

the seventh in a series of

CANBERRA CONVERSATIONS

Wednesday 1 December 2010, 6 - 9pm

Reception Room, ACT Legislative Assembly

presented by A CHORUS OF WOMEN

in collaboration with ANU CLIMATE CHANGE INSTITUTE

with assistance from an ACT Government Environment Grant

a chorus
of women

CANBERRA — CELEBRATING 2010 & IMAGINING 2030

What could be possible when Canberra citizens, business and government work together to co-create a sustainable city?

Bookings are required by Friday 26 November to hoffie@inet.net.au

At this end of year Canberra Conversation we will celebrate recent achievements and look to what might be possible for 2030. We will celebrate 2010 as the year that the ACT set a 40% emissions target for 2020 and started a bold community dialogue about the future of Canberra — Canberra 2030: Time to Talk.

In looking to 2030, we will build on themes emerging from our previous six conversations and the ACT Government's Time to Talk initiative. We will consider the type of city we want in 2030, given the need to live within carbon and water constraints and the likely increase in population. We will consider three 'false choices' that are often presented as either/or propositions:

- a compact, dense city or urban sprawl
- a biodiversity rich bush capital or built environment rich with city and cultural infrastructure
- pursuit of individual interest or pursuit of the collective, public good

By naming these extremes we hope to stimulate a productive conversation about how wise planning could accommodate our need for environmental sustainability while still allowing a diverse mix of lifestyle choices.

WHO WILL BE THERE?

PROFESSOR WILL STEFFEN is Executive Director, ANU Climate Change Institute and Science Adviser for the Australian Government. He has also been appointed as an adviser to the Multi-Party Climate Change Committee, established by the Prime Minister to help build consensus on how Australia will tackle climate change.

A CHORUS OF WOMEN will provide artistic input relating to the conversation.

DR JANET SALISBURY (Director of the science communication consultancy Biotext and a member of Chorus) will facilitate the discussion.

OTHER PARTICIPANTS will include business people, policy makers, members of community and environmental groups, and concerned citizens of Canberra.

WILL YOU JOIN US?

Canberra Conversations is a community initiative of A Chorus of Women.

ABOUT CANBERRA CONVERSATIONS

Canberra Conversations are a series of citizen conversations on topics of importance for our future. They include information sharing, small group and facilitated larger group discussions, together with A Chorus of Women's artistic representation of the social and ethical challenges that these subjects present to our community. The aim is to see how community engagement and wise decision making could be helped by a more open dialogue among citizens, scientists, technical specialists, artists, business people and policy makers.

HOW DO CANBERRA CONVERSATIONS DIFFER FROM OTHER PUBLIC MEETINGS?

Most public discussion is based on debate, which is inherently adversarial. In Canberra Conversations we take a different approach, which Dr Janet Salisbury is developing in line with A Chorus of Women's mission and practice from the kind of dialogue proposed by physicist David Bohm in his book *On Dialogue* (1996).

Canberra Conversations aim to promote dialogue in which participants listen to each other with sufficient interest and empathy to understand the meaning and motivations of other positions properly. This can take participants beyond the fixed positions they might bring to an adversarial discussion and open them to engage constructively on the topic, paving the way for creative thinking and wise actions.

CHATHAM HOUSE RULE FOR CANBERRA CONVERSATIONS

We hold Canberra Conversations under the Chatham House Rule with the aim of creating an environment conducive to open and free-flowing conversation. We ask that all participants commit to the Rule as follows:

Participants may report the substance of the conversation to non-participants, but they may not attribute particular quotes or statements to specific individuals or the organisations they represent without the express permission of those speakers.

OTHER CANBERRA CONVERSATIONS

See www.chorusofwomen.org for details of A Chorus of Women's previous Canberra Conversations:

- CANBERRA'S ENERGY FUTURE: Thinking together about ways forward – February 2009
- EMISSIONS TRADING: The way forward to greenhouse gas reduction? – May 2009
- SCIENCE AND THE CREATIVE ARTS: A potent collaboration for change? – August 2009
- TRANSPORT FOR THE CANBERRA COMMUNITY: Thinking together about wise moves – October 2009
- FINDING WISDOM ON CLIMATE CHANGE ACROSS THE POLITICAL DIVIDE – March 2010
- CANBERRA'S FUTURE: Thinking together about sustainability, development and growth – May 2010

CONTACTS FOR BOOKINGS & FURTHER INFORMATION

TIME	Wednesday 1 December, 5.30 for 6-9pm (light refreshments provided)
PLACE	Reception Room, ACT Legislative Assembly, Civic Square, London Circuit
BOOKINGS	to Sue Hoffmann by COB, 26 November. EMAIL hoffie@inet.net.au
CONTACT	For further information contact Janet Salisbury: janetsalisbury25@gmail.com or Sue Hoffmann: hoffie@inet.net.au or phone 6262 7374.
WEBSITES	www.chorusofwomen.org www.anu.edu.au/climatechange www.canberra2030.org.au



a chorus of women