

GETTING ELECTED 2021

The First National Convention for Community-Minded Independents

Wednesday 3rd February 2021

The first national convention for independents looking to run at the next Federal Election will be held later this month (26/27/28th Feb).

The convention will bring together independent Federal MPs Helen Haines, Zali Steggall, Rebekha Sharkie and Senator Jacqui Lambie, and has been convened by Cathy McGowan, the former independent Member for Indi.

Ms McGowan said the conference was an exciting opportunity for community-minded independents, and their communities to come together and provide support to each other ahead of the next Federal election.

“Running as an independent against the big party machines can be a daunting task and you need all the support you can to be successful.

“The convention will be online, run over three days and is expected to draw over 500 participants.

“There is great disillusionment with the standards in politics at the moment and a real groundswell of people looking for higher standards from our political leaders,” Ms McGowan said.

About the Convention

When: February 26 - February 28

The convention is specifically designed for ‘community-minded’ people who are interested in running particularly for Federal politics, now and in the future, and those who would like to be part of their team and support with community work.

Candidates planning to run as independents, community members keen to support a community leader to run, and others with a commitment to help Australian politics reach its potential are invited to participate.

An Australian first, this online convention will be a unique opportunity to network, share skills, knowledge and experience, and learn more about how community independents can change Australia for the better.

To attend, participants should sign up on the Getting Elected website (www.communityindependents.com.au)

Media are welcome to attend.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Cathy McGowan AO

Community Champion and former independent Member for Indi

In 2013, Cathy broke the Liberal/National Coalition's hold on the seat of Indi, successfully becoming the first independent member for the north-east Victorian electorate.

Author of "Cathy Goes to Canberra," she is convenor and host of the Convention.

Dr Helen Haines MP

Independent Federal Member for Indi

In May 2019, Helen made history by becoming the first independent federal parliamentarian to succeed another in the same electorate since Federation in 1901. With a doctoral degree in medical science and background in epidemiology and public health, Helen is a nurse, midwife, teacher, and academic. Helen is a community independent politician with a commitment to action on climate change, integrity, regional Australia and revitalisation of our democracy.

Professor Kerryn Phelps AM

Former independent Member for Wentworth and Councillor, City of Sydney

Dr Phelps' arrival in Canberra as the member for Wentworth in 2018 was the culmination of 20 years of activism and advocacy. Kerryn is one of Australia's best-known doctors and public health and human rights advocates. The Sydney-based GP and former President of the AMA is a Councillor for the City of Sydney.

Media Contact:

Cathy McGowan: 0418 328 960

Email: communitymindedindependents@gmail.com