

## Candidate Statement for the 2020 ACT Election

The Candidate Statement is to give voters information to guide their selection of candidates based on the candidate's ability to be an MLA and their commitment to strengthen the democratic fabric of the ACT.

My name is **Peta Swarbrick** and I am a candidate for the ACT Legislative Assembly in the electorate of **Kurrajong**

**I am endorsed to represent *Canberra Progressives***

**These are my skills and experience for being an MLA.**

*I would be a great MLA because I am a passionate Canberran with broad life, and work experience. I care deeply about the well being my community and our environment, and I want to every Canberran to have a voice. I have many skills, acquired over a lifetime of lived and business experience. I have expertise in developing strong relationships, strategic decision making, risk management and team dynamics. I have large community networks, and I am passionate about empowering all communities to build stronger connections and be active in participants in designing their solutions best practice, evidence based solutions..*

**Further, I have these skills and experiences that qualifies me for a role in the ministry.** *Attaining a Dip Ed in Community Services(Com Dev)has made me an avid proponent of Asset (Strengths) Based Community Development,. Thus giving me the skills to work closely within our wonderfully diverse Canberra community to identify innovative solutions that meet community needs. Employing evidence, providing transparency and being accountable to the Community whilst having the skills to manage competing interests in order to deliver the best policy, is key to being an effective Minister.*

**If elected, this is how I plan to represent my constituents.**

*I plan to represent my constituents by ensuring that I seek a range of views, encourage participation in community dialogue across my constituency and seeking feedback about issues and priorities that effect my electorate. I plan to employ deliberative processes within my own electorate to ensure I am listening to my constituents closely so I can make the best decisions on their behalf. I am a very hands on, face to face person, and that is how I plan to stay connected with what my electorate wants, and needs. I plan to talk once, and listen twice.*

**If elected, I will undertake these measures to promote good government and strengthen the responsiveness, accountability and transparency of government in the ACT.**

*Good government is one that gains the trust of its constituents. I would vigorously support the work done by CAPaD and ACTCOSS in 2018 on importance of trust and how deliberative democracy frameworks can promote better government, transparency and accountability. I stand on a platform of evidence based policy making as well as ethics and empowerment, so I am keen to consider recommendations of expert groups like CAPaD and ACTCOSS if elected.*

**If elected, I will undertake these measures to promote and improve informed participation by my constituents in ACT policy development and decision making. (Up to 50 words, dot points, in 10pt Arial font)**

- Increase the number of deliberative processes in Key policy decisions
  - Promote Your Say to a wider audience and increase engagement
  - Promote "Voice of Participants" type events for each process
  - Publicize Citizens Reviews and gain greater engagement
- Fund community engagement teams in every community (established and emerging) to support engagement and deliberative process participation
- Learn from Interstate and International Best Practice

### Statement of Democratic Commitment

1. I will strictly abide by the ACT Legislative Assembly Standing Orders Code of Conduct for MLAs.
2. I will fully disclose and make public the sources and value of all political funding donations, contributions, gifts public and private towards my election campaign and political activity, within one month of receipt.
3. I will place the public interest (the welfare and wellbeing of the general population and the integrity of the planet) ahead of sectional, corporate, personal, religious or other interests.

# **CAPaD** - *Awakening Democracy*

The Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy

[www.canberra-alliance.org.au](http://www.canberra-alliance.org.au)

Signed

Date

Please send a pdf copy of your statement to [secretary@canberra-alliance.org.au](mailto:secretary@canberra-alliance.org.au) for placement on the CAPaD website.  
Authorised by Peter Tait, Secretary, Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy.