

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

THIRTY-FIRST DELEGATION FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

17 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2014

Melbourne, Victoria

- Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- Briefing by Mr Andrew Young, Acting Clerk of the Legislative Council
- Guided tour of Parliament of Victoria conducted by Mr Patrick Boribon, Parliamentary Attendant
- Observe Question Time in the Council Chamber and Assembly Chamber
- Luncheon hosted by the Presiding Officers, the Hon Bruce Aktinson, President of the Legislative Council and the Hon Christine Fyffe, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
- Meeting with Ms Lily D'Ambrosio MLA, Shadow Minister for Energy and Resources, Shadow Minister for the Cost of Living, Shadow Minister for the Suburbs, State Member for Mill Park (USA 1991)
- Meeting with Mr Colin Brooks MLA, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Education, State Member for Bundoora (Japan 2010)
- Meeting with Mr Jason Aldworth, Director, The Civic Group (Vietnam 2004 and South Korea 2005) and former Senator Helen Kroger, Senior Counsel of Civic Creative (USA 1999 and Japan 2006)
- Meeting with representatives from the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Meeting with Mr Erik Locke, Professionals Australia (USA 2002)
- Dinner with former delegates Ms Holly Byrne, Director, HB Migration (USA 2007) and Ms Lizzie Blandthorn, Senior Industrial Relations Officer, Catholic Education Office Melbourne (USA 2012)
- Visit to the Dandenong Ranges
- Guided tour of Indigenous and contemporary artworks at the Burrinja Cultural Centre
- Visit Eureka Sky Deck 88

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Mr Paul Erickson, Assistant National Secretary, Australian Labor Party (USA 2011)
- Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary, Liberal Party of Australia (Japan 1992)
- Call on the Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Senator the Hon Stephen Parry, President of the Senate; Patrons of the Australian Political Exchange Council
- Council Luncheon hosted by Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Senator for New South Wales. Council Members in attendance include the Hon Tony Smith MP and the Hon John Cobb MP
- Observe Question Time in the Senate and House of Representatives Chambers
- Meeting with Ms Kelly O'Dwyer MP, Chair of the Australia/USA Parliamentary Group, Federal Member for Higgins (USA 2011)
- Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Mark Coulton MP, The Nationals' Chief Whip, Federal Member for Parkes
- Briefing on the Australian Greens by Senator Richard Di Natale, Senator for Victoria, Council Member
- Guided tour of Parliament House

- Meeting with Mr Paul Houge, Counselor for Public Affairs, Mr Matt Murray, Counselor for Economic Affairs and Mr Pete Peterson, Deputy Counselor for Political Affairs, Embassy of the United States of America
- Guided Tour of The Australian War Memorial by Dr Brendan Nelson, Director, Australian War Memorial (UK 1997)
- Meeting with Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson, Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC, Special Minister of State, Minister with portfolio responsibility for the Australian Political Exchange Programme, Senator for Victoria (USA 1991)
- Participation in a panel session conducted by the United States Embassy and the Australian National University. Chaired by Dr Andrew Banfield, Australian National University
- Dinner with former delegates Ms Mary Wood, Executive Director, Retirement Living Council (USA 2006) and Ms Jane Seaborn, Director, Landscape Research and Communications (USA 1993)
- Visit to Floriade - Canberra's annual flower show

Brisbane, Queensland

- Meeting with the Hon Tim Mulherin, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning; Racing; Local Government and Tourism, Major Events and the Commonwealth Games, State Member for Mackay
- Tour of the Legislative Assembly of Queensland Parliament by Ms Kerry Millard MP, State Member for Sandgate
- Meeting with the Hon Jarrod Bleijie MP, Queensland Attorney General and Minister for Justice, State Member for Kawana (Japan 2010)
- Lunch hosted by Moreton Bay Regional Council
- Guided tour of the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary

Kingaroy, Queensland

- Visit to the Peanut Company of Australia processing facility. Briefing by Mr Lionel Weck, Grower Relationships and Logistics Manager and Mr Steve Magnussen, Human Resources Manager
- Visit to the Nanango Energy Centre
- Tour of the Tarong Power Station (Stanwell Corporation) with Mr Dennis Franklin, Tarong Power Station Site Manager
- Visit to the Meandu Coal Mine (Stanwell Corporation). Accompanied by Mr Jim Young, Asset Manager, Meandu Mine
- Breakfast hosted by the South Burnett Regional Council
- Meeting with Mayor Wayne Kratzmann and Cr Damien Tessmann of the South Burnett Regional Council
- Meeting with Mayor Ken Bone and Mr Warren Collins, Chief Executive Officer, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council
- Visit to The Ration Shed Museum
- Tour of the Smithfield Feedlot by Mr Ryan Brown, Livestock Manager
- BBQ dinner hosted at the Tessmann dairy farm at Coolabunia
- Morning Tea at Bethany's with John Bjelke-Petersen