

Women's Climate Congress
WCC Conversation #2 — follow up
Wed 27 May 2020

Dear women

Thank you for registering for our WCC online conversation yesterday. I hope that you found it stimulating.

The recording has now been posted on our [website](#) and [Facebook group](#) page. Please feel free to share with your friends and colleagues.

To help us frame future online conversations, we would appreciate any comments you have about today's event, or the WCC in general.

Join us ...

Don't forget to 'Join up' on our website, join our social media feeds and/or email us to let us know your ideas.

New members are also welcome on our Working Group. We urgently need help follow up contacts, maintain our spreadsheets and other information, and help spread/maintain our network.

Download our information to help you host conversations in your area and contact your local members (this info' will be posted on our website very shortly, and we will send it out to those signed up on our website).

Please note that the email address posted into the chat at the end of the Zoom event was incorrect. Our correct address is: <https://womenscongress.weebly.com/>

Keep the conversation going ...

Thank you for comments posted in the chat (see below with some brief responses in italic). Feel free to send any further comments to add to the discussion (and please be frank and fearless – we need to know what is resonating and what is not).

Interesting to think about the contribution of gay men to this debate. I am so pleased to be in a jurisdiction that has Andrew Barr as Chief Minister. I sense an engagement in the debate which is different from other male politicians. *[In a way, representation of women in decision making is a litmus test for inclusion and diversity overall, since women are 50% of the pop so if they are not fairly represented then there is not much hope for other groups. At the end of the day, we need diverse voices at the table.]*

Learning from history. WW1 saw the sacrificing of the young, Honey's strong remark that we are the only species to do this is certainly a wake-up call. *[Yes]*

How to move from preaching to the converted to the non-converted regarding climate change? The education of children is fundamental. Children are less filtered by the social conditioning of time, let's listen to the voices of children and invest in accurate information being included in the education of children. *[The School Strikers have been amazing in their reporting of climate change and holistic view the interconnected issues of social equity, Indigenous justice and so on. We certainly want to support them as much as possible.]*

I like Honey's tactical plan. The concept of presenting this group as holding out our hands (in particular to our young ones) as Mothers, sisters, grandmothers and leading on new non divisive approaches to good climate change options. *[Yes – so far we have been building capacity and a shared understanding of what we are doing and the next step is to reach out and lead on non-divisive approaches as you say.]*

Yes I think the most challenging is getting out of our echo chambers..
To have conversations that connect with others in our difference.
[Indeed – need to really work on this!]

I would love to hear the voices of indigenous women elders! *[We will make sure we do.]*

The role of community during the fires, and women playing a frontline role during covid. *[This year has brought some ‘transparency’ around these roles which is a good thing.]*

How do we keep values in the focus as memory of the bushfires and the pandemic fade? *[For a while, the bushfires were pushed off the news – but the discussion has come back more now. We will need to keep talking about what has been learnt from the COVID experience. It has been such a major global event – hopefully the memory won’t fade too quickly.]*

Very inspired by today's conversation, thank you! *[Thank you]*

Finding people who can relate to even one aspect of stewardship of nature, the world, family can be a way to reach out further. People who don’t see themselves as activists, but who care about and share values. *[Yes – this sounds like a useful approach – find some common ground and build on it.]*

This language ‘She (Gaia) is pretty cross’ was used verbatim by a distraught farmer during the January bushfires. *[James Lovelock, the scientist who coined the name Gaia for the living Earth system, wrote of ‘The Revenge of Gaia’. And our Earth System scientists understand very well and have been warning us that as the safe balance of the Earth’s biodynamic system is changed by human activity, we can expect more extreme/wild weather events. We need to act before we cross ‘tipping points’ into much more catastrophic changes.]*

I think we need to be more active in reaching out to find our common ground *[Agree]*

It is an almost overwhelming challenge to undertake cultural change, but we all have the responsibility to act. Remember the journey of a 1000 miles starts with one step -there is never been a better time to start reaching out to others and we can all help - the pack coming out from WCC will help - lets DO IT !!! *[YES]*

With kind regards
Janet, Lyn and the team

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