

Awakening Democracy

CAPaD – the Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy

JULY 2021

G'day members and friends

In this **Awakening Democracy**: General meetings, Memberships due, Charitable Status, Our Democracy ACT progress, and more things to read and watch.

COMING UP

AGM - September 12, 2pm - Announcement

Please put in your diary and come along (members – so join up) for this year's AGM where we are looking for people wanting to join our exciting work for getting the best democracy we can in Australia. There are a couple of vacancies on the Committee. Annual report precis further on.

Special GM – July 18, 2pm, zoom – Save the date

To further amend the constitutional objectives to fit our application for charitable status. More details will be sent to members soon.

2021-22 Memberships due

We have really appreciated the support you have given us this past year and look forward to your continuing membership support in the next 12 months. This is an exciting time to be involved in transforming politics in Australia (to paraphrase an ex-PM). The electorate-based democracy movements (Voices4, Our Democracy, Independents CAN, and others) is building steam.

CAPaD itself has had a busy and productive year involved in these movements and kicking a few goals of our own.

2020-21 Achievements (in summary):

- Running an expanded Candidate Statement exercise for the 2020 ACT Election
- Designing and building the new Ideas and Resources Hub
- Upgrading the main website
- Submissions made to the Senate Inquiry into Delegated Legislation and the 2020 ACT election.
- Helping set up the Our Democracy Australia organisation and website.
- Taking on support for an Our Democracy group in the ACT
- Successful monthly newsletters Awakening Democracy
- More frequent emails to members across a range of relevant topics
- Beginning the planning for DemFest21 – a celebration of locally driven democracy in Australia.
- Four Zoom Events.
- Application for Charity Status likely to be successful

If you cannot join us actively, please continue your moral and financial support by renewing your membership or joining us. Memberships are still our major source of income.

ACTIVE PROJECTS

Our Democracy ACT & Australia

Announcing Active Democracy: Change of Name – same plan

As reported in the [June Awakening Democracy](#), the [Australian Democracy Foundation](#) (ADN) [#OurDemocracy Framework for a Fair Democracy project](#) launched. For a complex of reasons, they need to take over the name Our Democracy. So with regret but wanting that project to succeed the national group has agreed on the name change. The ACT group will follow suite.

The Active Democracy website will be off-line while it is being rebuilt so details of the project are [on the CAPaD website](#).

To **get involved or find out more**, visit the websites, come to the zoom or [contact the Secretary](#).

Demfest 21: a festival celebrating locally driven democracy in Australia.

To be held virtually in the week of November 1 to 5 with some zoom events on the weekend of November 6 and 7. The aim is to invite the multiple people involved in electorate based democracy action to come together to share their experience and to learn from others.

Planning is well underway but as we approach the pointy end we are keen for help in making this happen successfully. [See the website](#) for more information.

We specifically need help with organising this event over the next 5 months. Also over the weekend of 6 and 7 November, we are looking for people with IT and Zoom management skills.

OTHER ACTIVITY

Charity status

CAPaD has applied for charitable status and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission has indicated we do have a charitable purpose. Charitable status will permit us to seek philanthropic funding to pursue our aims.

NEW STUFF TO READ AND LOOK AT

DEMOCRACY AS FUN 'COLLECTION'

Saying it how it s\$#ing well is

Check out Juice Media's [Australien Government advertisements](#); a funny and profane (honest) reflection of politics in Australia.

A recent session on [Australia's Electric Vehicle policy](#). In case you don't know them.

From your committee, with best wishes

Contact us: secretary@canberra-alliance.org.au

Keep up to date: <https://canberra-alliance.org.au/>

Share ideas: [Twitter](#) @CAPADACT

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