

2019
FEDERAL
ELECTION
GUIDE





CEO MESSAGE

Welcome to the QAIHC 2019 Federal Election Guide. The federal election will be held in May this year and the results of that election will impact on each and every one of us. I asked my team to develop a guide to provide you, our members, with information on the upcoming federal election. This guide has tips on how your service can get involved and information on the actions that QAIHC will take to influence the election.

The guide has three sections:

- ① The 2019 Federal Election
- ② The QAIHC Member Service Guide to campaigning: a local level approach
- ③ QAIHC's 2019 Federal Election Campaign

We are asking our political candidates to:

Respect and Resource Aboriginal and Islander Community Controlled Health Organisations to achieve *Real Results* in the health advancement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

Throughout this election period, QAIHC will increase its efforts to advocate for greater resources for the sector. QAIHC will seek commitments to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health improvement from political candidates prior to election day. I encourage you to read through this document, share it with your staff and join us in taking steps to highlight the essential and valuable role that AICCHOs play in improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland.

I look forward to keeping you all updated on QAIHC's continued efforts to influence the 2019 Federal Election.

Neil Willmetts
Chief Executive Officer
Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Council

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AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION

The 2019 Australian Federal Election will elect members of the 46th Parliament of Australia. The election will be called following the dissolution or expiry of the 45th Parliament as elected at the 2016 Australian Federal Election.

CAMPAIGN TIME

When the Parliament is dissolved, the official election campaign period commences. This campaign can last several weeks and build on the unofficial campaigning that occurs by all political parties during the lead up to the announcement of an election.

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL PARTIES

Australia has several political parties; however, there are two prominent parties that dominate the Australian political scene. These two political parties are:

- ① the *Liberal Party of Australia* (Liberal Party) with approximately 80,000 members, and
- ② the *Australian Labor Party* (ALP) with approximately 50,000 members

The Liberal Party competes for power with the Australian Labor Party both at a federal level and in State and Territory elections.

At the federal level, the Liberal Party and the National Party of Australia (National Party) have an alliance which is referred to as the *Coalition* (or Liberal-National Coalition). Together they form the main opponent to the Australian Labor Party.

In Queensland, the Liberal Party and National Party have merged to form the *Liberal National Party* (LNP). In the Northern Territory, this merge is called the *Country Liberal Party* (CLP).

Minor parties such as the Australian Greens and independent members of Parliament can have a significant influence on legislation, government policy and elections. In the last decade, a large number of minority political parties have emerged. They include Bob Katter's *Katter Australian Party* (KAP); Pauline Hanson's *One Nation*; and Clive Palmer's *Palmer United Party* (PUP) is now registered as the *United Australia Party* (UAP).

CURRENT LEADERSHIP

The Prime Minister of Australia

The Hon Scott Morrison MP

Deputy Prime Minister of Australia

The Hon Michael McCormack MP

CURRENT OPPOSITION

Opposition Leader

The Hon Bill Shorten MP

Deputy Opposition Leader

The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP

LIBERAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA



The Liberal Party of Australia was founded by Prime Minister Robert Menzies in 1944. Since formation, it has dominated the 'right' side of politics in Australia and ruled for long periods since the end of World War II.

The Liberal Party has held power in federal politics since winning government from the Australian Labor Party (ALP) in 2013. It governs in its traditional coalition with the National Party. They are also the largest and most dominant party in this coalition.

The party's federal parliamentary leader is Scott Morrison and its deputy leader is Josh Frydenberg. The pair were elected to their positions at the August 2018 Liberal leadership ballot which saw them replace Malcom Turnbull and Julie Bishop.

The Liberal Party is generally in support of free market economic policies and advocates the liberalisation (relaxing government involvement and regulations) of finance and business. Historically, the Liberal Party has had different economic policies, such as implementing high import taxes, but since the 1980s they have been the party of economic rationalism (deregulation, smaller government, privatisation of government owned assets, lower taxes, reduction of welfare size).

In terms of social policy, the Liberal Party is a conservative party. Under Liberal Party Prime Ministers John Howard, Tony Abbott

and Malcom Turnbull, the Liberal Party has pursued a tough stance on border security and immigration detention in Australia, and has been strong in its support of Australia's alliance with the United States, particularly in the area of foreign policy. As a whole, the Liberal Party pursues what is referred to as a conservative economic and social agenda.

The Liberal Party website states, "*Liberals believe that an economy based on private property, free enterprise and competitive markets will produce the wealth and jobs Australians want. Government should not provide services that can be better delivered by competitive enterprise*".

The Liberal Party's plan is outlined by a series of publications on their website on issues including a stronger economy, more jobs, backing small business, regulating the unions, infrastructure investments, the welfare to work program, tax relief for working Australians, investment in the Australian Defence Force, securing our borders, tackling ice and better health care, to name a few.

At state and territory level, the Liberal Party is currently in government in the states of Tasmania, New South Wales, and South Australia.

For more information on the Liberal Party go to www.liberal.org.au



AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY



The Australian Labor Party (ALP) began as a political affiliate of the trade union movement. In recent times the ALP has been in opposition at a Federal level (since 2013) but has been in power in many Australian States.

The ALP's policy platform has evolved, guided by the views of society. Originally very focused on the labour movement and workers' rights, the ALP has moved towards the 'centre' and embraced more market-based principles. The Hawke government (1983–1991), for example, privatised the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and Qantas Airlines in the 1980s.

Bill Shorten has been the Federal parliamentary leader of the ALP since 13 October 2013. Tanya Plibersek is the Federal deputy leader.

The ALP promotes themselves as a party concerned with equality across Australia. The words of former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam are quoted on the ALP website, describing Labor's aims as *"Promote equality, to involve the people of Australia in the decision-making processes of our land, and to liberate the talents and uplift the horizons of the Australian people."*

The policy of the Australian Labor Party is contained in its National Platform, which is approved by delegates to Labor's National Conference, held every three years. According to the Labor Party's website: *"The Platform is the result of a rigorous and constructive process of consultation, spanning the nation and including the cooperation and input of state and territory policy committees, local branches, unions, state and territory governments, and individual Party members. The Platform provides the policy foundation*

from which we can continue to work towards the election of a federal Labor Government."

The platform gives a general indication of the policy direction which a future Labor government would follow, but does not commit the party to specific policies. It maintains that *"Labor's traditional values will remain a constant on which all Australians can rely."* While making it clear that Labor is fully committed to a market economy, it says that: *"Labor believes in a strong role for national government – the one institution all Australians truly own and control through our right to vote."* Labor *"will not allow the benefits of change to be concentrated in fewer and fewer hands, or located only in privileged communities. The benefits must be shared by all Australians and all our regions."*

The platform and Labor *"believe that all people are created equal in their entitlement to dignity and respect, and should have an equal chance to achieve their potential."* For Labor, *"government has a critical role in ensuring fairness by: ensuring equal opportunity; removing unjustifiable discrimination; and achieving a more equitable distribution of wealth, income and status."* Further sections of the platform stress Labor's support for equality and human rights, labor rights and democracy.

In practice, the platform provides only general policy guidelines to Labor's federal, state and territory parliamentary leaderships.

At State and Territory level, Labor is currently in government in Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

For more information on the ALP go to www.alp.org.au

NATIONAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA (NATIONALS)



The National Party of Australia is a conservative political party whose members tend to be from regional and rural areas. The National Party was originally called the Country Party, and historically has been in a coalition with the Liberal Party of Australia at both Federal and State levels. In general, when the Liberal-National Coalition is in power, the leader of the National Party is given the position of Deputy Prime Minister.

The National Party federal parliamentary leader and current Deputy Prime Minister of Australia is Michael McCormack. McCormack replaced Barnaby Joyce as the National Party leader and Deputy Prime Minister after

his resignation in February 2018. Bridget McKenzie is the Federal Deputy Leader of the National Party.

The National Party see their main role as giving a voice to Australians who live outside metropolitan areas. As the National Party's members and supporters tend to come from rural areas, the party is closely associated with the agricultural community. As such, they are known for their support of primary industries and their focus on agricultural trade.

For more information on the National Party go to www.nationals.org.au

MINOR PARTIES





Minor parties in the Australian system include the Australian Greens, Katter's Australian Party and One Nation, as well as other candidates not aligned to any party (independents). These parties and independents can have significant influence on legislation and government policy if they hold the balance of power in the Australian House of Representatives. They frequently are also represented in the Senate.

Further information about the main minority parties who campaign in Queensland can be found on their websites:

- Greens: www.greens.org.au
- Katter Australia Party: www.kap.org.au
- One Nation: www.onenation.org.au

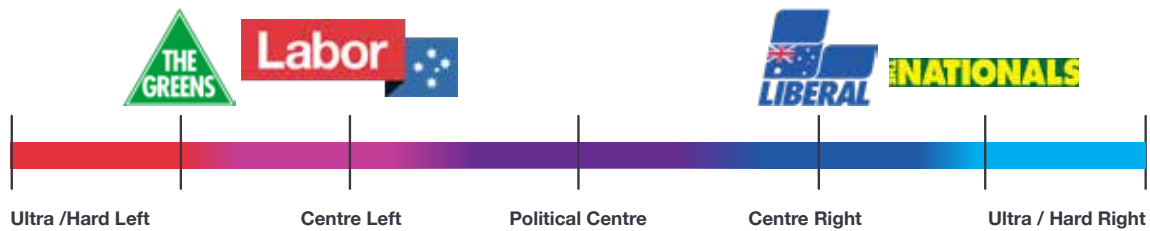
POLITICAL IDEOLOGY

WHAT IS AN IDEOLOGY?

Ideologies influence our behaviour and decision making processes. A political ideology is a set of values and beliefs that are important to us and affect the party of political candidates that we support. This is because, as individuals, we seek to appoint to politics those who are most likely to make decisions congruent with the outcomes we want. For example, if a person tends to make more conservative decisions in their daily life, they are more likely to vote for the Liberal Party of 'right' aligned candidates. This is because the Liberal Party are known to be conservative and will likely result in conservative policies through the term of their appointment. Those who have progressive ideologies tend to vote for the Australian Labor Party or 'left' aligned candidates.

WHAT IS A POLITICAL IDEOLOGY?

Political ideology is measured along a straight line from left to right. This political spectrum measures a political party's opinion (and individuals in it) on how the economy should be run.



The 'left' is defined by the desire for the economy to be run by a collective (which can be a state or network of communities).

The 'right' is defined by the desire for the economy to be driven by the devices of competing individuals and organisations.

Ideologies heavily influence political parties, their policies, and their leaders. Your understanding of the various political ideologies and how they shape Australia is fundamental to understanding an election. The following is a summary:



AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY IDEOLOGY

The Australian Labor Party (ALP) is a major 'centre left' political party in Australia. The party has been in opposition at the Federal level since the 2013 election. The Labor Party is established under the ideology of Laborism. This is the protection of the entire working class, particularly those that are most vulnerable. This protection can occur through protection of wages in terms of wage stability and growth, job security and stability, and social welfare.



LIBERAL PARTY IDEOLOGY

The Liberal Party of Australia is a major 'centre right', conservative political party in Australia. The party's ideology has been referred to as conservative, especially on ethical and social issues. Strong opposition to socialism and communism in Australia and abroad was one of its founding principles. The Liberal Party tends to promote economic liberalism which is underpinned by limitations on government involvement and regulations on private business. The Liberal Party is also concerned with lower taxes and strategies to decrease current social welfare expenses in Australia.



NATIONAL PARTY IDEOLOGY

The National Party sits on the right wing of politics and is supported mostly by the agricultural community. The Nationals place emphasis on the ongoing support of regional Australia in their political message. Current policy priorities listed on the Nationals website include regional health, land and water management, small business and tourism, and social justice.

ELECTION Q & A

WHEN WAS THE LAST AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION?

The last Australian Federal Election was held on 2 July 2016. This election saw the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP become the Prime Minister of Australia.

WHEN IS THE NEXT AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION?

At the time of print, a date for the next Australian Federal Election has not been set. It is predicted that it will occur on 11 May 2019. The latest possible date for the Australian Federal Election is 18 May 2019 for half of the State Senators and on or before 2 November 2019 for the House of Representatives and Territory Senators. Regardless of the date, elections in Australia are always held on a Saturday.

HOW OFTEN IS THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION?

The Australian Federal Election is generally held every three years. The exact timing of the next election is decided by the Prime Minister of Australia (Hon Scott Morrison MP) who will contact the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia (Sir Peter Cosgrove) and formally request the dissolution of Parliament.

HOW MANY FEDERAL ELECTORAL DIVISIONS ARE THERE IN AUSTRALIA?

There are currently 150 Members of Parliament (MPs) in the Australian House of Representatives. At the next Australian Federal Election there will be 151 seats in the House of Representatives. This is due to a standard periodic review which was conducted in 2018 and found that there was a need for changes to the electoral boundaries. As such, 151 MPs will be elected from 151 electoral divisions across Australia.

HOW IS THE ELECTION OF MPS DETERMINED DURING AN AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION?

Australia uses a preferential voting system for the House of Representative and Senate. This means that candidates looking to be an MP in the next Government must receive an absolute majority (more than 50% of the total formal votes cast) to be elected. If the majority is not gained on the first count, then preferences are distributed until an absolute majority is obtained.

HOW IS THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION WON?

The political party that wins the majority of seats in the House of Representatives will form the next Government. Political parties that do not hold the majority of seats in the House of Representatives may choose to join with another party so that, together, they will hold the majority and therefore be eligible to form Government.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUSTRALIAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES?

Australian Greens	1
Australian Labor Party	69
Centre Alliance	1
Independent	4
Katter's Australian Party	1
Liberal Party of Australia	58
The Nationals	16

WHO IS REPRESENTED IN THE SENATE AND HOW DO THOSE REPRESENTATIVES GET ELECTED?

Queensland has twelve Senators, six of whom are up for re-election this year. These Senators belong to the following parties:

Liberal National Party	2
Australian Labor Party	2
Australian Greens	1
Independent	1

Elections to the Senate are decided by preferential vote and voters have the opportunity to vote either by party or by individual candidate.

For more information on the Senate go to www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Senate

QUEENSLAND ELECTORATE SNAPSHOT

HOW MANY FEDERAL ELECTORATES ARE IN QLD?

There are 30 federal electorates in Queensland. For maps of each Electorate go to the Australian Electoral Commission website www.aec.gov.au/electorates/maps.htm

Currently:

- 21 electorates are held by Liberal/National Members (15 LIB and 6 NAT)
- 8 electorates are held by the ALP
- 1 electorate is held by Katter's Australian Party (KAP)

MARGINAL SEATS

Based on the results from the July 2016 Australian federal election and relevant by-elections, there are 12 marginal seats in Queensland with a winning margin of less than 5%:

- 8 marginal seats are held by the LNP
- 4 marginal seats are held by the ALP

QAIHC MEMBER STATISTICS

QAIHC Members have clinics in 29 of the 30 electorates in Queensland. Refer to the map on page 19 of this guide. The only electorate without a clinic is Ryan, located to the West of Brisbane.

Some electoral divisions (such as Kennedy which covers Mt Isa, Mareeba, Yarrabah, Innisfail and the area surrounding Townsville) have multiple AICCHOs within them.

QAIHC MEMBER SERVICE GUIDE TO CAMPAIGNING

A LOCAL LEVEL APPROACH

This section is designed to give QAIHC Members some practical information and ideas about ways that you can have an impact on the next Australian Federal Election. Several QAIHC Member Services have been able to successfully influence positive change in their community through an understanding of political parties, their different ideologies and the role of an MP.

The following tips are designed to help you kickstart your local campaign.



UNDERSTAND THE SYSTEM

Although the Parliament of Australia sits in Canberra, it makes decisions that impact you and your local community on a daily basis.

Members of Parliament have a responsibility to make laws that reflect the needs and desires of their community.

It is important you are aware that the Member of Parliament (MP) who sits in your local constituency has been elected to represent you and your local community. These MPs are elected by the voters to advocate for the needs of the community they serve and to make decisions and laws that are in line with the overall views of that constituency.

In order to exercise our powers as individuals in a democratic political system, we must first understand it and then we can decide to make it work for us.



MAKE YOUR LOCAL MP ACCOUNTABLE TO THE COMMUNITY THEY REPRESENT

Your MP is your connection to Canberra, so get them working on the local Aboriginal and Islander Community Controlled Health Organisation issues you care about. QAIHC will support you and focus on the statewide issues that will be of greatest benefit to improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders and QAIHC Member Services.

To retain their position, each local MP relies on your continued support. If you are dissatisfied you may vote for someone else, which is why your vote counts. Your local MP is able to advocate for better conditions for your community. Once you raise an issue with your local MP they are able to be aware of it and they can take steps to address the issue with parliament. Each MP is aware that any issue raised in their electorate by an individual may be an issue of concern for many of their potential voters.

WHAT CAN QAIHC MEMBER SERVICES DO?

Here are three simple things that you can do to get your local MP working for you:



Write a letter to your local MP



Meet with your local MP



Use your social media platforms to influence and make calls for action

QAIHC TIPS FOR LETTERS TO YOUR LOCAL CANDIDATES

Here are a few simple tips for maximising the impact of a letter to your candidates.

1 KNOW YOUR LOCAL CANDIDATE

It is important to know your local MP and their platform, particularly if they have previously undertaken work or demonstrated a commitment to an issue you want to raise with them. See page 20 to find out which electorate your service belongs. Then find details about the candidates online or at www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Members.

2 USE THE CORRECT TITLE

When writing to your local candidate it is important to use the correct title. Using the correct title is a sign of respect for the person you are writing to and sets a professional tone to the letter. The name should be written as: “Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr [First Name] [Last Name]”. If the candidate is a current government Minister that is conferred the title ‘The Honourable’ should be used in front of their normal title. If the candidate is a Member of Parliament MP’ should be written after their name. Information about Senators and Members for Parliament can be found at www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members.

3 INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND YOUR POSITION

Always start your letter by way of introduction. This should include your name and your position (the Chairperson or CEO of the local Aboriginal and Islander Community Controlled Health Organisation). Highlight

some successful programs or services that your organisation has delivered to the local community. If you have testimonials, include them in your letter. Once you have highlighted the service you deliver to your clients, discuss your position within the wider community. For example, if you work with the local university or you are involved in local health committees.

4 SET YOUR EXPECTATIONS AND GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

After you have outlined the positive impact your service is having in the local community, begin to discuss the needs of both your service and your community. It is always helpful to include goals such as ‘We aim to be the first community to have all women attend an antenatal appointment in the first trimester’. If possible, outline specific actions that the local candidate can take to assist you and the community in achieving these goals. You can even ask the candidate to be an ambassador for your service.

5 KEEP THE TONE PROFESSIONAL AND RESPECTFUL

Remembering that your letter will be on your organisation’s letterhead, and the content of the letter reflects the views of your service as a whole. Your ultimate goal is to generate their support. Your candidate is much more likely to respond to a letter that is positive than a letter of negative comments about them as an individual or their political parties’ ideology.

6 NOTE THAT YOU WILL FOLLOW UP

Ensure you conclude your letter with an invitation for further discussion. If you have not received a response after one week, telephone your local MP’s office to remind them about your letter and check when your organisation is likely to receive a response. If you do not receive a response within one week of your call, try again. Continue to make contact until you receive a response. Keep a record of your efforts to contact the candidate and refer to the previous attempts each time you try again.

Please see the example letter following.

4 July 2018

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

USE THE CORRECT TITLE

KNOW YOUR CANDIDATE

Dear Prime Minister

INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND YOUR POSITION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY



Remote Housing in Queensland

I write to you on behalf of the 32,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Queensland living in remote or very remote communities, the 20% of the homeless population that identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and the almost 3000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders currently living in severely overcrowded dwellings.

On behalf of the most vulnerable, I urge you to continue the Federal Government's investment in Remote Housing in Queensland. As the state peak body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Controlled Health Services (ATSICCHs), we at QAIHC are acutely aware of the direct correlation between poor housing and poor health.

The Federal Government's commissioned Remote Housing Review 2008 – 2018 made it abundantly clear that "Housing is considered a foundational element of physical and mental health, including for disease prevention". Inadequate housing infrastructure and low access to housing contributes to the spread of infectious diseases. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities this has debilitating effects.

SET YOUR EXPECTATIONS AND GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

Currently, in just three of QAIHC's member ATSICCHs in Far North QLD there are 522 patients being treated for Rheumatic Heart Disease, an eradicated disease in most of the world. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in remote communities are highly vulnerable to this crippling condition and the underlying cases can be attributed to socioeconomic inequality, overcrowded living environments and poor health hygiene. Ceasing support for remote housing infrastructure will exacerbate this problem exponentially.

In addition to Rheumatic Heart Disease, our remote communities are suffering from high incidences of hearing impairment due to ear infections, tuberculosis, influenza, sexually transmitted diseases and face increasing difficulty managing chronic conditions. These diseases are causing devastation in our communities. However, by working together we can improve the social and environmental determinants of health, including solving the remote housing crisis.

The Palaszczuk Government has pledged to dedicate \$1.08billion over 10 years to remote housing in Queensland and committed \$239million in last month's budget to continue projects whilst negotiations with your Government continue. We call on the Federal Government to match that contribution, as has occurred in the Northern Territory.

QAIHC urges you to consider the financial burden that reducing remote housing funding will have on the already struggling public health system. QAIHC fears that the impending health impacts will be overwhelming for our ATSICCHs member services.

In addition to health, the loss of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander jobs employed by these remote projects will be significant. Moreover, young people will disengage from the education system as they will be not supported by a safe and functional home environment.

Prime Minister, a decision not to adequately fund remote housing is in direct contrast to your efforts to Close the Gap and will more likely result in widening the Gap in many of the target areas of disadvantage.

I welcome a meeting with you to discuss the magnitude of the remote housing issue to our people.

Yours sincerely,

NOTE THAT YOU WILL FOLLOW UP

Neil Willmetts
Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council

KEEP THE TONE OF YOUR LETTER PROFESSIONAL AND RESPECTFUL

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QAIHC TIPS FOR MEETINGS WITH LOCAL MPS AND CANDIDATES

Here are a few simple tips for maximising the impact of your meeting with a local candidate. Given their busy schedule, securing a meeting could be quite a challenge, but not impossible. Here are some suggestions to get you started.

1

PUT YOUR REQUEST IN WRITING

If you are seeking a meeting, always put this request in writing. As you would have read above, your written request should always include key points you wish to discuss to allow the candidate to attend the meeting prepared for the discussion.

2

KNOW YOUR CANDIDATE AND THE ELECTORATE THEY REPRESENT

It is important for you to be well prepared in order to get the most out of your meeting. Start by doing some background research on your candidates. Simple pleasantries like knowing how to pronounce their name, knowing how they prefer to be addressed, and understanding the policies that they are passionate about will go a long way to establishing a good rapport.

Information on all Members of Parliament and Senators is available from the Australian Parliament House website. Many candidates will also have their own websites.

3

KNOW YOUR ISSUE

Undertake some background research specific to the key points of the discussion you would like to have. Have relevant data ready to demonstrate your key points. Be able to reference what programs and support systems are available and what you believe is needed. If you have access to some experts in the area, have them involved in the meeting and go into the meeting with a shared plan of discussion points. Remember, if your candidate asks you a question that you can't answer on the spot, you can 'take the question on notice', and agree to send particular information to them once you have had explored the topic further.

4

MAKE THE MOST OF THE MEETING

Some electorates in Queensland have a number of AICCHOs within their boundaries. If you know other local AICCHOs who care about the issue that you want to raise, organise for your counterparts to come with you. This allows a number of services to have a voice and reinforces the message as being more widely relevant to the community. If there are a number of people attending, ensure you have a pre-agreed agenda for the meeting.

5

BE ORGANISED AND HAVE RESOURCES

For any issue that you wish to raise with your candidate supplying handouts with background information, either before the meeting or for the MP to take away from the meeting are always a good idea. This means they can quickly refer to the information you raised in future discussions by simply checking the handout. Ensure that the information you provide in the handout is factual and accurate, inaccuracies may damage your credibility in future meetings.

