

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 Therese Faulkner and I am a candidate for the ACT Legislative Assembly in the electorate of **Kurrajong**.

I am endorsed to represent the Canberra Progressives.

These are my skills and experience for being an MLA.

I worked in the Australian Public Service for 30 years, commencing as an 18 year old school-leaver, and have worked in the private sector for the past 6 years. I went to university as a mature-age student and gained a Graduate Diploma in public policy from the ANU. I grew up in Canberra and raised my three daughters here. I have been an active participant in the arts and sport in the ACT and understand the Canberra community well through my diverse family and friends. I have a sound understanding of the role and responsibilities of being an elected representative.

Further, I have these skills and experiences that qualifies me for a role in the ministry.

As a former Senior Executive Service officer, I led large programs of work, with complex budgets and staffing. I worked with ministers and their advisers, and know what works well, and what actions and behaviours to avoid. I know it takes hard work to make things happen – talk is cheap!

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

I plan to be a genuine representative of my constituents by staying grounded – having conversations with real people about their challenges and the impact of government actions on them and their families. I will also draw from advice and experiences of established community organisations covering a diversity of constituents, to ensure a well-rounded view of the issues, challenges and impacts from a range of perspectives.

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

I will seek to introduce a Compact or Agreement between all MLAs (as a collective) and the people of the ACT which sets out on a page the vision, mission and actions we will take to promote good government and strengthen our responsiveness, accountability and transparency. This will be a publicly launched document, developed through a process of public consultation, with performance measured and reported annually.

If elected, I will undertake these measures to promote and improve informed participation by my constituents in ACT policy development and decision making.

I will be proactive in contacting constituents about policy issues and decisions affecting the community instead of waiting for reactions. Methods for doing this will include: attending relevant community council meetings, holding virtual town hall meetings, letterboxing, and conducting nano-surveys via appropriate technology.

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.

Signed



Date 25 July 2020

Please send a pdf copy of your statement to secretary@canberra-alliance.org.au for placement on the CAPaD website.

Authorised by Peter Tait, Secretary, Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy.