

Awakening Democracy

CAPaD – the Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy

AUGUST 2024

G'day members, supporters and friends

In this [Awakening Democracy](#): 2024 **Democracy in Action** Conversations, Know Your Candidate Forums dates and venues, AGM notice including notice of constitutional changes, membership renewal time, AD Bean activity, Participatory (Democratic) Budgeting in the ACT ... and lots and lots this month to read and watch.

COMING UP / HAPPENINGS

ELECTION 2024

Democracy in Action Conversations

Conversation 3 report back

Conversation 3 produced a set of six questions that Canberrans want their candidates to answer. Before publishing them widely we are inviting parties, groups and candidates to receive a briefing on the Conversations.



In late August we will make them widely available to voters. We are also inviting all candidates to the Know you Candidate Forums (see below) where they can respond to the questions publicly.

Outputs and **the report** from the three Democracy in Action! Conversations are [on our Election page](#).

Know Your Candidate Forums

Come along to hear candidates respond to questions seeking to know:

- their qualifications and diverse experience;
- leadership experience;
- how are they going to engage the community;
- how will they prioritise community interests and wellbeing over personal, party or donor interests;
- how will they report back to the community;
- how would they demonstrate the qualities Canberrans expect?

Dates and Venues

Murrumbidgee – St James Uniting Church, Curtin; Sunday 22 September– 2.00-4.00pm

Ginninderra – Belconnen Community Centre Monday; 23 September– 7.00-9.00 pm

Kurrajong – Currie Cres Community Hall, Kingston; Tuesday 24 September– 7.30-9.00 pm

Brindabella – Tuggeranong Community Centre Hall; Sunday 29 September– 2.00-4.00pm

Yerrabi – Forde Community Centre; Monday 30 September– 7.00-8.30pm.

Spread the word please. Voting is one of our citizen powers and knowing your candidates is crucial to knowing who to preference.

2024 AGM REMINDER

Join us at St James Church Hall, Curtin, 2pm on Saturday August 24th to participate in the governance of CAPaD.

Draft Agenda and past minutes [available here](#).

Constitutional amendments

Early this year Access Canberra released the new model rules for incorporated associations, such as CAPaD. There have also been some minor amendments not made in recent years because our focus was on bringing the objectives to reflect our educational focus and prepares for a DGR application. The new model rules give us an opportunity to tidy up our constitution and bring the language and rules up to date. The proposed changes are [available on our website](#).

Note, only paid-up members can vote.

And it is that time again, when memberships become due.

Please rejoin (or join) and continue to support us. [See here](#). As a volunteer organisation with funding only coming from memberships and donations we are really reliant on you, our membership, for our capacity to undertake our educational work. Memberships fund basic operational costs such as the website, public liability insurance, Zoom subscription and donations support project activity such as hall hire for this year's Democracy in Action!.

ACTIVE PROJECTS

ACTIVE
DEMOCRACY
AUSTRALIA

(ADAus) We continue to receive requests for involvement and for additions to electorate webpages.



Active Democracy Bean

[Beyond the Talk – Indigenous-led solutions NOW!](#)

Next event, August 19th, 5:30pm to 7:30pm Austrian Australian Club in Mawson. Paula McGrady will speak on **Closing the Gap in the ACT – what needs to change?** and will

also talk about the Elected Body in her remarks.

[More details including future Politics in the Pub events here](#).

Any questions or interest to join us? Contact activedemocracybean@outlook.com.

Additionally Active Democracy Bean [has a Facebook page](#) on which they will promote what is on and latest information regarding their activity. More about Bean and ADB on their [webpage](#).

The Active Democracy ACT [site is here](#).

Education for civics

Taking a rest while Democracy in Action conversations are happening.

Do you want to help with this project? [Email us](#).

Participatory budgeting in the ACT – Participatory Democracy in Action

More [background to this idea here](#).

Do you want to help with this project? [Email us](#).

THINGS TO LISTEN TO, WATCH AND READ

Our standing reminders about:

- [Democracy Sausage podcast](#) from the ANU Public Policy Institute. Lots of very topical topics, and
- [The Remakers podcast](#). Australia ReMADE's podcast has a fascinating series of discussions and interviews and is well worth a listen.
- **Juice Media** for an [irreverent and spicy look at current politics](#) in Australia and beyond.
- **Punters Politics** [another comedic look](#) at Australia's political goings on.
- **Crazy Town** From [the Post Carbon Institute \(go to Products/Podcasts\)](#). 2025 season looking at how to escape Crazy Town.

All **available** from your favourite podcast service.

The Loop; political science blog site.

An article relevant to us in the ACT is:

[What aspects of political representation matter to citizens?](#)

Introduced by [Hannah Pitkin](#) representation in the eye of the citizens has four dimensions: substantive, formalistic, descriptive, and symbolic. What's more or less important to citizens?

From your committee

A pdf version of this Awakening Democracy is available [on our website here](#).

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

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

Share ideas: [Twitter \(X\)](#) @CAPADACT

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Election related material authorised by Peter Tait Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy