

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

These are my skills and experience for being an MLA.

An economist and public servant, I am also a father, husband and community worker. Following my education in Bangladesh, Malaysia, Canada and Australia, I settled in Canberra in 1993, becoming a local person serving local needs. For example, as President of the Canberra Muslim Community, I negotiated and managed the multi-million dollar Gungahlin Mosque project. I serve on the boards of the ACT Multicultural Advisory Council, Gold Creek Homestead Advisory Panel, Canberra Refugee Action Campaign, and Gungahlin Community Council. My skills and experiences enable me to communicate and relate to constituents from all backgrounds, irrespective of cultures, beliefs and perspectives.

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

I have extensive experience in policy development and implementation and am experienced in managing large organisations. The challenges I have faced allow me to empathise with the sufferings of others, a quality that would benefit the ministry. I would also bring diversity as well as inclusiveness in the government.

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

I will support "policies based on the needs of our community, not the greed of a few." In Yerrabi this means we will:

- plant many more trees
- build a multipurpose community centre and revitalise Yerrabi Pond. These two initiatives will create jobs, support our local small businesses and will bring families and communities together
- expand Gungahlin CIT campus to provide opportunities for all ages.
- improve cycle paths and road infrastructures to reduce traffic congestion and better connect our suburbs
- support sustainable development for Gungahlin
- support female only swimming sessions in all public pools in Canberra
- enhance efforts to address domestic violence, social isolation and mental health challenges, including in multicultural communities
- establish a community garden in Gungahlin.

These are policies based on need rather than greed.

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 have a proud history of promoting good government and increasing accountability and transparency. On that vein I will advocate for stronger participatory budget processes, inviting interested organisations and individuals to provide their input. I would also work to ensure policy development is underpinned by appropriate and relevant consultation and decision-making processes as well as the decisions are transparent.

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

If elected, I will listen actively, consulting with the community through ongoing, open, honest and transparent dialogue to help me understand and advocate for the 'burning issues' or 'concerns' of my constituents. I will represent the average Canberran who wants this city and its communities to thrive and prosper.

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.

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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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Tait', written over a horizontal line.

Signed

Date 9 October 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.