

Creating a climate where health matters



CLIMATE^{AND}
HEALTH
ALLIANCE



About Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA)



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HEALTH
ALLIANCE

Coalition of health groups www.caha.org.au

Partner and affiliate of Health Care Without Harm www.noharm.org

Coordinate Pacific region of Green and Healthy Hospitals network www.greenhospitals.net

Part of Climate Action Network Australia www.cana.net.au

Founding member and on board of the Global Climate and Health Alliance www.gcha.org

Leading the Our Climate Our Health campaign www.ourclimate-ourhealth.org.au



Who we are

Since 2010, Climate and Health Alliance has been powerful force for change in highlighting climate change as a health issue.

Health professionals are trusted messengers and can help shift attitudes in support of climate action. Positioning climate change as a health issue makes it personal; makes it real; makes it about 'now'.

Health also offers a positive narrative – offering hope and a better future. Many of the initiatives needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions – renewable energy, clean powered electric vehicles, active and public transport, low carbon diets – all offer opportunities to improve health and reduce huge burden of chronic disease in the community.

We are building a movement of health professionals and health organisations to bring attention to this critical issue.

Our members include health professional groups, healthcare service providers, healthcare consumers, institutions, researchers, and academics - collaborating together to advocate for change.



What we do

Advocacy

CAHA provides a strong and trusted voice through which the health sector can advocate collectively on climate-health issues. We have a strong track record of partnering with governments to include climate and health in policy.

Some of our key achievements have included:

- Leading the development of the Human Health and Wellbeing Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Queensland (H-CAP) (2018)
- Leading the collaborative development of a world-first national policy roadmap on climate change and health – the *Framework for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Wellbeing for Australia* (now part of the ALP national policy platform) (2017)
- Conducting the first ever national consultation on climate change and health policy with healthcare stakeholders (2016)
- Helping to get health recognised in the Paris Agreement - leading the first ever global survey of national climate and health policy (with World Federation of Public Health Associations) prior to the UNFCCC global climate negotiations in Paris (2015)
- Putting coal and health on the agenda of the NSW election in 2015 following the release of our report: *'Coal and Health in the Hunter: Lessons from One Valley for the World'*. This report provided, for the first time, an economic assessment of the health harms of coal production at local, regional, and global levels, along with an overview of evidence of the adverse health impacts from coal (2015)



Decorative banksias, WA - image courtesy of dreamtime

Greening the sector

Since 2012, CAHA has coordinated and led the Australia and New Zealand regional network of the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH) network. Since then, members representing almost 800 hospitals and health care service providers have joined this program.

Members of this network have access to tools and resources, guidance documents, experts, events, case studies and an online platform where they can interact, learn from and collaborate with members across the globe.

GGHH Pacific regional members are winning global awards for their work reducing emissions, building climate resilience, while improving public and environmental health.

Building capacity

We have built our members' capacity to communicate health benefits of climate action through their organisations and developed health leaders through our 'climate and health champions' education program.



Communications

CAHA has produced many substantive publications and reports that have helped shift the narrative on climate change - towards a wider recognition of its impact on health and well-being.

Our international influence

Since 2011, CAHA has participated in health delegations to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations.

We are proud to say that this Australian-led movement has inspired the establishment of five other such coalitions around the world including:

- Global Climate and Health Alliance (2011)
- US Climate and Health Alliance (2013)
- UK Health and Climate Alliance (2016)
- Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health (2017)
- German Alliance on Climate and Health (2018)

CAHA's efforts have been described in the international medical journal *The Lancet* as an example of leadership in climate change and health that ["nations - and health professionals" should look to for "inspiration and achievement"](#).



Climate Change and Health Policy Assessment Project Report: *A Global Survey 2015*

A report on the results from a global survey to evaluate the actions of national governments in protecting the health of their citizens from the impacts of climate change.

Environmental Health Working Group of the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA)



Climate change poses serious threats to the health of people in Australia and globally.



THE LANCET

Volume 373 · Number 9676 · Pages 1659-1734 · May 16-22, 2009

www.thelancet.com

"Climate change is
the biggest global
health threat of the
21st century."

See The Lancet Commissions page 1693

Comment

Compensation for brain drain
from developing countries
See page 1666

Correspondence

Amnesia from canned tuna?
See page 1672

Articles

RECORD4: Rivaroxaban for
thromboprophylaxis after
total knee arthroplasty
See page 1673

Articles

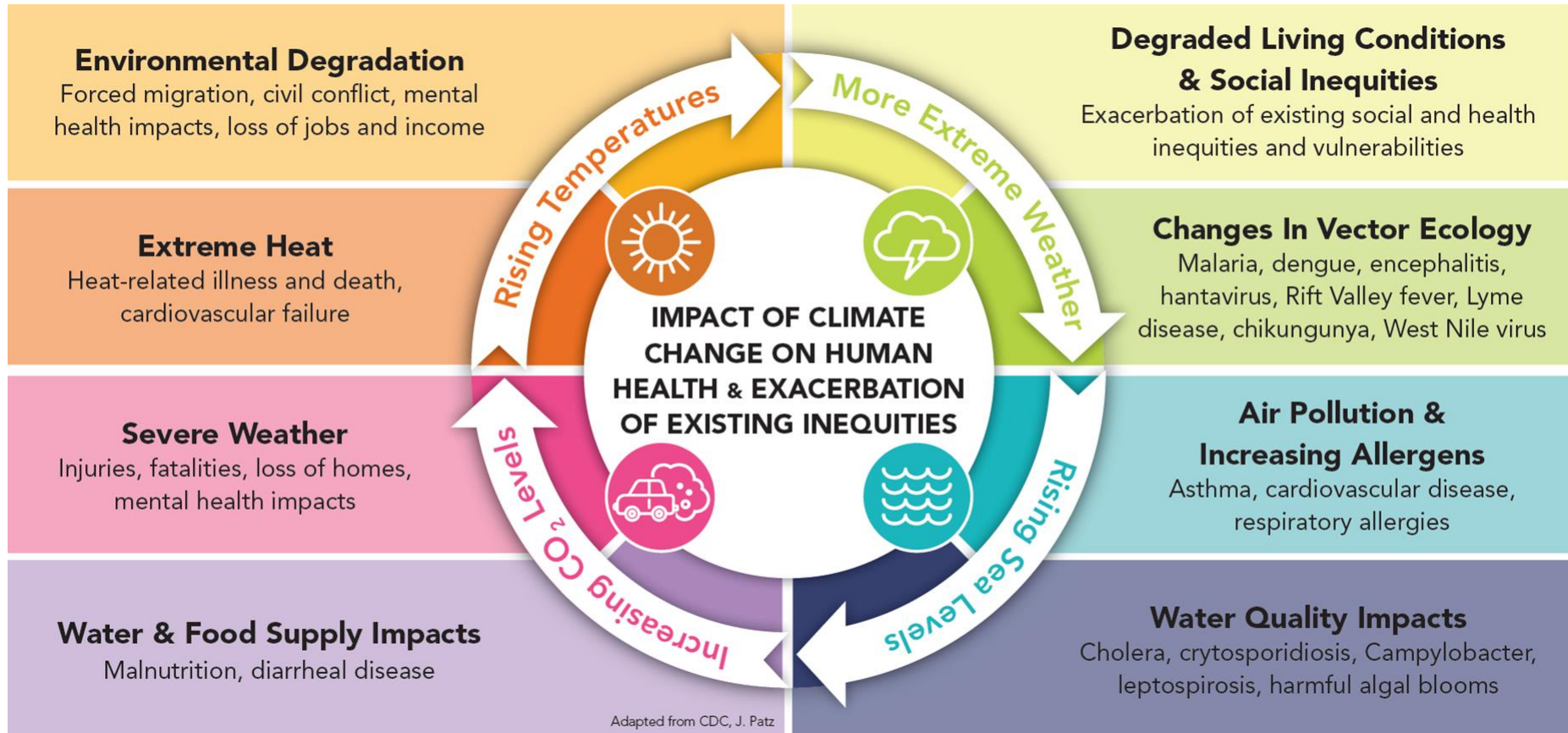
TACT: sequential docetaxel as
adjuvant chemotherapy for
early breast cancer
See page 1681

The Lancet Commissions

Management of health effects
of climate change
See page 1693

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How does climate change affect human health?



250,000 deaths a year from climate change is a 'conservative estimate,' research says



By **Jen Christensen**, CNN

🕒 Updated 2219 GMT (0619 HKT) January 16, 2019



https://www.caha.org.au/federal-election_2019

News & buzz



FAA: Boeing 737 MAX planes to stay grounded



Canada is warming at twice the global rate, report says

Undeniable climate change facts 01:48

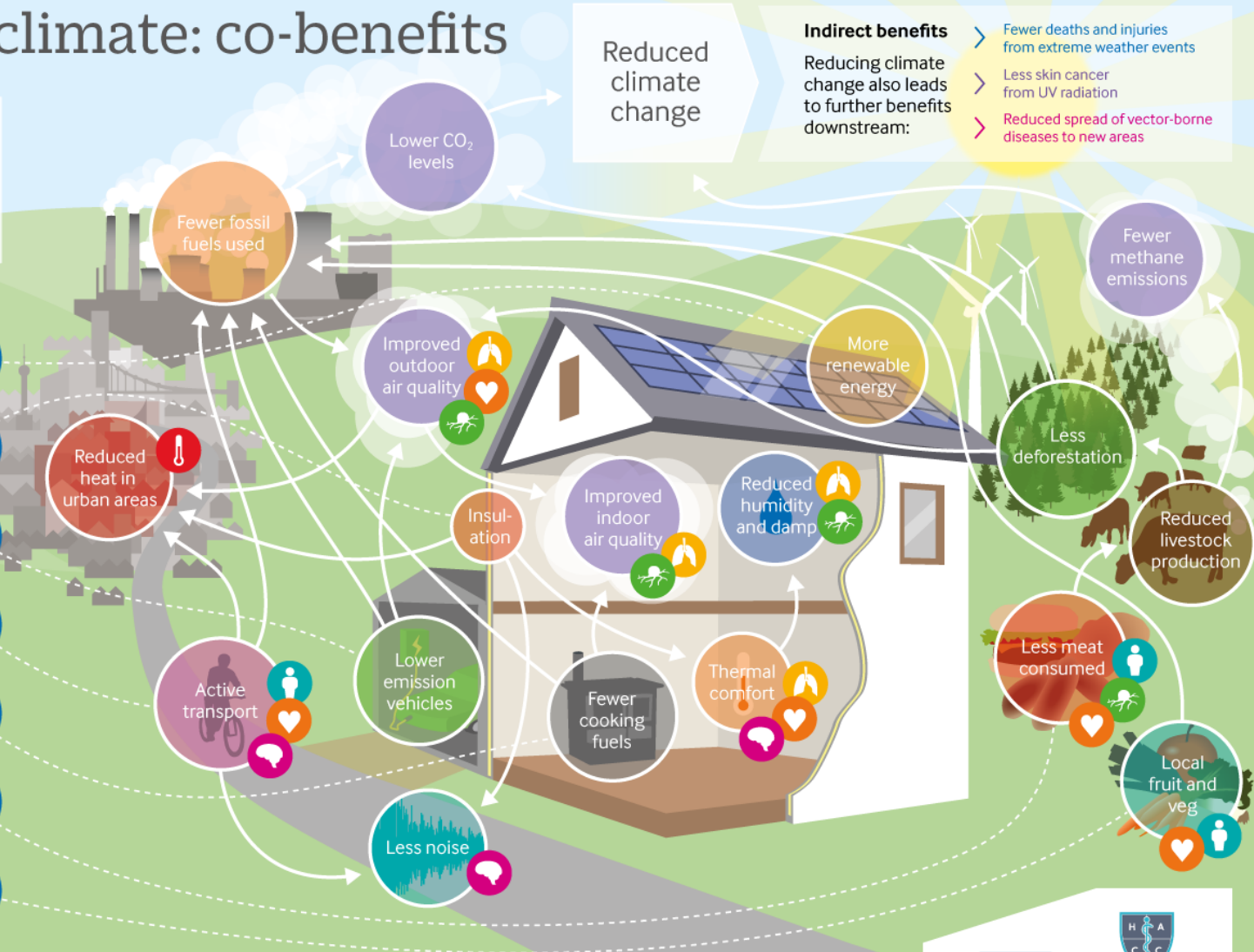
(CNN) — Climate change could "halt and reverse" progress made in human health over the last century.

