

CAPaD - *Awakening Democracy*

The Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy

www.canberra-alliance.org.au

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 Andrew Braddock and I am a candidate for the ACT Legislative Assembly in the electorate of **Yerrabi**. I am **endorsed to represent the Greens**.

These are my skills and experience for being an MLA.

I am not a career politician or party hack. As a father with a young family and also as a carer, I get the daily juggle in life. I am the product of a public-school education looking to build a better future. I am also active in the community, having worked as secretary of the Gungahlin Community Council, and deputy chairman of my local primary school board. I also have the life experience and interpersonal skills to help me communicate and relate to constituents of various backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and perspectives.

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

As an environmental engineer, I know how to make our city more sustainable. I have a professional understanding of the municipal systems that support Canberra's households including water, waste water, and traffic design. As a public servant, I also have hands on experience in developing policy and crafting legislation.

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

With integrity, transparency and zeal. I am committed to putting the Yerrabi community first. That means putting the community and the environment we depend on ahead of big business, corporate interests, and lobbyists. I will make myself readily available to all constituents, and actively seek out a diverse range of community views, even if contrarian to my own. I will attend all Community Council meetings that I possibly can.

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

The ACT Greens are proud to have led the way in increasing transparency of political donations in the Territory, reducing the threshold and increasing the frequency of reporting and we already go beyond what the law requires. However, the ACT Greens do not believe that, on balance, real time disclosure of every single donation of any sum serves to improve democracy. In particular, the administrative imposition of such reporting would pose a barrier to entry to small political parties and independents who do not have the capacity to do such reporting. Additionally, in a city like Canberra, with many public servants and academics, we have a large number of citizens who legitimately fear reprisal for publicly supporting a political party or cause. We of course will continue to work to improve the donations system.

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

I would advocate for increasing the use of participatory budget setting and citizens juries in the ACT. Community consultation must be also meaningful and held prior to a decision been made by Government; therefore, I would hold the government to account for any decision made contrary to the community's views.

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

18/8/20

**note: Under the rules of the ACT Greens, individual candidates and MLAs are not permitted to receive donations or gifts in their capacity as a party representative, so this will be a nil disclosure for all Greens candidates. All donations received and disclosed by the ACT Greens as a party will be done in accordance with both party rules and the intent of the ACT's laws despite their non-enforceability.*

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