6

LISTEN

Regardless of how passionate you are about an issue, you are meeting with this candidate to garner their support. Therefore, you should be prepared to listen to their point of view, even if you do not agree. Establishing a relationship of mutual respect is the goal here. Additionally, their perspective or advice may offer insight that is valuable to your organisation.

8

ASK FOR SPECIFIC ACTION

If possible, predetermine what specific actions you and your service would like to see the candidate undertake if elected to parliament. You may need to consult with your staff or your community members to inform your request. When you make your request, ensure that the actions you are asking for are feasible and realistic. Where there is current available evidence which demonstrates that the action you are requesting improves outcomes, ensure you have this readily available on the handout.

7

FOLLOW UP

Post-meeting, it is important to send a follow up letter or email to the candidate. Ensure that in the follow up you have included a summary of the key points of discussion. If the candidate has offered to connect your service with certain people or organisations be sure to include that in the letter. Thank them for taking the time to meet with you and indicate that you look forward to hearing back from them.

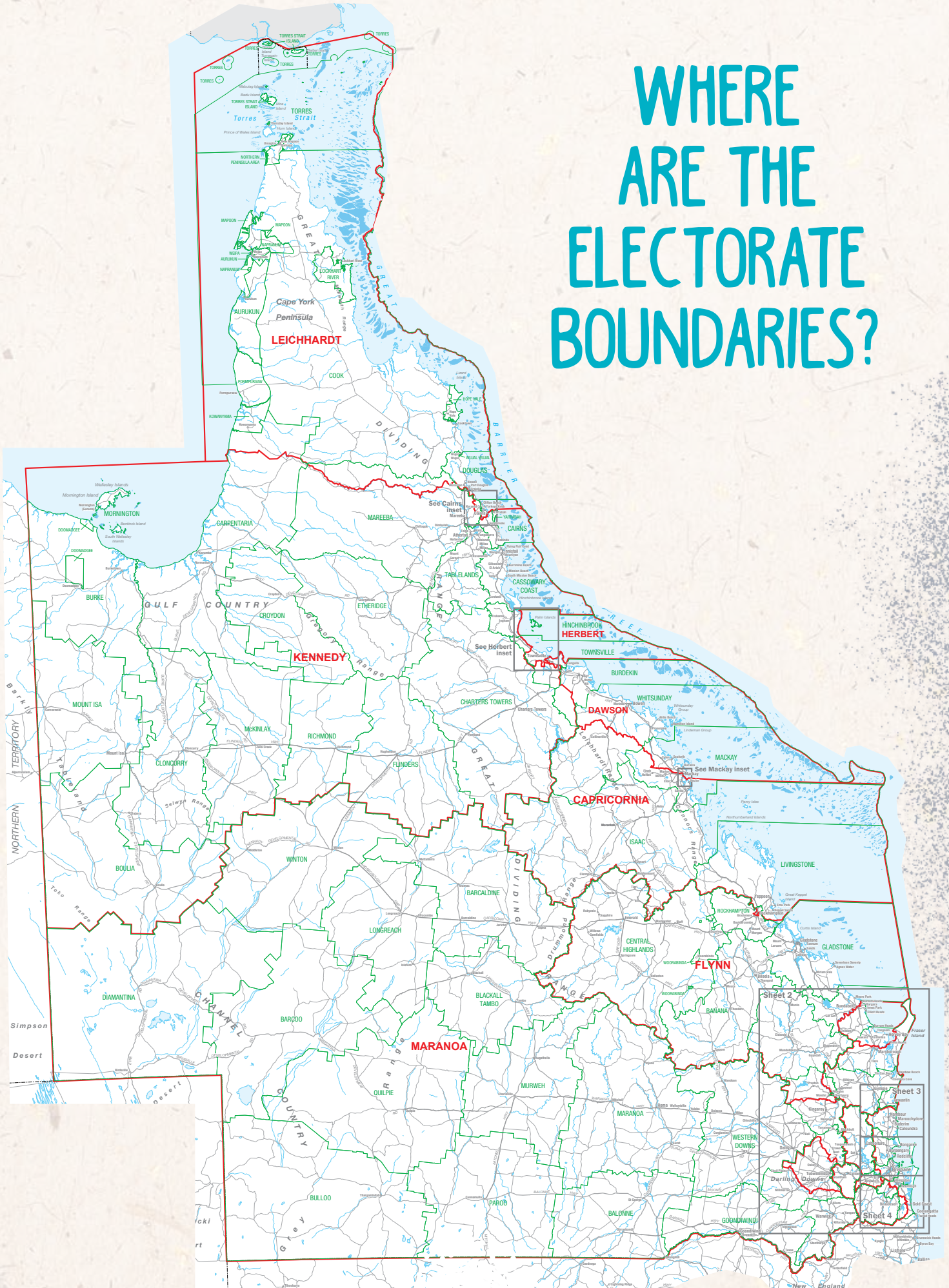
WHAT ELSE CAN QAIHC MEMBER SERVICES DO?

QAIHC urges all members to lobby political parties and to engage in a constructive health policy debate ahead of the next Australian Federal Election.

In addition to letters and meeting with your local candidates you can:

- ⊙ **Invite the candidates to tour your organisation**
- ⊙ **Invite the candidates to meet your executive and Board of Directors**
- ⊙ **Invite candidates to your work functions**
- ⊙ **Attend functions and rallies where candidates will be**
- ⊙ **Call talk back radio with questions when the candidates are on**
- ⊙ **Build long term relationships outside of elections campaigns**
- ⊙ **Understand their political party ideologies, policies and platforms**
- ⊙ **Post a message on the candidates' social media pages**
- ⊙ **Keep up to date on their twitter and Facebook pages**
- ⊙ **Subscribe to their electorate newsletter**

WHERE ARE THE ELECTORATE BOUNDARIES?



WHICH ELECTORATES DO QAIHC MEMBER SERVICES WORK IN?

The table below shows, by electorate, which QAIHC member services operate in these areas and/or reside on border areas and might have clients who vote in these electorates.

Electorate	Incumbent	Margin	Marginal?	Current MP
Blair	ALP	8%	Fairly safe	Hon Shayne Neumann MP
Bonner	LNP	3.4%	Marginal	Mr Ross Vasta MP
Bowman	LNP	7.1%	Fairly safe	Mr Andrew Laming MP
Brisbane	LNP	6%	Fairly safe	Mr Trevor Evans MP
Capricornia	LNP (NAT)	0.6%	Very marginal	Hon Michelle Landry MP
Dawson	LNP (NAT)	3.4%	Marginal	Mr George Christensen MP
Dickson	LNP	2%	Marginal	Hon Peter Dutton MP
Fadden	LNP	11.2%	Fairly safe	Hon Stuart Robert MP
Fairfax	LNP	11%	Fairly safe	Mr Ted O'Brien MP
Fisher	LNP	9.2%	Fairly safe	Mr Andrew Wallace MP
Flynn	LNP (NAT)	1%	Very marginal	Mr Ken O'Dowd MP
Forde	LNP	0.7%	Very marginal	Mr Bert van Manen MP
Griffith	ALP	1.4%	Very marginal	Ms Terri Butler MP
Groom	LNP	15.3%	Very Safe	Hon Dr John McVeigh MP
Herbert	ALP	0.02%	Very marginal	Ms Cathy O'Toole MP
Hinkler	LNP (NAT)	8.4%	Fairly safe	Hon Keith Pitt MP
Kennedy	KAP	11.1%	Fairly safe	Hon Bob Katter MP
Leichhardt	LNP	4%	Marginal	Hon Warren Entsch MP
Lilley	ALP	5.8%	Fairly safe	Hon Wayne Swan MP (<i>retiring</i>)
Longman	ALP	3.7%	Marginal	Ms Susan Lamb MP
Maranoa	LNP (NAT)	17.5%	Very Safe	Hon David Littleproud MP
McPherson	LNP	11.6%	Fairly safe	Hon Karen Andrews MP
Moncrieff	LNP	14.5%	Fairly safe	Hon Steven Ciobo MP (<i>retiring</i>)
Moreton	ALP	4%	Marginal	Mr Graham Perrett MP
Oxley	ALP	9.1%	Fairly safe	Mr Milton Dick MP
Petrie	LNP	1.7%	Very marginal	Mr Luke Howarth MP
Rankin	ALP	11.3%	Fairly safe	Dr Jim Chalmers MP
Wide Bay	LNP (NAT)	8.3%	Fairly safe	Mr Llew O'Brien MP
Wright	LNP	9.6%	Fairly safe	Hon Scott Buchholz MP

WHO ARE THE POLITICAL CANDIDATES FOR MY ELECTORATE?

QAIHC Policy Team are able to assist you with identifying who the political candidates are in your electorate(s). For further information, please contact the Policy Team at QAIHC.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander constituents		Member Service who support this electorate's population
Number*	% *	
7092	4.50%	Kambu
2626	1.80%	Yulu-Burri-Ba
3431	2.30%	Yulu-Burri-Ba and ATSICHS Brisbane
1734	1.10%	IUIH Head Office
8047	5.30%	ATSICHS Mackay, Mudth-Niyleta and Bidgerdii
8628	5.50%	Girudala, ATSCCHS Mackay and Mudth-Niyleta
3005	2.10%	Moreton ATSICHS
3007	1.80%	Kalwun
3012	2.00%	North Coast
2696	1.90%	North Coast
8227	5.30%	Bidgerdii, Nhulundu and CWAATSICH
4701	2.80%	ATSICHS Brisbane
1919	1.20%	ATSICHS Brisbane
6015	4.00%	Goondir and Goolburri
13,628	8.50%	TAIHS
5831	4.10%	Galangoor Duwalami
21,471	13.80%	Gurriny, Mamu, Mulungu, Gidgee, Injilnji and TAIHS
29,086	16.60%	Wuchopperen, Apunipima and NPA
3306	2.10%	Brisbane ATSCCHS
5931	3.70%	Moreton ATSICHS
8898	6.00%	Goondir, Carbal, Goolburri, CWAATSICH and Cunnamulla
2539	1.70%	Kalwun
2333	1.50%	Kalwun
1907	1.20%	ATSICHS Brisbane
5011	3.10%	Kambu
4575	2.80%	Moreton ATSICHS
5062	2.80%	ATSICHS Brisbane
5908	4.10%	North Coast, Galangoor and CWAATSICH
4589	2.90%	Kambu