Health and climate: co-benefits

Example interventions

These interventions have benefits both for health and for reducing climate change (also known as *mitigation*)

- Produce more renewable energy
- Improve insulation in homes
- Encourage use of lower emission vehicles
- Promote active transport
- Reduce solid fuels used for cooking
- Less food from animal sources
- Encourage locally produced fruit and veg



Designed by: Will Stahl-Timmins

Content: Nick Watts

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Duncan Jarvies
John Waring



**OUR CLIMATE,
OUR HEALTH.**

Our Climate Our Health



**GLOBAL
GREEN and
HEALTHY
HOSPITALS**

Sustainable Healthcare

Global Green and Healthy Hospitals



Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH) is an international network of

- Hospitals
- Health care facilities
- Health systems
- Health organizations

Members are dedicated to **reducing their environmental footprint** and **promoting public and environmental health.**

Free to join!

Global Green and Healthy Hospitals | Agenda Goals



Leadership

Prioritize environmental health as a strategic imperative



Chemicals

Substitute harmful chemicals with safer alternatives



Waste

Reduce, treat and safely dispose of healthcare waste



Energy

Implement energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy generation.



Water

Reduce hospital water consumption and supply potable water



Transportation

Improve transportation strategies for patients and staff



Food

Purchase and serve sustainably grown, healthy food



Pharmaceuticals

Prescribe appropriately, safely manage and properly dispose of pharmaceuticals



Buildings

Support green and healthy hospital design and construction



Purchasing

Buy safer and more sustainable products and materials

Join the Campaign for a National Strategy on Climate, Health & Well-being



Background to National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being

A Global Survey on Climate Change and Health Policy led by CAHA for the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA)

First-ever global benchmarking survey of national climate and health policy

Evaluated how nations are responding to the health impacts of climate change

Showed Australia lags behind other industrialised nations in protecting its citizens from the major health risks associated with global warming

Climate Change and
Health Policy Assessment
Project Report:

A Global Survey 2015

A report on the results from a global survey to evaluate the actions of national governments in protecting the health of their citizens from the impacts of climate change.

Environmental Health Working Group of the World
Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA)



Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement obliges parties to consider citizens 'right to health' in the context of their national climate change response.

Without a national strategy, Australia lacks any mechanism to ensure this occurs.

It's time to scale things up



Health is a key constituency

The health sector is a powerful voice, commanding respect in the community and without vested interests.

There are around 600,000 health professionals in Australia – the largest group (330,000) nurses and midwives.



OUR CLIMATE.
OUR HEALTH.

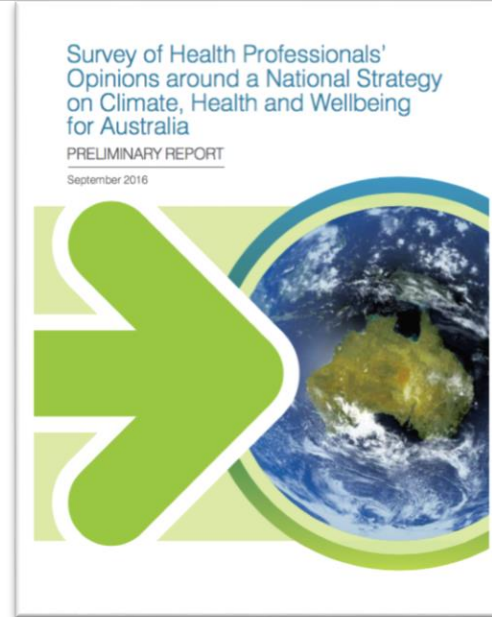


**OUR CLIMATE,
OUR HEALTH.**

Strategies

1. Propose (and design the solution)
2. Build the movement
3. Change the story
4. Shift the politics
5. Shift the policy

National consultation with healthcare stakeholders



June 2016: *Discussion Paper: Towards a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being*

September 2016: Preliminary Report from responses to survey

March-October 2016: Forums, Online Conference, Roundtables, Meetings

6a: Level of support for a National Strategy for Climate, Health and Well-being

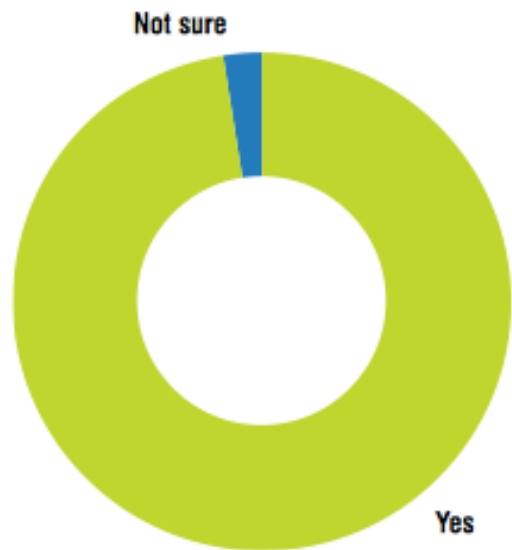
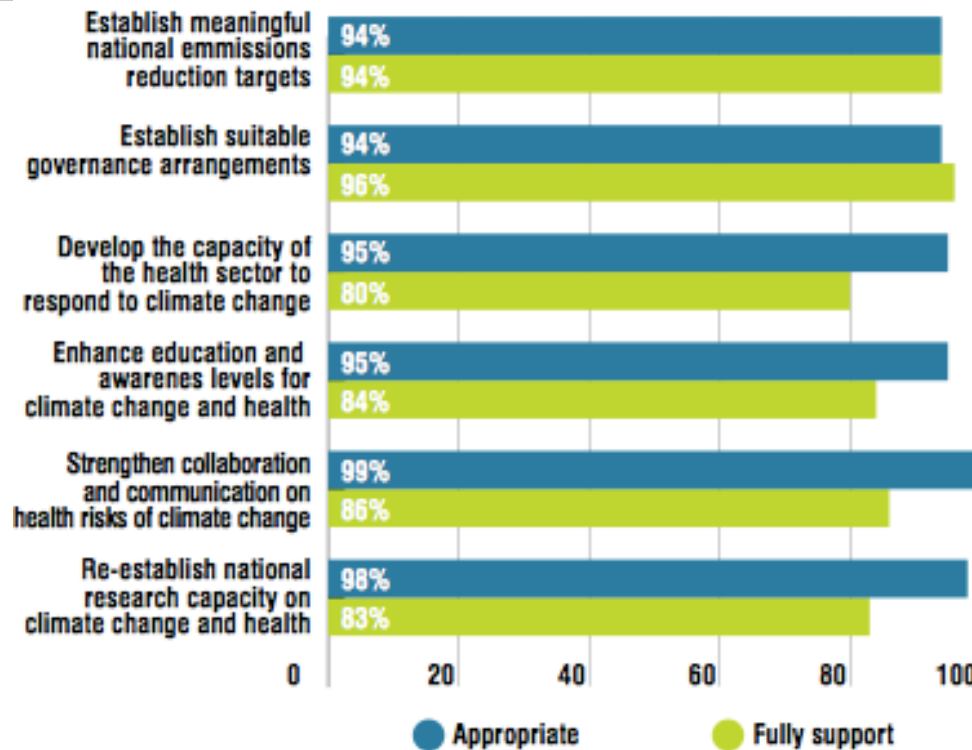


