JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL MATTERS   *Chair: Hon Tony Smith MP*

Electoral education inquiry public hearings commence in Canberra

The Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters will hold its first public hearing and roundtable as part of its inquiry into electoral education tomorrow (15 July).

In the morning, the committee will hear from the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) on electoral education services currently delivered to students and teachers across Australia.

Tomorrow afternoon's roundtable will provide an opportunity for the committee to hear from prominent Canberra institutions including the Australian War Memorial, Parliamentary Education Office, Museum of Australian Democracy, and the AEC's National Electoral Education Centre who will be discussing electoral and civic education programs currently offered to students visiting the nation's capital.

The Chair of the Committee, Mr Tony Smith MP, said he is looking forward to the hearing.

"These institutions are responsible for delivering electoral education to approximately 100,000 students each year," Mr Smith said.

"It is a real challenge to engage both teachers and students in the importance of having a good understanding of our democracy and actively participating in it. Therefore, it will be interesting to find out what is being done in this area and to work out if any improvements are required."

Hearing details
Date: 15 July 2015
Time: 9.30am – 4.30pm
Location: Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra

Proceedings will be broadcast live at:
http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament

Submissions to the committee for the inquiry are open. Further public hearings will be scheduled and advertised in the near future at www.aph.gov.au/em

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Media inquiries: contact Emma Sun on 0422 348 823 (*Office of Tony Smith MP*).
For information on the inquiry: contact the Secretariat on (02) 6277 2374, email em@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee website at http://www.aph.gov.au/em

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