*2016 Census data



HEALTH POLICY WILL BE AT THE CORE OF
THE 2019 AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION.

QAIHC remains a non-partisan organisation that is not aligned to any political party. Our role during election campaigns, as it is throughout the term of governments, is to **highlight the issues** that are of greatest benefit, on behalf of our Member Services, **to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.**



QAIHC'S MESSAGE

RESPECT AND **RESOURCE** ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER COMMUNITY CONTROLLED HEALTH ORGANISATIONS TO ACHIEVE **REAL RESULTS** IN HEALTH ADVANCEMENT.

The three tiers of QAIHC's 2019 Federal Election Campaign message are:

RESPECT + **RESOURCE** = **REAL RESULTS**

Respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' ways of knowing and doing. Respect the work that has and is being undertaken in the sector to provide culturally appropriate comprehensive primary health care services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

Respect and acknowledge the sector's ability to design and implement initiatives that have demonstrable success in reducing the health disparities experienced by the communities they serve.

Resource the sector with adequate funding and support to ensure AICCHOs can continue to provide this essential service in the Australian health system. This includes health needs, service delivery needs, access needs, workforce needs and – importantly – the need to change and increase the method by which services are currently funded.

Together we can achieve real results in health advancement. Establishing mutual respectful relationships which result in adequate resourcing of the sector will allow AICCHOs to deliver services which address the specific health needs of their communities

QAIHC's aim is that this message is consistently reinforced across all health priorities for the sector.

QAIHC'S PRIORITIES

OUR 2019 FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN PRIORITY AREAS HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY FEEDBACK THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FROM MEMBER SERVICES, AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTH DATA AND REPORTS, AND ALIGN WITH THE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY CONTROLLED HEALTH ORGANISATION'S PRIORITIES.

Current priority areas include:

1.

Mental health and Social and Emotional Wellbeing

3.

Oral health

2.

Maternity services and antenatal health, including immunisation



QAIHC has advocated strongly on these issues for the term of the current Government.

QAIHC'S ACTIVITIES

QAIHC will undertake the following campaign activities for each target group:

POLITICAL CANDIDATES

- ① Write to political candidates setting out QAIHC's 2019 Federal Election priorities.
- ① Follow up with phone calls to selected influential candidates to arrange a meeting with QAIHC CEO to advocate for the sector, highlighting successful programs led by Member Services and seek an election commitment from them.
- ① Invite key influential candidates to attend the QAIHC Brisbane building launch in May 2019.

MEMBER SERVICES

- ① Provide Member Services with a guide to the 2019 Federal Election.
- ① Provide Member Services with a local campaigning guide.
- ① Encourage Member Services to undertake local campaigning and to support the message of QAIHC's 2019 Federal Election Campaign.
- ① Provide support and advice as required.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- ① Launch a Facebook campaign to increase awareness of the existing health disparities and encourage individual action to influence political candidates.
- ① Utilise social media to highlight the successful work undertaken by the sector and the need for further resourcing.
- ① Email QAIHC stakeholder groups advising of QAIHC's 2019 Federal Election Campaign message and asking for their public support.
- ① Distribute media releases promoting campaign messages with a call to action.

We call upon YOU to respect and resource Aboriginal and Islander Community Controlled Health Organisations to achieve real results



10% of our babies are born with low birthweight



Healthy babies

Healthy teeth



Our toddlers are twice as likely to have dental caries



Children with strong hearts



Our children make up 49% of Queensland's new and recurrent cases of acute rheumatic fever



Strong futures

Our people had six times higher incidence of syphilis in 2015



Our communities have cancer as the second leading cause of fatal burden of disease



Healthy Elders

Our life expectancy gap is estimated at 10.8 years for males and 8.6 years for females



For our men, aged 15-34 years, suicide rates are more than three times higher



Support and information about suicide prevention:
Lifeline 13 11 14 Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467 Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 (up to age 25). More information about mental health is available at your Aboriginal and Islander Community Controlled Health Organisation, Beyond Blue and Headspace's Yarn Safe.

QAIHC values the input of its Member Services. If you have any comments we would be glad to be contacted.

CONTACT US ON:

PolicyTeam@qaihc.com.au
or 07 3328 8500 (reception)