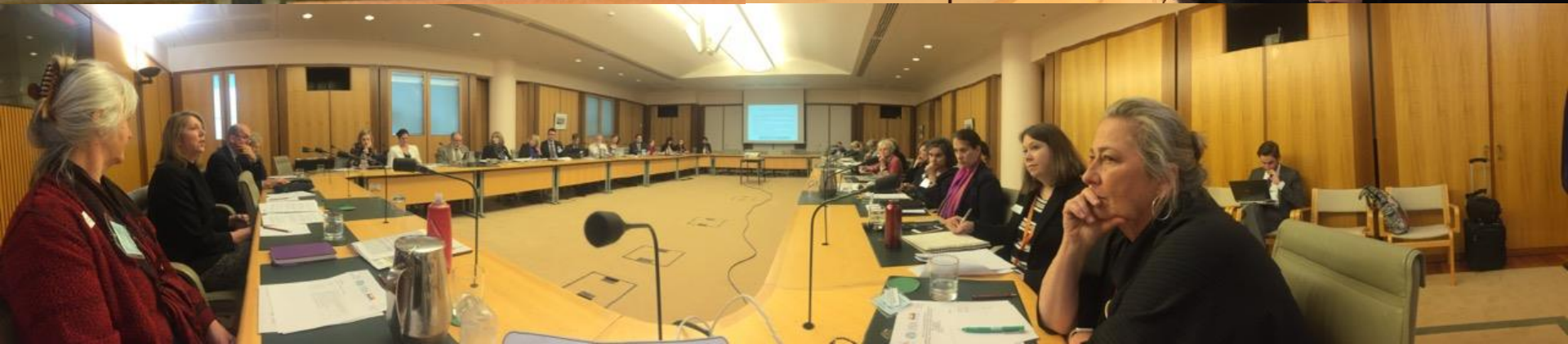
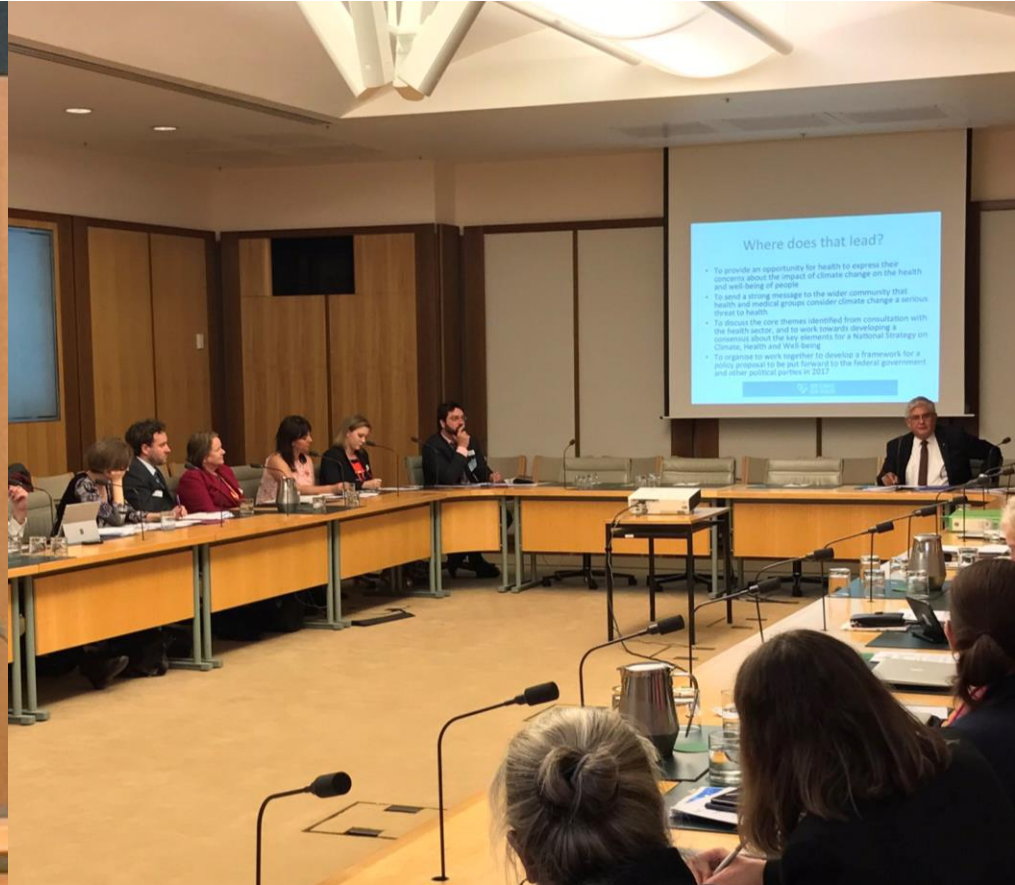
Fig. 22. Support for a national strategy by respondents

There was overwhelming support for a National Strategy with 98% of respondents indicating Australia needs a National Strategy for Climate, Health and Well-being.

In terms of the themes identified in the Discussion Paper, there was strong support for both the appropriateness of each of the themes, and for their inclusion in the proposed Framework for the National Strategy.



Health Leaders Roundtable - Parliament House



1. Why we need a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia
2. The Policy Framework for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia
3. Implementing the Strategy



What the framework offers



Without urgent action on climate change, the conditions that underpin the health and well-being of the human population will be greatly diminished in coming decades, and may only be available to a small number of people living in a few parts of the planet by the end of this century.



ALISON VERHOEVEN
CEO
AUSTRALIAN HEALTHCARE AND
HOSPITALS ASSOCIATION



Our hospitals and health services are already under pressure. Climate change is a threat multiplier. We must make sure our hospitals and the health workforce are supported by a #climatehealthstrategy to ensure they are prepared and able to respond to climate-induced health impacts.



#ClimateHealth



**OUR CLIMATE,
OUR HEALTH.**

Supporting organisations (+ 5,000 individuals)





Labor



CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH STRATEGY

April 02, 2019

A Shorten Labor Government will develop Australia's first National Strategy on Climate Change and Health, to address the health impacts of climate change.

