

What Friends might want to do before and after the election

During the Caretaker period, here are five things Friends may wish to:

1. **Read** the parties' Platforms_(their priorities and plans for governing Australia if they win).
2. **Monitor** media announcements of 100-Day Promises (which may also be in their Platforms). These are actions the party promises to do within their first 100 days in office (approximately).
3. Similarly, this is a good time to **identify actions** a new government could progress in their first 100 days.
4. **Link with other civil society groups** and plan to visit Canberra. Be a visible reminder that Government, regardless of who wins, serves the people and the people have a powerful, collective voice.
5. **Review and update your public-facing presence on social media** (eg website, blog/vlog, twitter, facebook page) to be accurate, easy to navigate, compelling and engaging. Parliamentary and departmental officers cruise the web looking for interesting material, and in some cases, potential people or organisations to keep in mind. If you/your group is seeking a meeting or otherwise engages, your social media material is critical.

After the winner is declared, here are five things Friends might want to do:

1. **Download** or bookmark:
 - Current Ministry List https://www.aph.gov.au/about_parliament/parliamentary_departments/parliamentary_library/parliamentary_handbook/current_ministry_list (note that this currently has the 46th Parliament Ministry List)
 - Parliamentary Sitting calendar <https://www.pmc.gov.au/resource-centre/government/parliamentary-sittings>
 - Senators and Members list https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members
2. **Track** 100-Day promises and party platform commitments, and remind Parliamentarians of these statements, ask how they are progressing them.
3. **Write** Parliamentarians and remind them of their campaign promises. If Labor wins the election, Friends may wish to remind them of their campaign promise to have a national integrity commission up and running by Christmas. If Labor wins Friends may wish to remind them of their platform promise to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

4. **Plan** a local meet-and-greet with your Parliamentarians' local offices - relationships are key to engagement.

5. **Ask** the new Government, regardless of who wins, to establish a Climate Crisis Taskforce under the National Federation Reform Council (NFRC) which replaced the Council of Australian Governments in May 2020. Current NFRC Taskforces are: Women's Safety, Indigenous Affairs and Veterans' Wellbeing. The NFRC is due to meet in late 2022 <https://federation.gov.au/nfrc>. To support this work, the Government could also establish an Executive Climate Crisis Taskforce comprised of the Secretaries of all federal government departments, reportable to the Prime Minister, similar to the National Climate Task Force in the USA <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/15/readout-of-the-march-national-climate-task-force-meeting/>. An Interdepartmental Committee on Climate Crisis to support and progress the work of the Executive Taskforce and the NFRC Taskforce on Climate Change could also be formed, to include a mandate for whole-of-government outcomes (which will include local, state/territory and national engagement).