

News from Active Democracy Bean (ADB)

ADB has been working hard since the Referendum deciding how to respond to Yes23 volunteers interest in continuing to work for indigenous justice issues in the ACT. Those who opted in to be on our mailing list have participated in various ways, ultimately deciding to elevate issues of importance to local indigenous communities with our elected representatives in the lead up to the ACT election.

We are partnering with the local branch of [ANTaR](#) (Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation) which is the major national non-indigenous advocacy group and are calling our campaign: Beyond the talk – Indigenous led solutions now!

We had 27 people come along to our Campaign Information Session on 26 May – pictures [here](#).

We had a Welcome to Country by Ngunnawal leader and ACT 2024 Australian of the Year Local Hero Selina Walker. Selina held us all captive with her sharing of what is important to her and the everyday reality of living as an Aboriginal kinship carer in the ACT.

Former Greens MLA Caroline Le Couteur gave us some great tips on how best to approach an MLA, including the importance of focusing on one or two key asks.

Julie Evans from ANTAR told us a bit about the history of her organisation and we talked about how we are working together in the lead up to the ACT election.

Folk volunteered for jobs and to visit MLAs. [A kit](#) was distributed which detailed all the ways that we constituents can engage with our local representatives, including information sheets devised by ANTaR on our key asks – **Return Boomanulla Oval and transfer Ngunnawal Bush Healing Farm to community control within 12 months of the ACT election.**

These are promises made in 2020 by the ACT Government and are key areas of concern for Indigenous people. Honouring these two commitments will contribute to reducing incarceration rates and improving child protection. We want government and candidates to:

- keep their promises
- listen to Indigenous voices, and
- deliver Indigenous-led solutions.

This kit is usable by those outside the Bean electorate. **We'd love it if constituents in Kurrajong, Ginninderra and Yerrabi used the kit to engage with their local MLAs**, (and candidates) either formally through meeting with them at their electoral office, or informally via their presence at shopping centres etc. If you want to group with others, contact

Murrumbidgee, Kurrajong, Ginninderra and Yerrabi: Murray Brown murray2205@gmail.com

Brindabella: Alison Gerard alisongerard@yahoo.com

