

# CANDIDATE NOMINATIONS FOR POSITIONS ON THE CONSERVATION COUNCIL BOARD 2022-2023

## NOMINATION FOR THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT (ONE POSITION)

### **Sarah REID - ACF COMMUNITY CANBERRA**

NOMINATED BY: Marcus Hassall, 350.org

SECONDED BY: Rod Griffiths, National Parks Association

I have nominated for the position of Board President to continue to support the great work of the Conservation Council. I am the current serving Board President and am seeking to continue this role to also help support the new Executive Director and Board.

I have contributed a large amount of volunteer time to the critical cause of climate in any way I have been able, whether it has been on the Board and Council of the Australian Conservation Foundation, as one of the convenors of the ACF Canberra Community Group and as a supporter of the campaigns that have been driven by the fantastic groups that make up the climate movement in Canberra. It has never been more important for all of us to do what we can to support nature and climate to reap the benefits from the opportunities this presents and meet the challenges.

I am very motivated to act out of duty to future generations to meet the challenges we face. As Board President, I seek to continue to support the Conservation Council, Board, staff and members in its Governance and assure that campaigns are conducted appropriately.

## NOMINATION FOR THE POSITION OF VICE PRESIDENT (TWO POSITIONS)

### **Rod GRIFFITHS - NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION**

NOMINATED BY: Rosemary Hollow, National Parks Association

SECONDED BY: Sarah Reid, ACF Community Canberra

The Conservation Council plays a significant role in the protection of the ACT region's environment and I have had the privilege of helping guide the Council over many years. In support of my nomination for vice president, I can offer the experience of 37 years of environmental activism, working on the boards of both national and regional environment groups.

These years have taught me the importance of organisations having passionate, dedicated and ethical leaders who are committed to the aims of the organisation they represent. Over the years, I have helped the Council through many issues, drawing on my environmental experience and also my professional experience as a chartered accountant. But this has not dampened my urge to help the Council to continue to address the urgent climate change, species extinction and sustainability issues facing all of us. I have a particular interest in the protection of biodiversity and the management of our national parks and nature reserves.

My corporate knowledge of the Council has also helped it take on board lessons of the past and to be more efficient in achieving its outcomes.

## **Leon ARUNDELL - PEDAL POWER, CLIMATE ACTION CANBERRA**

NOMINATED BY: Jacqueline Pinkava, SEE Change  
SECONDED BY: Chris Warren. Climate Action Canberra

In the past two years I have persuaded the Conservation Council to provide regular board meeting reports (up from about one in ten in 2020), and to invite member groups, through the Weekly Wrap, to contribute to more of the Council's submissions (up from about one invitation per twenty submissions in 2020).

I will ask the board to establish a climate change subcommittee, to review constitutional changes that disqualify several groups from remaining as members, and to allow observers at board meetings. I will enable members to comment on board agendas and minutes. Unlike current vice presidents I will be accountable for working constitutionally to better represent Conservation Council members.

I have six years experience on the Conservation Council board. Former board member Chris Dorman says, "You would be such an asset on the board again."

I have been President of the ACT Branch of the Solar Energy Society, Convenor of Climate Action Canberra and Living Streets Canberra, Chair of the North Canberra Community Council and Executive Officer of Pedal Power. I have degrees in science and environmental studies, and a diploma in economics.

## **Jenny EDWARDS - SEE CHANGE**

NOMINATED BY: Rod Griffiths, National Parks Association  
SECONDED BY: Helen Sims, Friends of Grasslands

I bring valuable experience and skills to the Conservation Council Board. My 13 years in small business in Canberra (following a career in science communication working for the federal government, CSIRO, ANU and Questacon) give me valuable insights into the private sector in the ACT.

I am known locally, and nationally, for my enthusiasm and skill when it comes to raising awareness of energy efficiency and climate-change related issues, particularly in relation to the built environment. My company, Light House Architecture and Science, was a seed investor in Canberra's first community solar farm and has sponsored the first four community micro-forest projects, Capital Scraps and the Circular Economy Symposium. I was also involved in content development for the Make the Switch website. This week, I will be presenting as part of the DESIGN Canberra Medium Density Housing symposium at the Shine Dome and delivering a public talk about Low Carbon Housing at 220 London Circuit.

I live in a space- and energy-efficient, all-electric home in Wright. Despite my block being small, I have 17 fruit trees and 4 very productive vegie beds. I spend my spare time walking at Stromlo Forest Park. I am Deputy President of the CraftACT Board. I completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) course for Company Directors in 2018.

