT, TAS
- Reliable trends in the education sector/industry usually take a minimum of 18 months to emerge

3. Other

- Funding: DEST, nothing to do with Parliament. How funds are allocated (ie. learning outcomes, formula, quotas, first-in-best-dressed etc,...) sits with DEST
- Students participating in the PEO education program at APH represents only about 20% of PEO's work.