



*Responding to climate change in
partnership with our Pacific Island
neighbours*

Patrons: Mrs Bonita Mabo and Most Rev Bishop Peter Ingham

Senator Jenny McAllister receives PCP's Climate Justice Now petition

The PCP was delighted to meet with Senator Jenny McAllister to deliver our *Climate Justice Now* petition.

With over 1,200 of our supporters signing the petition, it was a great privilege for the PCP to visit Senator McAllister's Sydney office to deliver the petition on behalf of the petitioners.

The petition to the Australian Senate asks that the Senate: works towards a just transition from coal and coal gas to renewable energy; ensures that the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions becomes a priority across all policy areas of government and engages indigenous knowledge in formulating sustainable development policies.

We warmly thank Senator McAllister and her staff for receiving the PCP team and for the 30 minutes we spent in earnest discussion about climate change and just transitions to a lower carbon strategy.

Senator McAllister said the Pacific Calling Partnership, "seeks to bring us voices from the islands of the Pacific, in the hope we might heed their call for climate action to save their island homes. Powerful stories today from Maria about culture, land, community and climate."

Also at the end of the petition how about reminding people about helping to organise signatures for the big Community climate Petition.

Photo: (from left to right) Vincent Sicari, Senator Jenny McAllister, Jill Finnane and Maria Tiimon Chi-fang

To watch the PCP with Senator McAllister, use this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/jennymcallisteralp/videos/1237424946326933/>

Community Climate Petition

Now we have delivered the Climate Justice Now petition, it is time to turn our attention to the **Community Climate Petition**, an initiative of Micah Australia working in collaboration with Caritas Australia, Uniting World, Franciscan Friars, CLRINSW, TEAR Fund, Common Grace, Catholic Earthcare, Australian Religious Response to Climate Change and the PCP.

Our shared aim is to generate a series of powerful petitions across 150 electorates calling on the Australian Government to:

- take stronger action to reduce Australia's emissions,
- make a faster transition to zero-net emissions, and to
- make more substantial support to communities affected by climate change.

[We need to make our voices for climate justice heard](#)

We invite our supporters to work within their local communities to gather signatures, on paper, for the giant [Community Climate Petition](#).

**Be part of the
campaign**

If you can collect signatures between 22 April and 31 July 2017 [you can let us know here](#).

Visit from Kiribati and Tuvalu

PCP is excited about the fast-approaching **KATEP (Kiribati Australia Tuvalu Exchange Program)**. This is the fourth year of KATEP, a two-week educational and advocacy program where we provide young Pacific Islander participants with training in climate change advocacy, leadership skills, storytelling and public speaking.

It starts in late April and this year we have two Tuvaluan and two Kiribati participants making their first trip to Australia. With the people of the low lying Pacific nations facing

unprecedented challenges - inundation of their lands by rising sea levels and increased storm activity induced by climate change - we hope the young Pacific Islanders involved in the training program will take home increased knowledge of the science of climate change and become empowered climate change leaders.

The PCP, along with Kiribati Climate Action Network (KiriCAN) and the Tuvalu Climate Action Network (TuCAN), is closely involved with the international dialogue on climate change. We attended the Paris Conference in December 2015 and support the Pacific target of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees.

KATEP is fundamental to our purpose of listening to voices from the Pacific and communicating their climate change messages. We will share stories from this KATEP with you in future newsletters.

Invitation to our public KATEP event

Courageously encountering God in Climate Change

Thursday 11 May 2017, 2.00-4.00pm

Edmund Rice Centre, 15 Henley Rd, Homebush West, 2 mins from Flemington station.

Young leaders from Kiribati and Tuvalu will share stories from the Pacific Islands; Fr Claude Mostowik and Rev. Sef Carroll will speak on spirituality and climate change

RSVP to the Edmund Rice Centre on 8762 4200

Cyclone Debbie and climate change

Queensland and northern NSW are recovering from the Category 4 Cyclone Debbie which tore down trees, powerlines, housing and infrastructure; flooded rivers, inundated towns, left Whitsunday coral reefs in ruins and took Australian lives before moving on to New Zealand where it also caused flooding and a state of emergency. State and Federal governments are preparing a \$10 million package for the ravaged tourism industry, residents are meeting with insurance companies and Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk estimates the cost to be in the billions.

Australia can expect to be exposed to more frequent cyclone-related disasters as a result of climate change. Our Pacific neighbours are also subject to the same dangers as a result of climate change. However, as they are low lying island nations, the impact of cyclones and storm events is far more intense and dangerous.

To read more about tropical cyclones and climate change, read the fact sheets by the ClimateCouncil.org.au:

- Tropical Cyclones and Climate Change: Fact Sheet <https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/fact-sheet-tropical-cyclones-and-climate-change>
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Patrick Dodson and Phil Glendenning in 1999

Save the Date
ERC is turning 21
Join us on Friday 8 September for an evening of **celebration and inspiration** with guest speaker Senator Patrick Dodson

In 2017, the Edmund Rice Centre is turning 21. To mark this occasion, we are holding a **Gala Dinner on Friday 8 September 2017** with our friends and supporters.

We are delighted that the keynote address will be given by our friend over many years, **Senator Patrick Dodson**, former Royal Commissioner into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, Father of Reconciliation and Yawuru leader.

[Save the date and register your interest here.](#)

Gala Dinner details

Friday 8 September 2017, 6:30pm for 7pm
Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL
20-26 Canterbury Road, Hurlstone Park, Sydney

Sponsorship package

We're organising a number of other events to thank our friends and supporters who have been a part of our story over the past 21 years. We have a range of sponsorship opportunities for organisations interested in becoming an anniversary partner.

[Find out more information about sponsorship here.](#)

**Register your
interest**

**Sponsorship
Opportunities**



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