Labor knows that the federal government needs to lead on protecting the health and well-being of Australian communities from the impacts of climate change, and in fulfilling its international obligations under the Paris

“The Australian Greens will implement a plan to tackle the health effects of climate change based on the National Strategy on Climate, Health and Wellbeing, and commit \$2 million over the forward estimates to this.”



CLIMATE AND HEALTH STRATEGY

The Australian Greens will implement a plan to tackle the health effects of climate change based on the National Strategy on Climate, Health and Wellbeing, and commit \$2 million over the forward estimates to this.

We are at a critical juncture both in Australia and around the world to act to tackle global warming and yet our government seems hell bent on taking us in the wrong direction. Instead of taking steps to mitigate catastrophic global warming, under this government, we have been going backwards and in doing so putting the health of the nation in jeopardy.

For decades, both parties have stood by while their big donors have dug up our environment, destroyed our climate and sold off our green spaces, with little accountability. They're polluting the places we live – our farmland, our rivers and our oceans – and destroying the places we love.

Inaction on climate change is having a devastating effect on people's health. Heatwaves in Victoria in 2009 and 2014 contributed to 374 and 167 excess deaths respectively. Air pollution from coal-fired electricity generation is responsible for hundreds of thousands of deaths globally each year, and the health impacts of coal-fired power generation is estimated to cost Australia AUD\$2.6 billion annually¹.

The Greens have a plan to take care of our planet and the health of all creatures, including humans, who live on it. Our plan for a renewable economy that tackles climate change includes:

- Repowering our economy by transitioning from coal, fracking and drilling for gas to clean and exportable renewable energy;
- Helping ensure that no one who works in fossil fuel industries has their employment jeopardised by providing ongoing access to free training for workers and committing to a just transition for workers who are currently employed by fossil fuel industries; and
- Prioritising and properly funding clean, safe, affordable public and active transport.

Our plan for tackling the climate change impacts on health is a holistic one. It will be based on the Framework for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Wellbeing, which was developed by medical and climate change experts in the Climate and Health Alliance.

The Climate and Health Alliance brought together a wide range of medical professional bodies and health advocacy organisations to develop an evidence-based, concise and implementable framework. These groups include the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, the Australian College of Midwives, the National Rural Health Alliance and Doctors for the Environment Australia. Our plan, which is backed by \$500,000 of funding per year, will be built

¹ See Burt et al. 2013, Scientific Evidence for Health Effects from Coal Use in Energy Generation¹ and Biegler 2009, The hidden costs of electricity: externalities of power generation in Australia, A report by the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) 2009

Leveraging health as a key constituency

Building a powerful movement in support of climate requires the activation of **key constituencies**, to make inaction by government/s **politically untenable**.

The health sector is a powerful voice, commanding respect in the community and without vested interests.



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OUR HEALTH.

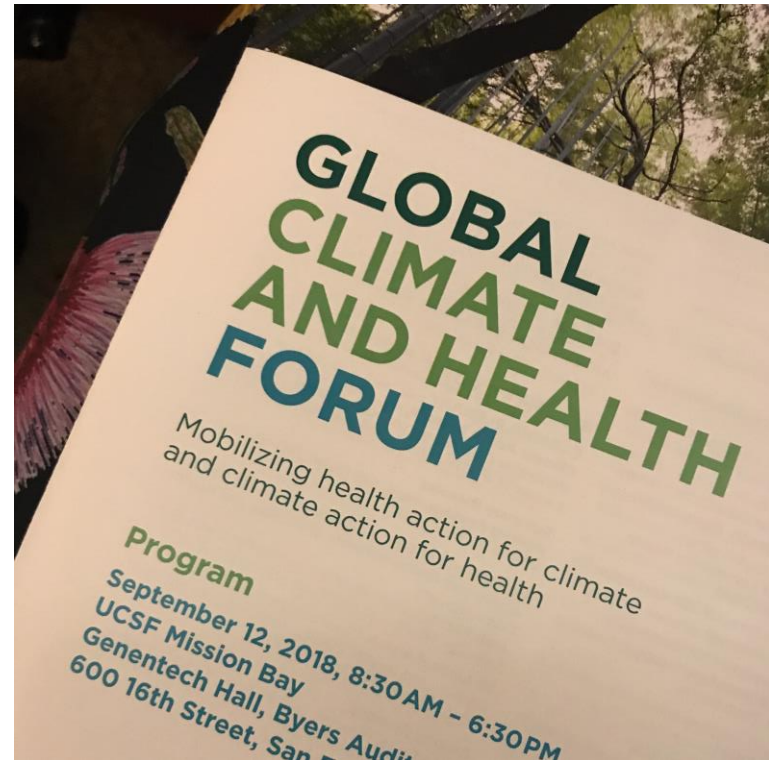
Informing state policy, while we work on federal

Informed the development of the Qld Human Health and Wellbeing Climate Adaptation Plan (developed by CAHA and NCCARF, released September 2018)

Informing policy in other states and territories (WA, Tasmania)



Attracting interest of global community



The 'Our Climate Our Health' Campaign

- Aims to secure National Strategy on Climate Health and Wellbeing for Australia
- Convening dialogues between health groups, health professionals, researchers and policymakers and parliamentarians
- Offering training for Climate-Health Champions
- Creating climate-health mentors for parliamentarians
- Encouraging 'climate conversations' & 'vote climate'
- See more at @ www.ourclimate-ourhealth.org.au



OUR CLIMATE,
OUR HEALTH.



Our Climate, Our Health Pledge

I agree that:

- ☐ Our health is being affected by a changing climate, and
- ☐ We must take action on this issue immediately.

Therefore, I pledge to:

- ☐ Support a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-Being for Australia
- ☐ Advocate for action on this issue in parliament and in the community.

Meetings with MPs

Mike Kelly MP, Member for Eden Monaro



Tim Watts MP, Member for Gellibrand



Kevin Andrews MP, Member for Menzies



Jenny Macklin MP,
Member for Jagajaga



Jane Prentice, Member for Ryan



Adam Bandt MP, Member Melbourne



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OUR HEALTH.

Prevention is better than cure.

Are you concerned about climate change and its impact on health?

Health professionals and health organisations are joining the campaign for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Wellbeing to prevent the potentially catastrophic health impacts of climate change.

Your voice is important.

Join us at ourclimate-ourhealth.org.au
Email your MP climateandhealth.good.do

AN OPEN LETTER TO POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES

AUSTRALIAN ELECTION 2019

Climate change poses an unprecedented threat to the health of people in Australia and across the world.

