

# RETHINKING DEMOCRACY: STRATEGIES THAT PUT CITIZENS AT THE CENTRE

A Tamarack Learning Centre Webinar featuring:

**Max Hardy and Sylvia Cheuy**



# CITIZENS AT THE CENTRE

## A COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THOUGHT-LEADER SERIES

• HALIFAX, OTTAWA, TORONTO, CALGARY, VANCOUVER •



# RETHINKING DEMOCRACY: STRATEGIES THAT PUT CITIZENS AT THE CENTRE

A Tamarack Learning Centre Webinar featuring:

**Max Hardy and Sylvia Cheuy**

# TODAY'S WEBINAR SPEAKERS



**Max Hardy**  
Max Hardy Consulting



**Sylvia Cheuy**  
Tamarack Institute



**How did you get started  
in Community  
Engagement work?**

**What have been some of  
your most significant insights  
towards putting citizens at  
the centre?**



**How has this approach been  
applied in Australia?**

# CITIZENS PARLIAMENT

"HOW CAN AUSTRALIA'S POLITICAL SYSTEM BE STRENGTHENED TO SERVE US BETTER?"

[About](#)[Citizens Parliament Final Report](#)[Contact](#)[Privacy](#)

## Citizens Parliament Final Report

[Download Democracy CitizensParliament Handbook](#)[Citizens Parliamen Final Report](#)

**CITIZENS PARLIAMENT  
FINAL REPORT**  
Old Parliament House,  
Canberra, 6 – 9 February

2009

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS

Australia's first Citizens' Parliament was held at Old Parliament House in Canberra from February 6th to 9th, 2009. One hundred and fifty people from across Australia spent four days discussing and debating our democracy and how it could be improved. The Citizens' Parliament was an extraordinary forum. Australians not normally involved in the political process were able to contribute to discussion about how our governments work. The strengths and weaknesses of our democratic system were reviewed.





# Created by Queenslanders for Queensland

## Timeline



# PLANNING THE PLAN – MACKAY SUMMIT











## What Queenslanders said

“You are right in putting this 30 year vision into the hands of the people. Thank you.”

(Brisbane)

“*The Queensland Plan* is significant not only for its sheer scope, but also as a case study and potential exemplar for other state/provincial governments worldwide.”

(International engagement expert)

“All delegates felt honoured and grateful to be a part of this outstanding planning initiative.”

(Brisbane Summit delegate, Whitsundays)

“It is relatively easy to make a list of where Queensland should be in 30 years time, it is a lot harder to come up with ways and means to achieve same. Let’s not let that opportunity escape us!”

(Regional Queensland)

“Many hundreds of delegates from all walks of life and backgrounds, including many schoolchildren, came together and worked over the course of two days in a variety of settings and with a very diverse range of skills and knowledge, in a spirit of harmony and consideration for other points of view.”

(Brisbane Summit delegate, Brisbane)



CRC for  
Water Sensitive Cities

# Enhancing Our Dandenong Creek Program

Location:  
**Melbourne,  
VIC**



**Case Study** — Prepared by Cooperative Research  
Centre for Water Sensitive Cities, September 2018



Australian Government  
Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science

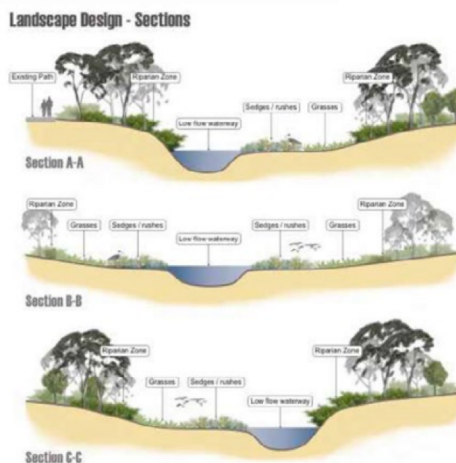
**Business**  
Cooperative Research  
Centres Programme

## Insight

*Revitalising the Dandenong Creek for best community  
outcomes*

## Project description

This case study delivers a range of waterway enhancements that the community helped to identify. Projects include daylighting a section of Dandenong Creek, creating new fish habitats, installing signage and public amenities, and working with industry to control pollution.



## The drivers

*Protecting public health and improving the waterway  
condition of Dandenong Creek*

- Working with the community to identify priority creek enhancement projects that improve the amenity of this popular public open space, which has become increasingly degraded due to urbanisation and industrial landuse within the catchment.
- Revitalising the creek and improving its amenity value by removing the existing underground stormwater pipe and allowing water to move through a variable, vegetated and natural surface environment.
- Reducing significant water quality threats, through pollution detection, behaviour change and collaborative enforcement programs.
- Improving the aquatic ecosystem values by creating fish habitats, coupled with a breeding program to develop a sustainable population of threatened species.
- Applying an alternative, risk-based and outcomes-focused approach to wet weather sewer spills management, to deliver greater benefit to both the environment and community when compared with a conventional upgrade of a non-compliant sewer.



Cross-sections of the naturalised  
meandering creek

### What does this case study demonstrate?

Each case study has been selected to demonstrate specific solutions, benefits or enabling structures that support the creation of water sensitive cities. This case study focuses on:

**Waterway naturalisation**

**Ecosystem health**

**Amenity and urban greening**

**Community engagement**

## Listen up! Young voices to form Youth Council

Brimbank, 21 September 2018



Share



Tweet



Like 37

### Summary

A new Brimbank Youth Council will give young people across the municipality a stronger voice in decision-making.





**How can we assess  
readiness for large-scale  
Community Engagement  
work?**

**What are the main  
challenges that prevent us  
from achieving meaningful  
citizen engagement?**

**What adaptations to these approaches are you experimenting with?**

# QUESTIONS?





# CITIZENS AT THE CENTRE

## A COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THOUGHT-LEADER SERIES

Halifax, NS | May 1, 2019

Ottawa, ON | May 2, 2019

Toronto, ON | May 3, 2019

Calgary, AB | May 6, 2019

Vancouver, BC | May 7, 2019

Max Hardy, a leading voice on the use of deliberative democracy in community change work, will be joining us all the way from Australia to share his insights and experience to help you develop your Community Engagement toolkit while taking a people-first approach.

Registration and Event Info:

<https://events.tamarackcommunity.ca/citizens-at-the-centre-community-engagement>



# ABCD: HEALTHY NEIGHBOURHOODS, HEALTHY CITIES

May 28-30, 2019  
Edmonton, AB

This workshop will gather together over 250 community and neighbourhood development practitioners to explore the use of Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) and explore leading neighbourhood revitalizing techniques.

Registration and Event Info:

<https://events.tamarackcommunity.ca/abcd>



# THANK YOU

Please send questions or comments about this webinar to [Duncan@tamarackcommunity.ca](mailto:Duncan@tamarackcommunity.ca)