You can read more about me here: <https://www.lighthouse.team.com.au/team/jenny>

## NOMINATION FOR THE POSITION OF SECRETARY (ONE POSITION)

**Kathy Ehmann - SEE Change**

NOMINATED BY: Brook Clinton, SEE Change

SECONDED BY: Sarah Reid, ACF Community Canberra

I have worked in the ACT Community Sector since arriving in Canberra in 2017. In that time, I have worked as HR and Finance Manager for a peak body, served as Treasurer on the ACT Shelter board and launched the Community Toolbox Canberra. The Toolbox is fast becoming a significant part of Canberra's circular economy, accepting equipment donations and maximizing their intensity of use in the hands of the community.

I'm passionate about increasing people's skills and improving our collective self-sufficiency. I am an enthusiastic participant in Buy Nothing, ShareWaste, Repair Cafes and talking to people about gardening for pleasure, food and insects.

I am studying for a Bachelor of Science (Sustainability) to further inform my commitment to reducing human impact on the planet. I'd like to serve on the Conservation Council board to support the work of the organisation and its members, with the ultimate ambition of making reducing planetary pressures a mainstream goal.

## **NOMINATIONS FOR THE POSITIONS OF ELECTED BOARD MEMBER (SIX POSITIONS)**

### **Victoria HERBERT - FOOD CO-OP**

NOMINATED BY: MaryClare Woodforde, Food Co-op, AAEE

SECONDED BY: Sarah Reid, ACF Community Canberra

If selected to join the board, my approach to the role will be informed by my professional, academic, and volunteering experience to work for the best interests of the ACT Conservation Council and to bolster their efforts to protect the environment in the ACT. I have a strong awareness of the social aspects of environmental issues that we're currently facing and will bring a strong ethical and social justice perspective to the role.

I am currently working within the Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment, an independent statutory body which acts as an independent voice for the environment and sustainability in the ACT.

I have a Bachelor of Environment and Sustainability from the ANU and am currently undertaking a Master of Climate Change at the Crawford School of Public Policy. I am an active volunteer with Women's Environmental Leadership Australia, organising a series of informal speaker and networking evenings to bring together women and gender diverse people involved in the climate and environmental movement.

Previously, I have acted as the Environment Office for the ANU Student Representative Council, advocating for greater sustainability considerations on campus. I have also been involved in a host of frontline activism, namely against the Adani coalmine in QLD, against logging of old-growth forests in the Tarkine, and the destruction of the Djab Wurrung birthing trees in Victoria.

### **Warwick CATHRO - 350.ORG, AUSTRALIAN ELECTRIC VEHICLE ASSOCIATION**

NOMINATED BY: Richard Czumak, Chair of the ACT Branch of AEVA

SECONDED BY: Bill Gemmell, PT Cbr Deputy Chair

I have served two terms on the Board of the Conservation Council and would appreciate the opportunity to make a continued contribution.

I am deeply committed to action on climate change, and to the development of policies to rapidly reduce the ACT's emissions. I have been an activist with 350 Canberra since 2014 which has given me relevant experience in campaigning and advocacy.

I am National Secretary of the Australian Electric Vehicle Association, and have prepared submissions related to transport and energy policies. I wish to continue to facilitate the Conservation Council's Transport Working Group, with the goal of proposing truly sustainable transport solutions for Canberra.

My years of experience in the Commonwealth's Senior Executive Service will allow me to offer skills in areas such as policy development, government processes, engagement with stakeholders, planning and budgeting.

**Leon ARUNDELL - PEDAL POWER, CLIMATE ACTION CANBERRA**

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**Marcus HASSALL - 350.org, AEVA**

NOMINATED BY: Sarah Reid, ACT Community Canberra  
SECONDED BY: Rod Griffiths, National Parks Association

I am an ACT barrister who originally became a board member of the Conservation Council 5-6 years ago through my involvement with 350.org and StopAdani.

I am passionate about climate change issues, particularly that of inter-generational justice. I really want my 3 kids to have as much chance as possible of enjoying the wonders of the natural world that I experienced when growing up.

I bring to the Board of the Conservation Council my legal expertise derived from 25 years of practice in the ACT and other Australian jurisdictions. I have acted pro bono on several occasions for climate change protestors and also assisted the Council with a defamation action brought against it. I have previously been a member of other boards such as the ACT Legal Aid Commission.