We, the undersigned, call on all political parties and candidates in the upcoming federal election to:

- 1 Acknowledge the significant and profound impacts climate change has on the health of people and our health system.
- 2 Support the implementation of a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being, based on the Framework developed by health stakeholders.¹
- 3 Ensure the Strategy includes a credible, equitable and stable plan to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with emphasis on a rapid transition to renewable energy in the electricity and transport sectors.
- 4 Support rapid phase out of fossil fuel subsidies which contribute to climate change and health impacts.
- 5 Support the implementation of a plan to assist the health sector and the community, particularly people at risk, to adapt and build resilience to unavoidable climate change impacts already locked in.
- 6 Support a climate and health research program to evaluate specific threats to health in Australia from climate change and the burning of fossil fuels.

SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

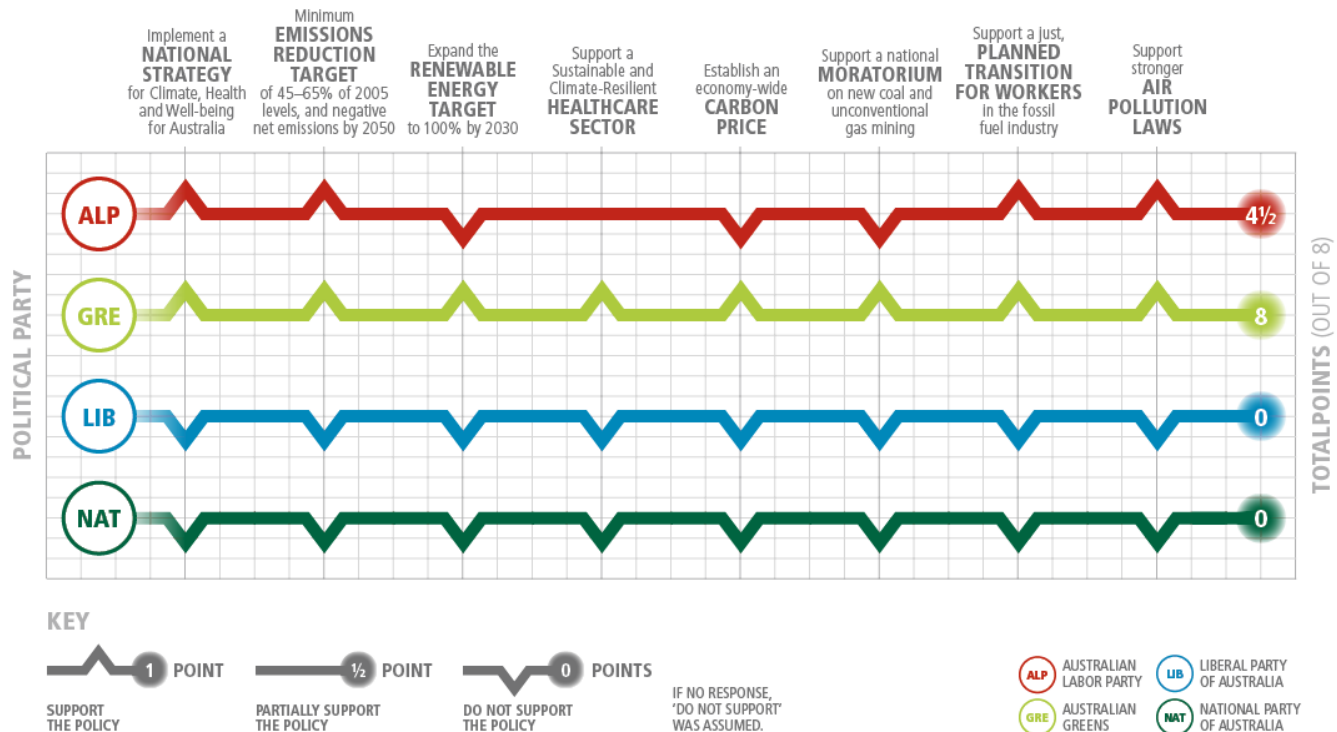


FEDERAL ELECTION 2019

People in Australia face serious health risks from climate change. This election, how can you use your vote to ensure we tackle climate change and promote a healthy future? We analysed the policies of the main political parties in Australia, and these are the results.



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For more information, visit www.caha.org.au/federal_election_2019

Want to see Australia develop a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being?

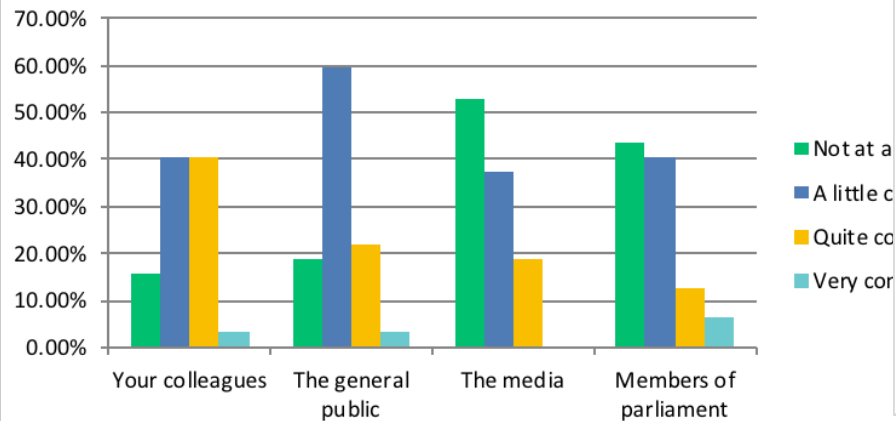
Send a letter to your MP today: www.climateandhealth.good.do

THE CLIMATE AND HEALTH ALLIANCE IS AN INDEPENDENT COALITION OF HEALTH ORGANISATIONS AND HAS NO POLITICAL AFFILIATION.

