

Scullin 2020 Youth Summit

Communiqué

to National 2020 Youth Summit

Australian Economy (infrastructure)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) A 'build up' rather than 'build out' approach is needed in major capital cities to contain urban sprawl, at the same time addressing public transport inadequacies on the urban fringe.2) There should be better provision of recreational and health infrastructure in growth areas.3) The small business profile of our region should be lifted through business incubators, forms of start-up assistance, a cooperative and regional approach to promotion, ensuring development occurs along existing transport corridors and by focussing on industries with significant growth potential eg. an IT hub.4) Access to high speed IT bandwidth in our community is essential. Participants questioned whether the commitment to a 'universal' rollout of high speed broadband will delay its introduction in outer metropolitan areas given Australia's tyranny of distance and the concentration of population in urban centres.5) Promote the 'Epping Satellite City' concept and in so doing highlight the significant benefits of this community.
Australian Economy (human capital) with a focus on education	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) There should be equality in subject marking so that students are not discouraged from taking subjects that interest them (eg. creative arts and humanities).2) 'Life Skills Guide/Councillor' in schools would assist students to learn about real life situations.3) Parent classes. At the moment there is communication between students and teachers and some communication twice a year between parents and teachers. Students believe that parents need to play a more proactive role in their child's education and this can be done by 'parent classes' where parents are regularly consulted by teachers and are aware of their child's school programme beyond the parent/teachers interviews.4) Trades training. To ensure by 2020 that the current skills shortage is filled. The term 'Trades' should include all trades and not limited to some. There should be more promotion about trades training at schools.5) More effective use of technology. In order to assimilate into the future society more efficiently students and teachers alike need to be tech savvy. Encourage students to use laptops/desk tops in class, enable broadband access in classrooms and libraries and significantly improve the use of the internet to deliver subject resources.
A long-term national health strategy	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Education about alcohol and drug abuse and the dangers of smoking2) More education is needed about prevention, particularly:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental Health• Indigenous Health• Funding for medical research3) Keeping staff and attracting staff into the medical profession and health system.4) Promote food/healthy lifestyles by:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lowering the price of healthy foods• Modifying junk food packaging5) Improving our hospitals and community health centres, in particular:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Raising hygiene levels• Adopting state of the art facilities and technology• Improving management and efficiency.

Population, sustainability, climate change and water.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Increase Public Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All schools should provided focussed environmental education to all students from kindergarten to year 12 • The Federal Government should fund long-term environmental campaigns about reducing greenhouse emissions aimed at changing the behaviour of older Australians. The scarier, the better. • Promote a consumer culture of 'need' not 'greed' to reduce consumption and therefore emissions. 2) Extend Australia's international efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become the flagship country internationally for promoting emission reductions, sustainability and increased diplomatic efforts on environmental issues, particularly with China. • Targets set at international level are still too low and Australia should promote more rigorous emission reduction targets as part of any new international agreement. 3) Improve the sustainability of our cities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governments at all levels and schools should take a leading role by becoming 'model citizens' when it comes to sustainability in order to be able to credibly encourage the community and industry to act responsibly. • Use planning and building regulations to set new environmental standards for all new buildings and modifications to existing buildings. • More open and natural spaces are needed as our cities grow. 4) Address population pressures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that a large migration intake cannot continue without significant change to the way the country operates in terms of strengthening sustainability measures. • In future link the size of the migration intake to resource management improvements. • We must take care of indigenous Australians that suffer significant disadvantage in terms of the liveability of many of their communities. 5) Save precious water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We support desalination and particularly recycling of water. • Governments should aim to operate desalination and water recycling plants using green energy sources rather than fossil fuels.
--	--

Strengthening Communities including supporting families and social inclusion; options for the future of indigenous Australia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) There should be equal education for all, regardless of wealth, ethnicity or the affluence of local communities. 2) Equality between genders and ethnicity should be reflected in our laws. 3) Provide services to integrate communities i.e. services for refugees and people with a criminal history. 4) Services that promote health and wellbeing should be offered to all e.g. dental services. 5) More multicultural and Indigenous events and programs should be initiated to celebrate their contribution to Australia.
---	---

Schools Represented

St Monica's College, Epping
 Mill Park Secondary College
 Peter Lalor Secondary College, Lalor
 Epping Secondary College
 Lalor Secondary College
 Lalor North Secondary College
 Parade College, Bundoora
 Northside Christian College, Bundoora