



AUSTRALASIAN PARLIAMENTARY EDUCATORS CONFERENCE 2023

Perth

November 21 - 23

Program



Hosted by the Parliament of Western Australia



APEC 2023

Defending Democracy through Civics Education

Welcome

Welcome to the 2023 Australasian Parliamentary Educators Conference from 21 – 23 November in Perth, Western Australia. The theme of the conference is *Defending Democracy through Civics Education*. The conference will focus on the critical role of parliamentary education in preserving and strengthening democratic societies.

The conference is an opportunity to gain insight into the latest research and trends in parliamentary civics education and community engagement, and discuss with colleagues effective strategies to empower students and the wider community to actively uphold democratic principles.

Our keynote address will be given by Mrs Darrilyn Dawson. With many years as an educator, both in the classroom and now from Government House, Mrs Dawson will share with us her experiences of bringing civics and citizenship to life in Western Australia.

Conference highlights include:

- Guest speakers discussing civics education and public engagement
- Panel discussions sharing best practices and strategies for engaging with youth
- Interactive workshops providing practical tools and resources for parliamentary educators
- Networking opportunities with like-minded professionals, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange.

We trust you will enjoy this collegiate conference experience in our beautiful city of Perth.

Rob Hunter
Executive Manager Parliamentary Services





Day One: Tuesday, 21 November

- 8.30 am - 9.00 am **Registration:** Reception, Parliament House.
Tea and coffee: Edith Cowan Foyer
- 9.00 am - 9.45 am **Opening formalities**
- Dance performance in Edith Cowan Foyer
Moorditj Mob
 - Welcome to Conference
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon Michelle Roberts MLA.
- 9.45 am - 10.00 am **Democracy Brainstorm**
Parliament of Western Australia
- 10.00 am - 10.30 am **Morning Tea**
- 10.30 am - 11.30 am **Parliament House Tour**
- 11.30 am - 12.30 pm **Engaging with Youth**
Panel discussion and Q&A with four Members of Parliament, facilitated by Adrian Beattie, Reporting Services Manager, Parliament of Western Australia
- 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm **Lunch**
- 1.30 pm - 2.00 pm **Productive Partnerships**
Parliament of Victoria
- 2.00 pm - 2.30 pm **Sorting the S.O.P**
Parliament of South Australia
- 2.30 pm - 3.00 pm **Enhancing Democracy by Broadening Pathways to Civics Education**
New Zealand Parliament
- 3.00 pm - 3.15 pm **Break**
- 3.15 pm - 3.40 pm **Legislative Council chamber visit**
- 3.40 pm - 4.00 pm **'Hey Mister, what's that?'**
Parliament of Western Australia
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- 4.00 pm - 5.30 pm **Welcome Reception:** Parliamentary Library
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Day Two: Wednesday, 22 November

- 8.30 am - 8.50 am **Arrival:** Legislative Assembly
- 8.50 am - 9.20 am **All Aboard the Magic Democracy Bus**
Parliament of Tasmania
- 9.30 am - 10.15 am **Keynote Address (including Q&A)**
Mrs Darrilyn Dawson
- 10.15 am - 10.45 am **Morning Tea**
- 10.45 am - 11.15 am **Art in Parliament**
Parliament of Western Australia
- 11.15 am - 12.15 pm **Parliament House Art Tour**
Guides from the Art Gallery of Western Australia
- 12.15 pm - 1.15 pm **Lunch**
- 1.15 pm - 1.45 pm **Long Road to the Far North**
Queensland Parliament
- 1.45 pm - 2.15 pm **Committee Challenge**
Australian Capital Territory
- 2.15 pm - 2.45 pm **Community Outreach Preparation**
Fiji Parliament
- 2.45 pm - 3.00 pm **Break**
- 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm **Civics Competition**
Parliament of Western Australia
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- 6.00 pm - 9.00 pm **Conference Dinner:** C Restaurant in the Sky
Dress: smart casual (e.g. business shirts, long trousers or cultural dress)
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Day Three: Thursday, 23 November

8.15 am - 8.30 am **Arrival:** Front steps of Parliament House (conference photo)

8.45 am - 9.45 am **Skittles or Snickers?**
Electoral Education Centre (offsite)

10.00 am - 10.30 am **Morning Tea**

10.30 am - 11.00 am **Pivot, Pivot, Pivot**
Parliament of New South Wales

11.00 am - 11.30 am **Responsive Parliamentary Education**
Federal Parliament

11.30 am - 12.00 pm **Youth Parliaments - A Digital Program in an AI World?**
Parliament of Western Australia

12.10 pm - 2.00 pm **Lunch:** Parliament House Members' Dining Room

Dress: smart casual (jacket, tie or cultural dress)

2.00 pm - 2.30 pm **Building the Agenda: 2024 APEC planning**
Parliament of Western Australia

2.30 pm - 3.15 pm **Conference close**
President of the Legislative Council, Hon Alanna Clohesy MLC.





Day One Sessions

11.30 am Engaging with Youth

A facilitated panel discussion and Q & A with four members from the WA Parliament who will discuss how they engage and empower youth in their electorates.

- Hon. Peter Collier MLC, North Metropolitan Region
- Hon. Mia Davies MLA, Member for Central Wheatbelt
- Jane Kelsbie MLA, Member for Warren-Blackwood
- Hon. Kyle McGinn MLC, Mining and Pastoral Region

Facilitator: Adrian Beattie, Reporting Services Manager, Parliament of Western Australia

1.30 pm Productive Partnerships

Narelle Wood, Senior Education Advisor, Parliament of Victoria

This workshop will look at how the Parliament of Victoria has developed partnerships with external organisations, including some seemingly unconventional organisations, to make connections between Parliament, civics education, broader curriculum areas and students' everyday lives.

These interdisciplinary approaches have provided opportunities for higher order and critical thinking, as well as problem-solving, while also providing opportunities to learn about parliamentary processes and the consequences of law-making. The Productive Partnerships session uses Mission Control - a partnership between the STEM Centre of Excellence and the Australian Space Agency - to explore the mutual benefit of the partnership model, the obstacles, lessons learned and future partnership possibilities.

2.00 pm Sorting the S.O.P

Natalie Badcock, Community Education and Engagement Manager, Parliament of South Australia.

A practical demonstration of the Parliament of South Australia's newest resource - a deck of Separation of Powers cards that can be used for solo, 1-1, group and whole class activities, as well as formative assessment.

2.30 pm Enhancing Democracy by Broadening Pathways to Civics Education

Troy Murphy, Senior Education Adviser, Parliament of New Zealand

Over the past year, the New Zealand Parliament's Education Team has embarked on a series of innovative initiatives designed to broaden access to and raise awareness of the inner workings of the New Zealand Parliament for new and diverse audiences.

Senior Education Adviser Troy Murphy will provide an overview of several of these initiatives undertaken by the education team, including:

- the development of the first educational resource with primary links to the English curriculum and reading and writing standards.
- the First Parliament Outreach Program conducted entirely in Te Reo Māori.
- the creation of Social Stories to familiarise neurodiverse learners with Parliament ahead of their visit.



Day Two Sessions

8.50 am All Aboard the Magic Democracy Bus

Kimbra McCormack, Principal Parliamentary Educator and Colette Goyne, Parliamentary Educator, House of Assembly Education Office, Parliament of Tasmania.

In July 2022, the House of Assembly Education Office launched the Tasmanian Regional School Travel Rebate, offering a travel subsidy for schools 75km or more from Hobart to travel to Parliament House and take part in an HAEO program. Despite the fact that Tasmania is a small, deeply connected state, many schools struggle to make the journey to Hobart and participate in onsite parliamentary education. This is the story of the development and first year of the travel rebate, how it works in a Tasmanian context and what lessons were learnt along the way. Spoiler alert: some of these lessons sow the seeds for a sequel!

9.30 am Keynote Address: Mrs Darrilyn Dawson

Mrs Darrilyn Dawson will provide an interesting insight into life and civics education at Government House.

Coming from a long line of farming families in the South-West of Western Australia, Mrs Darrilyn Dawson is a passionate supporter of the diverse contributions the country sector makes to our state. Mrs Dawson holds a Bachelor of Education and a Diploma of Teaching.

Mrs Dawson has held a variety of roles in education throughout her 40-year career, including classroom teaching and as a Deputy Principal, and Principal in numerous primary schools.

Mrs Dawson has served on several government school Boards. She is an Education Consultant, providing leadership training and mentoring, and is regularly involved in school selection panels, appointing educational leaders. Mrs Dawson is a Board and Committee member of two independent colleges and enjoys supporting them as they educate and grow our future leaders.

She is passionate about early intervention at every opportunity and providing all children with the foundations to be their very best in whatever they aspire to do or be.

The Governor of Western Australia, His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson AC APM, and Mrs Dawson have always supported each other in their respective career choices and aspirations.





Day Two Sessions (cont.)

10.45 am Art in Parliament

*Dr Isla Macphail, Clerk Assistant (Committees)
Secretary of the Parliament House Art Advisory Committee*

The Parliament of Western Australia has an extensive art collection of contemporary and historical importance. Focused on Western Australian artists and incorporating significant public figures, Aboriginal story and culture, our evolving landscape, and endemic flora and fauna, the collection represents who we are as a state and how we have evolved over time. This engaging session presented by Dr Isla Macphail will be followed by a Parliament art tour.