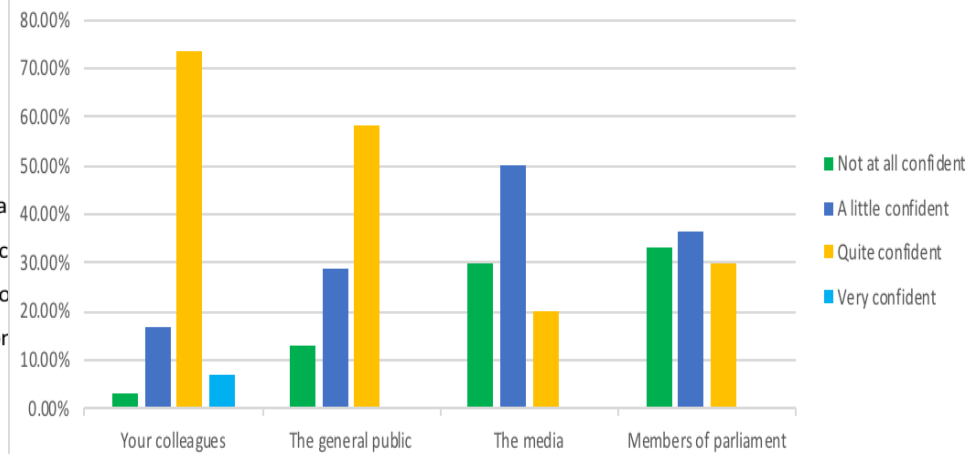


Climate-Health Champions Workshops

How confident are you in your ability to advocate on the effect of climate change on health to:



How confident are you in your ability to advocate on the effect of climate change on health to:





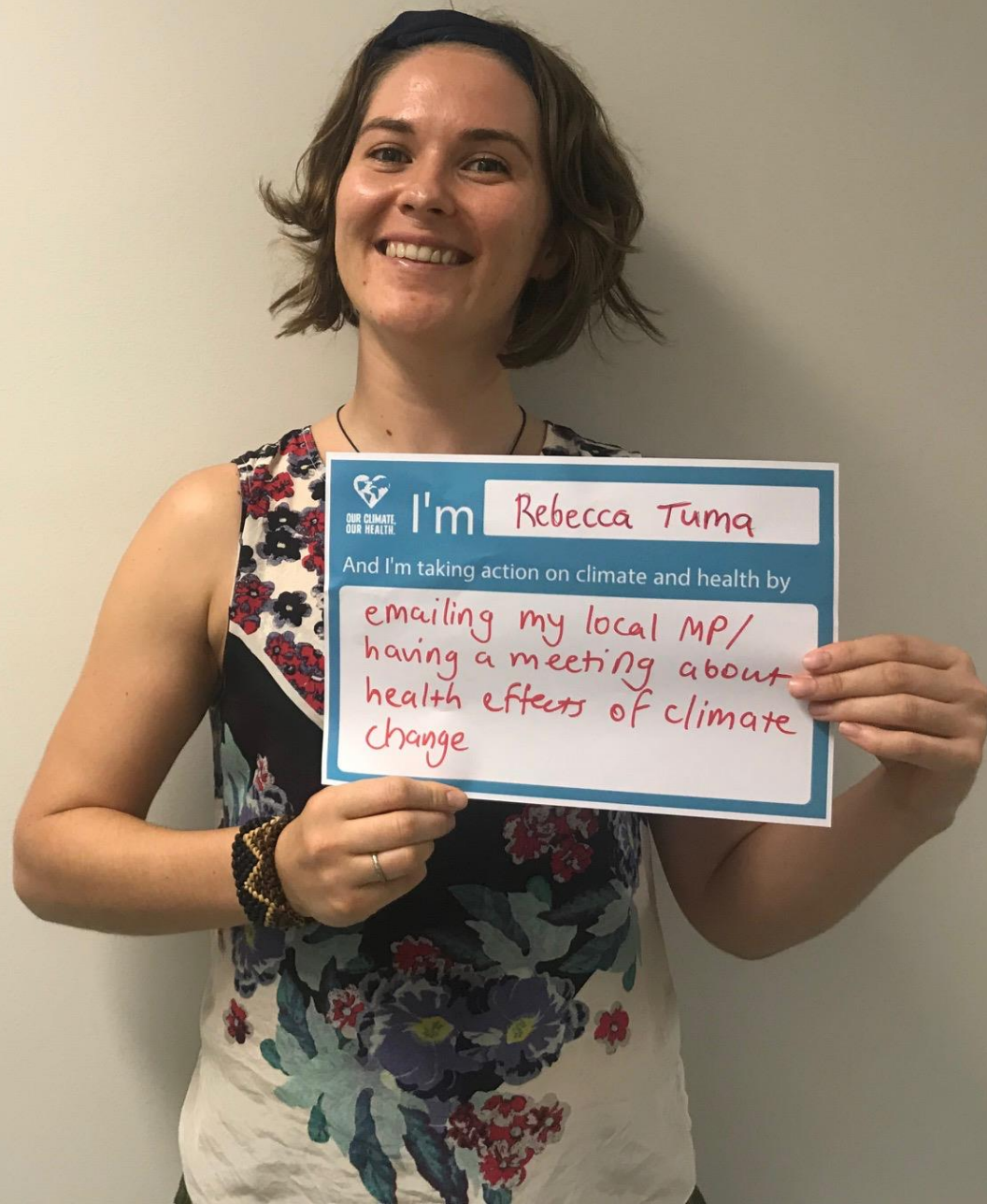
OUR CLIMATE.
OUR HEALTH.

I'm

DANIELA

And I'm taking action on climate and health by

WRITING LETTERS TO THE
EDITOR
AND OPINION PIECES FOR
MY LOCAL PAPER AND
NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS.



