

# Awakening Democracy

CAPaD – the Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy

APRIL 2022

G'day members and friends

In this [Awakening Democracy](#): We have a federal election coming, Australia Remade launches Reclaiming our Purpose, #Our Democracy ACT has released the National Survey report, and more to read and watch.

## COMING UP

### FEDERAL ELECTION

#### Australian Democracy Network #OurDemocracy Political Integrity Policy forum

April 12<sup>th</sup>, 7pm

Where do Parties and candidates actually stand on political integrity, money in politics and what to do about it? To help you find out, they are hosting a [Political Integrity Policy Forum](#). [Register here](#).

#### CAPaD Election Action – Contribute to good government

Building on previous year's candidate statement exercises, this year we are running advertisements in the City News to attract people to our [Election Webpage](#). Our focus is on the second Senate seat (see further down).

**We are asking for donations to cover the cost of the advertising.** We will spend whatever we receive, so logically the more we receive the more and bigger advertisements we can buy space for. [Please donate here](#) and then [let us know](#) that you have so we can receipt you.

We found in the 2020 ACT election with the City News advertising we did then, that website traffic increased, and we received several new memberships. While we cannot claim to have influenced the outcome of the election, we did raise CAPaD's profile.

## ACTIVE PROJECTS

### #OurDemocracy Campaign - National Integrity Survey

**1 Survey Results released and available here.** [The report itself is here.](#)

10325 responses received with over 30 electorates contributing more than 100 responses.

Overall 95% of respondents in favour of reform action.

For the ACT, the numbers are a bit surprising; at least 4751 flyers distributed or QR codes shared, mostly in Fenner (4551), some in Canberra (at least 200 but probably more), and none in Bean. We don't know how many responded because of publicity through Awakening Democracy.

There were 468 responses from the ACT: Fenner 138, Canberra 227 and Bean 103.

Individual electorate results are here for [Bean](#), [Canberra](#) and [Fenner](#).

**Next**, we plan on visiting all MPs in the ACT and sharing a copy of the report with them.

### 2 National Integrity Policy Forum

See details above.

### Active Democracy ACT (ADACT) & Australia (ADAus)

The Bean group members' energy is going into the upcoming election. The group will resume meeting in June.

If you would like to be notified about Active Democracy events, please [email the Secretary](#).

## OTHER ACTIVITY

**Our new election [webpage is live](#).**

The election's focus is on the second Senate seat, which looks like it will have a tight contest between several candidates. The key message here is to use all your preferences, below the line, to make sure that your vote is not extinguished. More detail on the website.

## NEW STUFF TO READ AND LOOK AT

DemFest21 [presentations and session are up online](#) to watch, read and share.

**Big: The role of the state in the modern economy.**

Richard Denniss' next foray into fixing society through good government.

A couple of extracts to give you the flavour.

"It's now time to hit pause on reforming the economy and focus instead on reforming our parliament and our democracy." Government exists to solve problems confronting citizens. "... the size and shape of government are among the most important choices a country can make, and it is time the Australian public was consulted about them. [His take home message:] If our democracy and our economy are to thrive, we will need to find a way to draw the public back into these decisions."

Get it [from Monash University Publishing](#) or maybe a book store near you.

## Huge sudden interest in monitoring our MPs

**Polipedia – another site to check on our MPs.**

[New fact check on politicians to be launched \(themandarin.com.au\)](#)

"... a website that will aggregate publicly available information on politicians, launches.

The site, which is expected to be live before the election, will pull together open-source information about a federal member of parliament that may currently be located on different websites and published in multiple formats on a single dashboard."

Bit like [the Political Gadgets site](#), with slightly different information.

**Reclaiming our purpose:**

[Reclaiming our Purpose — Australia Remade](#)

Reporting back the results of the past years conversations Millie Rooney has had with people and communities all around Australia.

## DEMOCRACY AS FUN 'COLLECTION'

No cartoon this month.

[Send me something](#) - credited.

*From your committee, best wishes for emerging winter.*

**Contact us:** [secretary@canberra-alliance.org.au](mailto:secretary@canberra-alliance.org.au)

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