

OPEN LETTER OF POSITIVITY

Dear Senator David Pocock,

We are a small community group based in Geelong who meet monthly at our Café Connection gatherings. At our most recent meeting, we agreed that this was an important time to write to you and to other Independent Members of Federal Parliament to express our sincere thanks for the work you are doing on behalf of the community in Canberra.

We believe that your efforts are not always recognised to the extent they deserve. Your commitment, integrity, and focus on the public good stand out, and we want to acknowledge the value of what you are achieving.

As a group, we are deeply engaged in community wellbeing, environmental issues, and the growing impacts of climate change.

We are currently working to build broader community support for stronger action from both the City of Greater Geelong, Surf Coast Shire, and the Borough of Queenscliffe Council, particularly in maintaining and strengthening their commitments to environmental sustainability and climate response.

We are also closely observing the resistance faced by many of the thoughtful and progressive initiatives put forward by Independent Members of Federal Parliament. It is concerning to see how often these ideas are met with opposition that does not reflect the broader community interest.

We share a growing concern that the influence of lobbyists, alongside the actions of some parliamentarians who promote misinformation and lack transparency, is undermining public trust. This erosion of trust risks disengaging the very people whose voices are essential in a healthy democracy.

For these reasons, we felt it was important not only to express our concerns, but also to thank you. Your work gives us encouragement and reinforces the importance of continued community engagement and advocacy.

Sending this Open Letter to you also feels good. :-)

Please accept our sincere appreciation for your dedication and leadership. It does not go unnoticed.

Kind regards,

Names of undersigned:

Mik Aidt

Robert Patterson

Colin Mockett OAM

Tony Gleeson

Leanne Webb