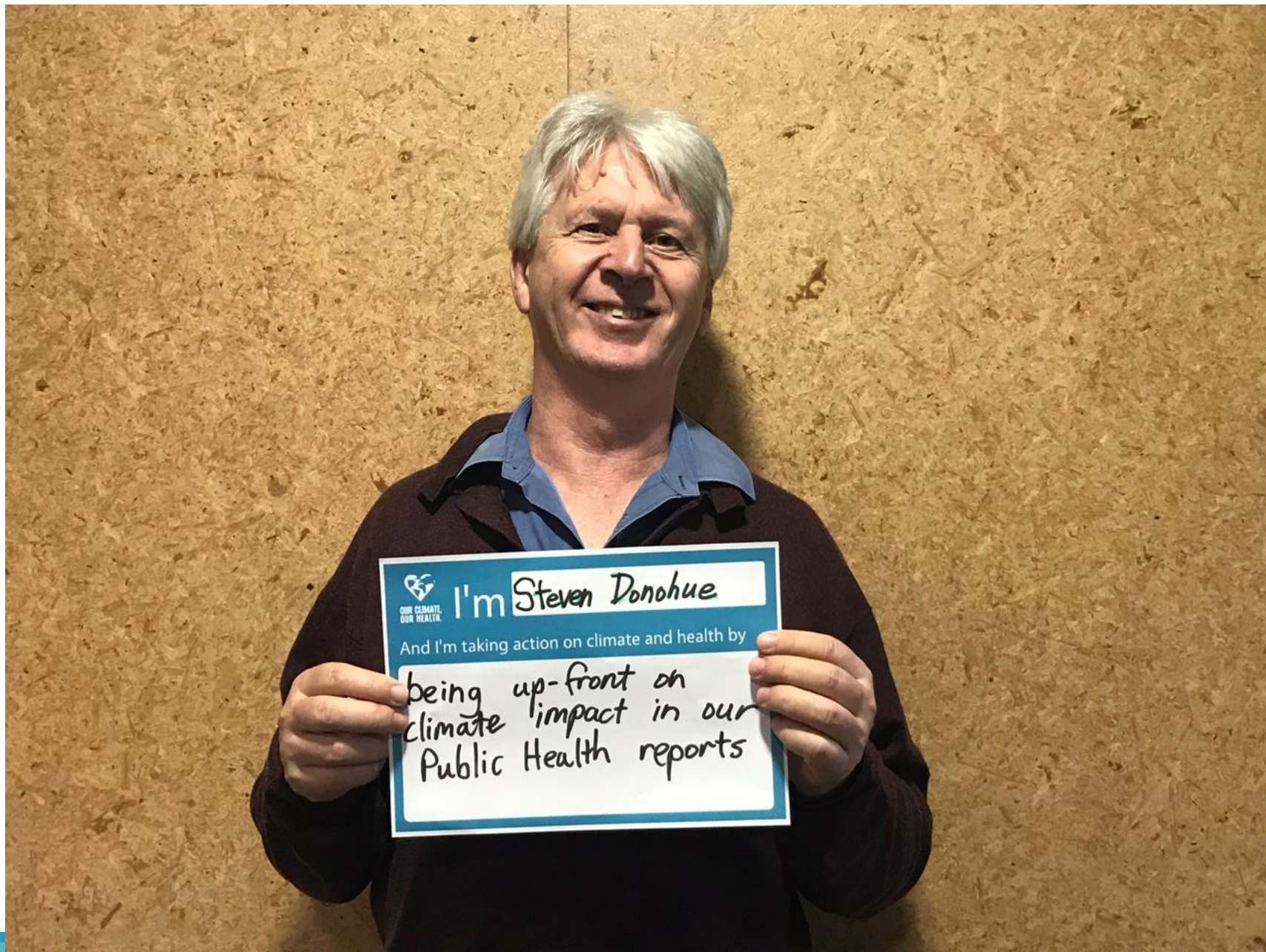
OUR CLIMATE.
OUR HEALTH.

I'm

Rebecca Tuma

And I'm taking action on climate and health by

emailing my local MP/
having a meeting about
health effects of climate
change



I'm Steven Donohue

And I'm taking action on climate and health by

being up-front on
climate impact in our
Public Health reports



We need to talk about it

Most people are concerned about climate change and believe that human activity is having an impact.

However the level of community concern is generally underestimated, as climate change isn't a topic that people commonly discuss with friends and family.

Talking about climate change can help to influence social norms.

As respected and trusted voices, your voice is powerful



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Climate-Health Champions in action!



"We all have a choice. We can create transformational action that will safeguard the living conditions for future generations.

"Or we can continue with our business as usual and fail.

"That is up to you and me."



Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg

What can you do?

- Use your status and passion to influence your colleagues, families and communities
- Inform and encourage those in positions of influence – professional associations, unions, universities to act
- Expect your elected representatives to protect your interests, and respond to your concerns
- Do what you can in your own life to reduce your footprint (eg cycle, eat less meat, move your money ie divest from fossils fuels)
- Become active in advocating for action –join CAHA, become an active OCOH supporter



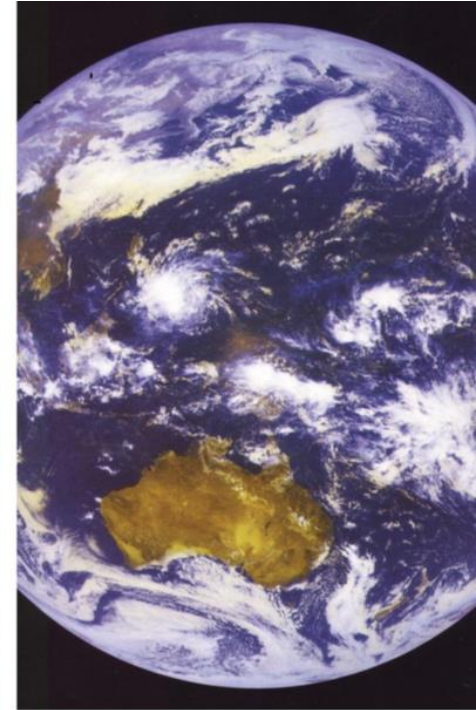
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OUR HEALTH.

The value of a climate alliance for the health sector

Working collectively on an issue can make the voices of individuals and organisations much more powerful. We recognise that together, we can bring a rich perspective and insights to inform policy and responses that is more influential than if we work alone.

The trusted and respected voices of health professionals and health groups can help highlight the human and social costs of climate change.

Communicating about climate change as a health issue is demonstrated to help overcome resistance to action, and leads to stronger support for climate mitigation and adaptation responses.





How to join

If you're interested in becoming a member of CAHA, please fill in our online membership application form at <http://www.caha.org.au/join>

In applying to join as an individual or organisation, you are declaring your support for CAHA's Aims and Objectives that appear in our [Statement of Purpose](#).

Membership fees

Members pay fees on a sliding scale based upon organisational resources / income.

Membership fees for Organisations

Annual income	Annual membership fee (+GST)
Over \$20 million	\$10,000
\$5 million to \$20 million	\$5,000
\$1 million to \$5 million	\$2,000
\$500,000 to \$1 million	\$500
\$100,000 to \$500,000	\$300
\$50 to \$100,000	\$250
\$0 to \$ 50,000	\$100

Membership fees for Individuals (Friends of CAHA)

Annual income	Annual membership fee (+GST)
Over \$200,000	\$300
\$100,000 to \$200,000	\$200
\$50,000 to \$100,000	\$100
\$20,000 to \$50,000	\$60
\$0 to \$20,000	\$20

Thank-you!



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W: <http://www.caha.org.au>

W: www.ourclimate-ourhealth.org.au

T: @healthy_climate

F: @climateandhealthalliance