## **Correa DRISCOLL - SEE CHANGE**

NOMINATED BY: Sarah Reid, ACT Community Canberra

SECONDED BY: MaryClare Woodforde, Food Co-op, AAEE

I have always held a strong passion for the environment, and I would love to bring my diverse experience to support the Conservation Council on the board. I bring skills in campaigning, communications, fundraising, project management and regulation.

I have been actively involved in the climate movement since high school, notably holding leadership positions within the Australian Youth Climate Coalition throughout prominent national climate and election campaigns. Over several years with Southern ACT Catchment Group, I engaged directly with member groups and worked closely with ACT Government processes to facilitate beneficial environmental outcomes in the landcare community. Having transitioned into a regulatory setting at the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, I am familiar with navigating Commonwealth government policies and laws.

I value the role of grassroots community groups in change-making, and I believe the Conservation Council is crucial in supporting community action for a sustainable future. I am keen to bring my skills, knowledge and passion to the board, and I am excited to see the next environmental achievements of the Conservation Council.

## **Annika REYNOLDS - ACF COMMUNITY CANBERRA**

NOMINATED BY: Sarah Reid, ACT Community Canberra

SECONDED BY: MaryClare Woodforde, Food Co-op, AAEE

I am a climate justice and non-binary advocate. I am the Founder and CEO of GreenLaw and was previously a Board Director for Zero Emissions Noosa (2019-2020), and therefore, have an extensive history of environmental campaigning and board management. I also hold positions as a Fellow at the ANU College of Law, with my research focusing on the rights of nature, as a Youth Chair Environment and Human Rights at Australian Lawyers, and as an adviser to governments, organisations and a member of the Gender Advisory Panel for the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Climate Change. I believe my background and skills would contribute to the Conservation Council of the ACT Region's important work as a peak environmental body advocating for a more sustainable and fairer Canberra.

I am a member of ACF Canberra and the Canberra Ornithologists Group. I am also involved in the following ACT based environmental/climate law reform groups: GreenLaw, ANU Law Reform and Social Justice Program and the Rainbow Bee-Eaters LGBTIQA+ Group.

## **Kimberley SLAPP - FOOD CO-OP**

NOMINATED BY: Sarah Reid, ACT Community Canberra  
SECONDED BY: Vivienne Peace, AAEE

Being on the Conservation Council board for the past year has significantly enriched my understanding of governance, strategy and community campaigns. While I came onto the board with more specific knowledge and experience about law reform and policy as it relates to environment and conservation, I believe that I now have a more well-rounded understanding of how to drive this change through the Conservation Council.

I am as passionate as ever about environmental justice and advocacy. As the manager of the Law Reform and Social Justice program at ANU, I have endeavoured to ensure that environmental and conservation issues – both local and more broadly – have been spotlighted. Alongside this, I have continued as a legal volunteer at the EDO where I have been involved in assisting local community groups in environmental and planning matters as well as larger scale law reform projects into climate change and biodiversity issues.

## **Vivienne PEARCE - AUSTRALIAN ASSOC OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS ACT**

NOMINATED BY: Sarah Reid, ACT Community Canberra  
SECONDED BY: Kimberley Slapp, Food Co-op

For most of my working life I have been an advocate for the power of education to transform society and the lives of our citizens. I feel as a keen environmental educator that education has an important role to play in helping our communities transform our country and planet to a sustainable way of living. Conservation Council needs to inspire the next generation of environmental activists. I am equally passionate at helping both the young and old to care for country and our planet.

As a Board member in 2022 I brought a different set of skills to the Conservation Council:

- ACT Environmental Educator for 2022. This was based on the breadth of my work both paid and as a volunteer. My mentoring and supporting environmental educators in the ACT and nationally
- Career as a Science teacher, last 10 years at the ANBG.
- Current President ACT Australian Association of Environmental Education (AAEEACT), Vice-President Nationally.
- Member Committee and facilitator for SEE-Change ACT Parliament of Youth on Sustainability
- Active Executive member, past President, and the convenor of ACT Parents & Citizens Council Reconciliation Action Plan Committee. I have both led development and presently helping with implementation of RAP.
- As CCACT Board member in 2022, I have contributed to CCACT First Nations and Governance Subcommittees and Biodiversity Working group.
- I can advocate with a strong clear voice for issues that the ACT Conservation Council represents and have experience dealing with media.
- Experience working with difficult to reach communities in the areas of disability, migrants, and refugees. As we face a Climate Emergency, the disadvantaged will be the most effected.