1.15 pm Long Road to the Far North

Rebecca Quinnell, Team Leader Education and Liaison and Maria Mead, Parliamentary Education Officer, Queensland Parliament

The Queensland Legislative Assembly met in Cairns in May for a full parliamentary sitting week. This was the sixth regional sitting of Queensland Parliament, providing people in the regions the opportunity to witness democracy in action first-hand, and the opportunity for the Education team to take their show on the road.

Queensland's Parliamentary Education Team went along, with a bigger-than-Ben-Hur's-21st school activities program, regional classroom visits, a public service seminar and two Youth Parliaments. In this session, Rebecca and Maria will take you through the peaks and pitfalls of taking their show on the road.

1.45 pm Committee Challenge

Lara Ghaly, Manager, Education and Engagement, Legislative Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory

Committees, the unsung heroes of our parliaments. Parliamentary committees highlight the importance of member collaboration across the political spectrum for a shared goal. Join the ACT Legislative Assembly's Education and Engagement team in exploring how the Committee Challenge allows students to build their understanding and appreciation for the work of committees through an interactive all-day program.

2.15 pm Community Outreach Preparation

Tarun Lal, Senior Parliamentary Education Officer, Parliament of Fiji

Conducting community outreach programmes is one major work of parliamentary educators. This 30-minute practical session will enable parliamentary educators to reflect on their outreach and improve on skills required for better preparation through the case study of Fiji Parliament's outreach programs called 'Parliament Bus'.



Day Three Sessions

8.45 am Skittles or Snickers?

Kylie Wholagan, Senior Community Education Officer, Western Australian Electoral Commission

This is a session addressing why we vote, who we are voting for, and how elections work. During the visit, delegates will view a range of educational resources, including an innovative audio-visual presentation and a mock election demonstrating the preferential voting system.

10.30 am Pivot, Pivot, Pivot ...

Jeannie Douglass, Senior Manager, Education and Engagement, Joseph Cho, Senior Education Officer and Daniela Giorgi, Senior Education Officer, Parliament of New South Wales.

Facing the challenges of keeping our civics education alive in an election year without members, or even a parliament building, the *Election 2023 Series* allowed us to pivot and continue our community engagement, albeit in a venue next door, providing NSW citizens with the opportunity to understand voting and its complex history up to the present. And with our combined understanding of legislatures, let's create a new electoral system.

11.00 am Responsive Parliamentary Education

Lee Katauskas, Director, Parliamentary Education Office, Australian Parliament House.

This presentation will explore the Parliamentary Education Office's responses to increased requests for services during the 2023 referendum and the collaborative approach adopted to manage these requests.

11.30 am Youth Parliaments - A Digital Program in an AI World?

Jordana Leavesley, Senior Parliamentary Education Officer, Parliament of Western Australia

A facilitated discussion on reimagining how parliaments can meaningfully connect with young people.



APEC 2023 Delegates

Natalie Badcock, Community Education and Engagement Manager, Parliament of South Australia
Judy Ballantyne, Manager, Library Education and Community Relations, Parliament of Western Australia
Lisa Belde, Manager, Parliamentary Education Services, Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory
Tina Beale, Education Presenter, Parliament of Western Australia
Joseph Cho, Senior Education Officer, Parliament of New South Wales
Dr Niamh Corbett, Librarian, Media and Education Services, Parliament of Western Australia
Belinda Corey, Director, Information Services, Parliament of Western Australia
David Cox, Education Presenter, Parliament of Western Australia
Jeannie Douglass, Senior Manager, Education and Engagement, Parliament of New South Wales
Linda Filiai, Parliament Education Officer, Legislative Assembly of Tonga
Lara Ghaly, Manager, Education and Engagement, Legislative Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory
Daniela Giorgi, Senior Education Officer, Parliament of New South Wales.
Colette Goyne, Parliamentary Educator, House of Assembly Education Office, Parliament of Tasmania
Morgan Gwangilo, Director, Civics Education, National Parliament of Papua New Guinea
Lee Katauskas, Director, Parliamentary Education Office, Australian Parliament House
Tarun Lal, Senior Parliamentary Education Officer, Parliament of Fiji
Audrey Lin, Manager, Tours & Customer Service Unit, Parliament of Victoria
Jordana Leavesley, Senior Parliamentary Education Officer, Parliament of Western Australia
Tupou Manuofetoa, Table Officer, Legislative Assembly of Tonga
Kimbra McCormack, Principal Parliamentary Educator, House of Assembly Education Office, Parliament of Tasmania.
Kiah McNaughton, Learning Coordinator, Museum of Australian Democracy
Maria Mead, Parliamentary Education Officer, Parliament of Queensland
Ben Machowiak, Education Presenter, Parliament of Western Australia
Troy Murphy, Senior Education Adviser, Parliament of New Zealand
Achille Naimlonu, Public Diplomacy Officer, Parliament of Vanuatu
Tensie Ngalu, Executive Officer, Legislative Assembly of Tonga
Kelly Prime, Principal Project Officer and Education Officer, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Western Australia
Rebecca Quinnell, Team Leader Education and Liaison, Parliament of Queensland
Robin Saville, Parliamentary Services Manager, Australian Parliament House
Mark Smith, Tours and Customer Service Coordinator, Parliament of Victoria
Jacinta Spry, Communications and Engagement Officer, Parliament of Western Australia
Cherie Toovey, Education Presenter, Parliament of Western Australia
Kylie Wholagan, Senior Community Education Officer, Western Australian Electoral Commission
Narelle Wood, Senior Education Advisor, Parliament of Victoria.



