



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

Media Release
4 April 2008

NOVOCASTRIANS TO HAVE THEIR SAY AT 2020 SUMMIT

Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson has today announced that over 100 Novocastrians will participate in the Newcastle 2020 Summit tomorrow at the University of Newcastle.

Sharon will co-chair the Summit with Professor Nicholas Saunders, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Newcastle.

"The willingness of the community to participate in our Summit shows once again that Newcastle is a place of great ideas," Ms Grierson said.

"In addition to the leaders in their fields who are helping to facilitate our 10 working groups, we'll have participants who are academics in a wide range of disciplines, community leaders, community group representatives, industry and business groups, welfare organisations, students, artists and general community members."

"As you'd expect, the economy, infrastructure, environment and health are areas that many people are interested in discussing, but we've had good interest across all sectors."

"This is a great opportunity to discuss the future of Newcastle and has the potential to contribute to the development of an aggressive agenda for our city for the next 12 years."

"It's exciting to see the enthusiastic response and willingness to contribute from all sectors of our community."

"I look forward to hearing Newcastle's ideas at the Summit."

The Newcastle Summit will gather ideas from residents, businesses, community groups and organisations in our local area, and those ideas will be formally submitted ahead of the National 2020 Summit that the Prime Minister is hosting on 19-20 April 2008.

The list of facilitators of the Working Groups, and the agenda for the day, is attached:

Canberra
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
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Fax: 02 6277 8461



Newcastle
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NEWCASTLE NSW 2300
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Newcastle 2020 Summit
9.00am to 1.30pm
Saturday 5 April 2008
Richardson Wing Theatre
Newcastle University

Agenda & Information

The Newcastle Summit is designed to gather ideas from people, businesses, community groups and organisations in our local area, and those ideas will be formally submitted ahead of the National 2020 Summit that the Prime Minister is hosting on 19-20 April 2008.

The Newcastle Summit will examine the same 10 topic areas as the National Summit.

1. Future directions for the Australian economy – including education, skills, training, science and innovation as part of the nation’s productivity agenda
 - Facilitators: Gillian Gribble & Stephen Porges.
2. Economic infrastructure, the digital economy and the future of our cities
 - Facilitators: Graeme Sargent & Karen Howard.
3. Population, sustainability, climate change and water
 - Facilitators: Peter Dormand & Tania Ritchie.
4. Future directions for rural industries and rural communities
 - Facilitators: Carolyn Scott & Will Willis.
5. A long-term national health strategy – including the challenges of preventative health, workforce planning and the ageing population
 - Facilitators: Arn Sprogis & Char Weeks.
6. Strengthening communities, supporting families and social inclusion
 - Facilitators: Louise Newman & Rod Harrison.
7. Options for the future of indigenous Australia
 - Facilitators: Debbie Barwick & David Newham.
8. Towards a creative Australia: the future of the arts, film and design
 - Facilitators: Daniel Ballantyne & Phillip Pollard.
9. The future of Australian governance: renewed democracy, a more open government (including the role of the media), the structure of the Federation and the rights and responsibilities of citizens
 - Facilitators: Kate Lindsay & Catherine Henry.
10. Australia’s future security and prosperity in a rapidly changing region and world.
 - Facilitators: Harry Rainbow & Wayne Reynolds.

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Agenda:

8.30am - Arrival of Participants & Registration

9.00am - Welcome & Housekeeping

Sharon Grierson to acknowledge country, welcome participants and outline the purpose of the local summit.

Professor Saunders to address Summit as a whole on the power of ideas.

9.20am - Participants break into Working Groups & begin discussion at specified break out rooms.

Facilitators & participants introduce themselves to the Working Group.

Discussion of challenges/problems/issues.

10.30am - Break.

10.45am - Participants return to Working Group locations and resume discussion.

Discussion of ideas/solutions.

Crystalisation of report back to Summit.

12.15pm - Summit reconvenes as a whole. Sharon Grierson and Nicholas Saunders to debrief summit participants while facilitators prepare to report.

12.30pm - Facilitators present reports of each Working Group.

1.20pm - Closing comments from Sharon Grierson & Nicholas Saunders.

1.30pm - Summit concludes.

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