

2014 ACT ALP Presidential Elections

Louise Crossman



It is why now as a small business consultant, I ensure local employers give their staff the right pay and conditions.

And it is why I am seeking re-election as ACT Labor President.

I'm proud that ACT Labor leads nationally on party reform. I was a member of our Participation Review Committee and implemented key reforms, including moving the motion to enable branch members to directly elect the party president.

If re-elected, I will:

- Implement strategies to increase the number of women members and women's participation;
- Continue to regularly attend every branch to seek and provide feedback to decision-making bodies, such as Administrative Committee;
- Seek engagement with the local community to increase membership; and
- Provide strong leadership and knowledge of meeting procedure to effectively run meetings and conference.

Louise's email: louise.crossman@gmail.com

Before I moved to Canberra as a student, I grew up on the NSW Central Coast. It's a place of great wealth and dire poverty. I saw the divide between people who struggled to put every meal on their table, and people who wanted for nothing.

Like many of us, I joined Labor because I knew only our party can fight inequality.

It's why I worked on Labor campaigns, as an ACT Labor Candidate, campaign manager, and adviser to Federal parliamentarians.

John Kilcullen



unions should be separate—no affiliated unions, no union delegations at Conference.

Kevin Rudd's rules on leadership should be revised—caucus should be able by simple majority to remove a leader and substitute a temporary leader, but then there should be an election in which all Party members vote, without special weight for the votes of parliamentarians.

In Party elections, the secret ballot should be genuinely secret (no "show and tell").

On policy I care especially about climate change, refugee policy (Labor should get rid of the idea of deterrence), international recognition of a state of Palestine, and parliamentary approval of overseas deployments.

If elected I will not try to impose my views, but I hope to be able to organise active discussion in the ACT Branch before the next National Conference.

For more, see <http://www.johnkilcullen.net.au/> or email jkilcull@homemail.com.au

I see this election as a chance to further discussions we should be having about the future of the national ALP.

The current "Socialist Objective" should be replaced by a clear statement of what Labor stands for.

On the relationship between Party and unions, I suggest that full ALP membership should require at least associate membership of a union, but Party and

Thomas McMahon



I'm Thomas McMahon, and I'm running as a non-aligned candidate for ACT Labor President. I believe I have the experience, skills and temperament to guide our branch through the challenges and opportunities ahead.

As president, I'll push for more engagement for members in the processes and policies of the ACT Labor Party.

While we've made a lot of progress recently, we can do more to reduce barriers for people who want to join our party. I support the removal of the union membership requirement and the creation of new sub-branches at our universities.

I've worked in Andrew Leigh's office for the last 18 months. I also worked on the last federal election campaign with the field data team pioneering new ways to reach out to voters. Before this I worked in the public service at Immigration and PM&C.

I'm the Senior Vice-President of Canberra North and I'm also currently serving on the administrative committee.

If elected as President I will work to put members at the centre of our branch's processes and decision-making.

Our branch leads from the front on Labor reform. I believe in a democratic ALP and I'm proud to stand in our first member-based vote for President.

Thomas' email: thmcmahon@gmail.com

Jennifer Newman



I'd like to be the members' president.

I'd like to be a link between the party machinery and the rank and file membership. In my years as a rank and file member I have witnessed a disconnect between administrative committee and the rank and file membership.

As president I will work to demystify admin and make it more transparent and accountable.

As a rank and file member I was inspired by the participation review and encouraged by the clear message the plebiscite delivered - the members want to be the decision makers.

It shouldn't just be staffers and unions that make decisions for our party.

It is not enough to be easy to join. It is not enough to get names on a membership list. It must also be easy to get involved and to become part of the ALP family.

As president I would work to bring rank and file members closer to party decision makers.

As a personal injury lawyer protecting workers on the front line and as a volunteer with Barnardos, I understand the value of inclusion and bringing people into decision making that affects their lives.

I will work towards ensuring the ALP belongs and responds to all its members.

Jennifer's email: ms.jennifer.newman@gmail.com

Candidates were invited to submit pictures and up to 250 words to be sent to voters. These are their statements and photos.

Candidates can be contacted by email. If you have any queries about the election, please email gro@act.alp.org.au or ring the Party Office on 6247 4066.