Key Information



Access to Parliament House

Parliament House is located at 4 Harvest Terrace, West Perth.
Front reception at Parliament House (city side) is open from 8.30 am - 5.00 pm.
Delegates with mobility or physical disability can access the south entrance (large carpark side) by prior arrangement.



City Bus

Free public transport (CAT bus service) is available to and from Parliament. The Red CAT travels to Parliament House along Hay Street and the Green CAT travels along St Georges Terrace to Malcolm Street.



Conference Contact

Jordana Leavesley
Senior Education Parliamentary Officer
Parliamentary Education Office
Phone: (08) 9222 7429 / 0410 489 110
jleavesley@parliament.wa.gov.au



Conference Venue

The majority of the conference sessions will be held in the Legislative Assembly, unless otherwise advised in the daily schedule.



Departure information

Delegates are requested not to bring bags larger than A4 size to Parliament, unless it has been arranged prior to store luggage for final day departures to the airport.
Further information about luggage arrangements will be communicated to delegates during the conference.

Reception staff can assist with booking taxis for delegates if required. Please note that delegates will be responsible for the payment of their own taxi fares.



Dietary and Mobility Requirements

To ensure your comfort during your time at the conference, please advise of any dietary or mobility requirements.



Dress code

The dress code for the conference is business casual or cultural dress. Please see the specific details for the conference dinner and members' dining room luncheon. It is advised to bring a hat and sunscreen for the Kings Park walk.



Key Information



Name badges (security passes)

Delegates will be provided with a lanyard at main reception on day one. To assist with visitor management, please wear your lanyard at-all-times when you are inside Parliament House. You will be required to return it at the end of the last day of APEC. Please remember to bring your lanyard to Parliament each day.



Photography

A group photo will be taken on the final day of APEC, **Thursday 23 November, at 8.30 am**, on the front steps of Parliament House.

Photos will be taken throughout the conference for Parliament's social media and APEC LinkedIn. If you would prefer not to have your photo taken, or published, please advise Jacinta Spry, Communications and Engagement Officer, on day one of the conference.

The Parliamentary Education Office team will advise where you are permitted to take your own photos within Parliament House.



Presentations and Printing

Any required PowerPoint presentations and papers can be emailed to jleavesley@parliament.wa.gov.au

Materials will be set up in the Legislative Assembly 10 to 15 minutes prior to the session.

Printing services will be available during APEC. Please email any items to be printed to education@parliament.wa.gov.au



Transport from the Airport

Perth's domestic airport is approximately 10 kms from the city, and is well serviced by taxis and rideshare services. A taxi to the CBD will cost approximately \$50 and outside of peak times will take around 20 minutes. The Airport Line train operates to and from the CBD. Trains run every 12 minutes in peak, every 15 minutes during the day and every 30 minutes at night. The cost is \$5 per ticket for the 18 minute journey.



Weather

November is a warm month in Perth, with an average daytime temperature of 26 degrees and an average minimum of 15 degrees overnight. We do however recommend bringing a jumper or warm jacket, as well as a hat and sunscreen.



WiFi

WiFi will be available for all delegates to use during the week. Login details will be provided on arrival.



Conference Dining

Library Libations and Welcome Reception

*Day One, Tuesday 21 November
4.00 pm - 5.30 pm*

Join us for drinks, nibbles and networking in our beautiful Parliamentary Library.



Conference Dinner

*Day Two, Wednesday 22 November
6.00 pm - 9.00 pm*

Our conference dinner will be held at *C Restaurant in the Sky*, WA's only revolving restaurant. You will enjoy a three-course meal with drinks, and a 360 degree view of beautiful Perth at sunset.

C Restaurant is located on the 33rd floor of St. Martins Tower at 44 St Georges Terrace, Perth (located in the CBD).

Dress code is smart casual (such as business shirts, long trousers or cultural dress).



Day Three Luncheon

*Day Three, Thursday 23 November
12.10 pm - 2.00 pm*

Three-course meal in the Parliament House Members' Dining Room.

Dress code is smart casual, with a jacket or tie required (or cultural dress).





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