

# Conservation Council ACT Region - Strategic Plan 2026 - 2030

*This strategic plan sets our direction for the next five years, from 2026 to 2030, providing a roadmap to achieve our vision and purpose.*

## About us

The Conservation Council ACT Region is the peak body for environment and climate groups in the ACT Region. We represent close to 50 member groups, bringing together a united voice on environment and climate issues to Government, business and community.

Since 1981 we have been at the centre of the region's most important wins for wildlife, bushland, climate and communities. As a hub for the ACT Region's environment and climate movement and a not-for-profit, non government organisation, we run campaigns, promote and upskill local groups, undertake research, advocate passionately, and engage and inform our community.

## Our vision [where we want to be by 2030]

A thriving, healthy and sustainable environment, safe climate, and just society throughout the ACT region, with the ACT becoming a national and global leader on environmental action.

## Our purpose [why we exist]

We are building a vibrant movement to elevate environmental action across the ACT and region, driving systemic change, positive outcomes and contributing to national leadership. We speak with a strong voice on behalf of our region's environment.

## Our values [What underpins our work]

**Leadership:** We are courageous when we speak up for the environment and put forward bold and inspiring ideas to support our vision.

**Justice:** We ensure that economic and social justice are centered in all of our work, including recognising the impacts of environmental policies on future generations. We are informed by First Nations knowledge and strive to ensure all members of our community are part of our movement.

**Integrity:** We are independent; our work is credible and informed by evidence; we are committed to sound governance.

**Respect:** We listen to, learn from, and respect the views of others.

**Collaboration:** We foster participation and build strong partnerships to achieve our goals.

## Our strategic priorities [the outcomes we are trying to achieve]

*These priorities set the focus for our work over the life of this plan, guiding where we direct our work to achieve the greatest impact. They define the big environmental challenges we will address and the leadership role we will play across our region.*

1. Protect and restore biodiversity across all terrestrial and aquatic landscapes to ensure they are resilient, connected and healthy
  - We push to put nature first in decision making, including protecting areas of ecological value and biodiversity corridors, investing real money into nature conservation and rehabilitation, fixing and agitating for proper enforcement of our environment laws and better land and water management .
2. Position the ACT region as a leader in climate action
  - We promote a fast and fair climate transition, including speeding up the phase out of fossil fuels in the ACT-region, ensuring all members of the community can benefit from our economic shift, and working with national partners to stop coal and gas mining in Australia more broadly. We also work to ensure the ACT Region adapts to the impacts of climate change that are already occurring.
3. Prevent urban sprawl and promote sustainable planning and transport
  - We lead the conversation about what a sustainable future for the ACT Region looks like, pushing to stop further urban sprawl, reducing pollution, boosting public and active transport, and ensuring that future urban infill meets the needs of our environment and community.
4. Drive a circular economy and reduce waste
  - We support the ACT Region's transition to a circular economy by advocating for reduced consumption, reducing pollution, resource efficiency, reuse and repair, better management of food and garden organics, recycling, and other circular economy initiatives around the territory.

## What we do [how we work to meet our priorities]

1. **Advocate - Influence decisions and deliver wins for the environment.**

*We speak truth to power, holding governments accountable for the protection of nature and the climate.*

- a. Deliver effective campaigns on key environmental issues within the ACT and region.
- b. Engage in policy development and influence decisions to secure strong environmental outcomes.

## **2. Collaborate - Build our movement and strengthen our members:**

*We support our community to work together to find better ways of doing things and to speak up for nature.*

- a. Support, connect, and empower our member organisations and allies.
- b. Encourage member group involvement in our decision making and identifying priorities for our work.
- c. Build and diversify our movement, recognising that the environment movement is deeply embedded with other movements for First Nations, social, economic, and racial justice, amongst others.
- d. Work in partnership with business, peak bodies, educational institutions and other organisations to share knowledge and develop solutions.

## **3. Activate - Engage and inspire our community:**

*We inspire the ACT community and empower them to take action.*

- a. Foster public understanding, participation, and support for environmental action.
- b. Encourage the community to engage in environmental issues, in particular helping our member groups grow and thrive.
- c. Build a strong volunteer base and celebrate the efforts of our volunteers.
- d. Celebrate the wins of the environment and climate community.

## **4. Strengthen - Grow a stronger organisation:**

*We ensure we work on a strong and stable footing, building a resilient organisation and movement across the ACT and region.*

- a. Grow our independent income with a strong and diverse supporter base.
- b. Build the skills, resources, and resilience we need to deliver lasting impact.
- c. Ensure ethical, well-informed and transparent governance that is underpinned by efficient internal processes and a safe and satisfying work environment.