

Ms Christine Lawrence
President
ACT Equestrian Association Incorporated
Email: cflawrence@home.com.au


Dear Ms Lawrence

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of the ACT Equestrian Association Incorporated. I am responding on behalf of all endorsed Liberal candidates for the 2020 election.

Please find attached a response to the survey from the ACT Equestrian Association Incorporated.

Thank you for taking the time to seek our views.

Yours sincerely



Josh Manuatu
Campaign Director

RESPONSE TO ACT EQUESTRIAN ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

The Canberra Liberals are committed to making Canberra the best place to live, work and raise a family.

We want to make it easier for people to do the things they love to do, including horse riding and other equestrian activities. The Canberra Liberals have a strong record on advocating for increased sport and recreation opportunities in the ACT. We believe in a coordinated approach to provide more opportunities to increase grassroots participation and grow sport and recreation in the ACT.

The Canberra Liberals will continue to support Equestrian Park in Curtin. We recognise the importance of this community facility to the equestrian community, and the need to ensure that facilities are available to encourage participation and growth in equestrian activities.

A Canberra Liberals Government will fight to save the highly valued Curtin Horse Paddocks from development. Despite the North Curtin Horse Paddock being a highly cherished community asset, Labor's trade-off was done without any community consultation under the cover of a global pandemic. The irony is that the coronavirus crisis reinforced just how precious open green space is for the mental health and wellbeing of the community. We will seek to end the secret deal to ensure that we retain this important recreational asset for Canberrans.

We will improve consultation in the planning process to make sure the views, interests, and needs of all sectors of the community are recognised and valued. We will also work to ensure that the Bicentennial National Trail is recognised as an important asset for the ACT, and that its value is recognised in the Territory Plan. We are open to investigating specific planning provisions in order to enable the safe access of equestrians through open spaces and around existing road infrastructure.

The Canberra Liberals will take a holistic and long-term approach to sport and recreation. We believe that investment in infrastructure should be driven by the community need and take a bottom-up approach to better support grassroots activities. We believe there are many opportunities to support community groups and grow our economy. We will invest in new and future-focused facilities to create jobs, and to grow the tourism industry through world-class facilities that Canberrans and visitors can enjoy.

We look forward to working with the ACT Equestrian Association Incorporated to ensure the equestrian community can get ahead.

The Canberra Liberals will be making further policy announcements in the coming weeks. If you would like to stay up to date, you can follow the Canberra Liberals Facebook page: facebook.com/CanberraLiberals

Our policies will also be publicly available on our website after they are announced: voteliberal.org.au

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