



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

19 April 2021

### **Women's Climate Congress founder celebrated as a finalist in leadership awards**

The Women's Climate Congress (WCC) founder, Dr Janet Salisbury, a long-time resident of Canberra, has been announced a finalist in the [2021 Women's Agenda Leadership Awards](#).

Dr Salisbury welcomed the news: 'I am delighted to be among an outstanding field of contenders and for the recognition of collaborative work with other Congress members to raise climate concerns and promote women's voices to protect future generations.'

Mobilised by the Black Summer 2019-20 bushfires, Dr Salisbury has worked tirelessly, in a voluntary capacity, to drive the formation of a network of women committed to collaborative nonpartisan action to stabilise the climate before we suffer more catastrophic consequences.

In a short time, the Congress has become a diverse national women's network aimed at reaching a mediated settlement on climate action, embracing a process that counters Australia's adversarial political discourse.

'The aim of the Congress is to promote a political truce – draw a line in the sand in the 'blame game' – and to work together to develop a shared vision based on science that nurtures life in the face of dire predictions about global warming,' Dr Salisbury said.

'I think women have an especially important role to play. I see a parallel between this time and the role women played during WW1 promoting a mediated peace settlement to limit the horrific toll on young lives in that war. Sadly, the women did not prevail then, but we have a chance again to promote cultural change before it is too late.'

'I feel very strongly that women haven't been able to fully express themselves and share their talents to deliver public good outcomes because of the political system we have inherited that favours men.'

The Women's Climate Congress has over 200 members across about 70 federal electorates and an online following of about 700 women. In the past year Dr Salisbury and other members have met with many federal parliamentarians, hosted online conversations with a range of diverse

women and individually met with many remarkable community leaders. The first National Congress of Women will be held in Canberra from 29 November -1 December 2021.

The Women's Agenda Awards celebrate inspired and innovative leadership, and this year are among the most competitive in the context of challenging circumstances given the pandemic and the complex world we live in.

The Women's Agenda Leadership Awards dinners and announcement of winners will take place on the evening of **Thursday 29 April** at the Swissotel Sydney. *ENDS*

FOR MORE CONTACT:

Dr Janet Salisbury

M 0416167280

[janet.salisbury@iinet.net.au](mailto:janet.salisbury@iinet.net.au)

See also: <https://womenscongress.weebly.com/>