

# Implementation Plan for the CAPaD Education Strategy

Please read the separate Education Strategy document.

## Implementation of the Education Strategy

The Strategy will be delivered through a Foundation, the **Awakening Democracy Foundation** (the Foundation), set up for that purpose.

CAPaD has charity status. The Foundation will apply for DGR status with the Australian Taxation Office to enable it to seek tax deductible donations.

The Foundation will employ well qualified educators with community development skills to design and deliver specific programs.

The Foundation will work with educators who have teaching and curriculum development experience to design resources that can be used in schools across upper primary and high school classes. The employed educators will work closely with teachers/educators with direct responsibility for teaching students in delivery of programs/sessions.

The Foundation will explore a wide range of other hands-on teaching methods to engage and educate people in the wide range of audiences we aim to influence.

## Elements Supporting Implementation of the Strategy

- To articulate a set of educational principles
- To be clear who CAPaD intends to educate and influence (audiences)
- To identify the needs of those audiences
- To design educational experiences to meet those needs
- To identify the resources necessary to deliver those experiences
- To identify the source of those resources
- To deliver the educational experiences

## Discussion of the supporting elements

### Educational principle

Experiential learning / learning by doing approach / participatory action learning [whatever the correct jargon is]

### Who CAPaD intends to educate and influence (audiences)

- General public
- School Children (complementing and supporting the existing Australian national HASS curriculum)

- Youth
- Parliamentarians
- Others as they are identified.

## **Needs of those audiences**

### **Generic needs:**

Inclusive, respectful, attentive communications

### **Audience specific needs:**

To be ascertained by needs analysis in collaboration with stakeholders from each audience group and literature review.

## **Experiences to meet those needs**

- A variety of online video, text and face to face resources will be developed.
- Other experiences will be developed out of the needs analyses for specific audiences.
- School level education packages (using resources such as the Big Deal group) and resources to assist teachers in curriculum delivery. A focus would be on creating resources for teaching through a cross-curricular lens.

## **Resources necessary to deliver**

Personnel

Materials

Communications

These will be more fully identified as each of the educational experiences are developed.

## **Source of Resources**

### **Volunteer time**

- The Awakening Democracy Foundation board time to govern the strategy and implementation will be voluntary.
- Where possible in kind support will be sought from collaborators and partners, so long as this does not detract from their achieving their own core missions.

### **Donations**

- Donations will provide part of the resources for projects run by the Foundation, and
- The basic operational expenses for the administration of the Foundation and for preparation of philanthropic submissions.

### **Philanthropic grants (assured by charity status)**

Submissions to philanthropic organisations will be made on a project to project basis.  
Such organisations may include:

- Perpetual Impact Grants
- Reichstein Foundation
- Westpac Social Change Fellowship
- Social Ventures Australia

## **Content / Topics to be covered in implementation of the Strategy**

NOTE: This section will require revision and updating regularly.

### **Outcome Domain 1 – Government Systems**

Canberrans and Australians will better understand the government system in Australia including the electoral system, how parliament operates, the role of MPs/parliamentarians, the role of the public service, the different levels of government and their responsibilities.

#### **Methods**

Locate and publicise existing resources that explain these factors.

Work with organisations who are already doing this work.

#### **Topics**

##### **Background topics**

- how the current Australian government system really works
- how politicians and MPs can spend and distribute public money
- how laws are created and made into law
- a new political system is possible and people power can make it happen

##### **Models of governance and democracy**

- Indigenous governance models and how they influence democracy
- Democratic Governance models

### **Outcome Domain 2 – Influences on democracy**

Canberrans and Australians will be able to identify the factors that influence effective democracy.

#### **Methods**

Work with other organisations to produce and disseminate resources, hold events and publicise the role of these elements on influencing democracy and government:

- elected representatives
- political parties
- independent representatives
- local electorate community groups
- unelected players with power and money.

### **Topics**

- how people can be influenced to vote against their own interests

#### *Media*

- the influence of the media and the goals of media ownership has on democracy
- how the media makes choices about what stories and narratives are told
- how the human brain reacts to different stories and how this influences the stories media tells

#### *Political Parties*

- how parties and independents influence democracy

#### *Business and Organisations*

- the influence of the think tanks, lobbyists and who sponsors them has on democracy
- the influence of the people who have power and money have on democracy
- how the role of public institutions including the public service can be compromised or undermined by people with power and money

### **How good government and democracy can be undermined or strengthened**

- how populism works
- how deliberative democracy works to influence democracy
- how public figures can use the media to undermine the integrity of public institutions that protect and strengthen democracy
- how laws can be made impotent or ineffective

### **Outcome Domain 3 – harnessing the political system**

Canberrans and Australians will develop skills in harnessing the political system collectively in communities and electorates to engage their MPs effectively in working for the public good at the local and national levels.

#### **Methods**

Locate and publicise existing resources that explain these factors.

Through educational activities and events develop community and electorate group skills in establishing and running electorate and other community organisations and using these to identify community needs, prioritise these and report them to the communities and MPs.

Promote the methodology of citizens active in electorate groups engaging with their MPs on issues important to the electorate.

#### **Topics**

##### **Skills for active citizens**

- how collective wise decision-making works and how collective ignorant decision-making works
- how people can learn critical thinking to determine their own reasoning on contested views

##### **Helping your MP work for you**

- what is the role of the MP
- what an MP can do for their community
- how communities can work with their MP
- how communities can hold their MP accountable

### **Outcome Domain 4 – reforming the political system**

Canberrans and Australians will develop knowledge and skills in in effectively reforming the political system so that it effectively delivers for the public good.

#### **Methods**

Locate and publicise existing resources and campaigns already active in this domain and link people into those campaigns.

Encourage and support communities in electorates to engage as active citizens in developing their own campaigns for political reform with their MPs in a national context.

#### **Topics**

##### **Making good government**

- how to bring Australian Indigenous governance models into improving Australian democracy
- the role of public institutions that protect and strengthen democracy