

## AIMS

We aim to ensure the interests of the Australian public are put before the interests of unaccountable corporations whose major responsibility is to create ever increasing profits for their major shareholders, irrespective of the human, social, environmental and national costs. That tiny section of society that owns the means of production, distribution, exchange and communication have become so powerful they are instrumental in setting the parliamentary agenda and determining who governs us. It's time Public Interests were put Before Corporate Interests.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to people of all religious beliefs and those who have no religious beliefs. We welcome people of all races, nationalities, genders and sexual orientation. We believe all human beings are born with inalienable rights and liberties no government can legislate away or corporations take away.

Written and Authorised by Dr. Joseph Toscano  
Secretary / Convenor Public Interests Before Corporate Interests  
Level 1/21 Smith St  
FITZROY VIC 3065

I .....

accept the above aims and membership criteria.

I have received the party's constitutional framework.

Signature: ..... Date: .....

Print Name: .....



## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

<b>Title</b> <i>(Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms etc)</i>		<b>Date of Birth</b>	
<b>Surname</b> <i>(please print)</i>			
<b>Given Name(s)</b> <i>(in full)</i>			
<b>Residential Address</b>			
<b>City/Suburb</b>		<b>State</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>		<b>Phone Home</b>	<b>Phone Work</b>
<b>Mobile</b>		<b>Fax</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>			

### Declaration

I wish to become a member of the above party.

I am eligible to enrol for Federal elections.

(You are eligible to enrol for Federal elections if:

- you are 17 years of age or older; and
- you are an Australian citizen; and
- you have lived at your present address for at least the last month.)

(British subjects who are not Australian citizens are eligible to enrol for Federal elections if they were on a Commonwealth of Australia electoral roll on 25th January 1984.)

\* I consent to this form being forwarded to the Australian Electoral Commission in support of the party's application for registration. (Strike out if not applicable.)

I declare that all the information I have on this form is true and complete.

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b> /     /
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\* **Please note:** This form may be forwarded to the Australian Electoral Commission to confirm that the party meets the party registration requirements. The AEC conducts random surveys to verify membership and it is possible that they may contact you asking you to confirm that you signed this form. The form will be treated by the AEC in strictest confidence. It will only be used to verify the party's entitlement to registration and no other purpose. The form will then be returned to the party. No copy or information contained in the form will be kept by the AEC.

## CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

### ACTIVITIES

Public Interests Before Corporate Interests is a political party that uses:

- **Electoral Politics** – standing candidates in both the House of Representatives and the Senate at Federal elections.
- **Non-Violent Direct Action** – protests, vigils, petitions, strikes and occupations.
- **Community Boycotts** – to put public interests before corporate interests.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership lapses if the member dies, resigns, is expelled, changes residential electoral address and does not inform the Secretary within six (6) months of change of address.

### EXPULSION

If six members of Public Interests Before Corporate Interests make a written submission outlining why another member of the party's behaviour calls into question their adherence to the party's aims and membership criteria, the current executive of the party can suspend the members' membership of the party until a formal inquiry is held into the allegations (inquiry by the executive at which the accused member is asked to respond to the allegations in writing must be held within four weeks of the allegations being submitted). If the allegations are proven to the satisfaction of the executive the members' expulsion from the party is backdated to the day the allegations were submitted.

### APPEAL

The expelled member can appeal this decision to the full membership within two months of the expulsion order. Appeal is heard in writing within six months of lodging appeal.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held on the evening of the first Wednesday in November.  
Notice to all members to be sent out by the 31<sup>st</sup> July. Quorum for AGM is 12.

### THE EXECUTIVE

The Executive of PIBCI runs the party in accordance with the party's Constitution in between Annual General Meetings.

The Executive consists of:

- Secretary / Convenor
- Registered Officer
- Party Agent
- Treasurer

### ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE

Nominations for the executive

- Secretary / Convenor
- Registered Officer
- Party Agent
- Treasurer

need to have the written endorsement of three other members of the party and the written acceptance of the nomination by the nominee.

Nominations need to be lodged by the 31<sup>st</sup> August.

If more than one nomination for each position is submitted, the party membership will vote on who they want to represent them. Each candidate has until the 10<sup>th</sup> September to lodge a 300 word submission. The candidate's submission, plus a voting form, will be sent out to all members by the 30<sup>th</sup> September.

All votes must be received by the 28<sup>th</sup> October.

Voting will be first past the post if only two candidates nominate. Voting will be preferential if more than two candidates nominate.

If an Executive member dies or resigns in between Annual General Meetings, the new executive member is appointed by the remaining executive members until the next AGM.

## ROLE OF EXECUTIVE

- **Secretary / Convenor** – makes the day to day decisions about running the party, deals with the correspondence, signs party documents, co-ordinates party activities, interacts with the media and deals with the AEC on general election and enrolment matters.
- **Registered Officer** – the Registered Officer is the party office bearer empowered to nominate the party's endorsed candidates and also select either the party's registered name or the party's registered abbreviation to be printed on ballot papers adjacent to the party's endorsed candidates.
- **Party Agent** – the Party Agent is responsible for lodging the party's annual financial disclosure return to the AEC before the first working day in February.
- **Treasurer** – the Treasurer is responsible for keeping PIBCI's financial records up to date, they will submit a detailed financial report to the AGM every year and will assist the Party Agent to lodge the party's annual financial disclosure return to the AEC. The Treasurer and one other member of the Executive will have to sign cheques or endorse any party expenditure before money is released.

## CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Changes to the aims and membership criteria of Public Interests Before Corporate Interests requires 80% of the party's membership to ask for a change to the aims and membership criteria in order for a Special General Meeting to be called to debate the proposed changes. If the Special General Meeting agrees to the changes, a ballot will be sent to every member. Constitutional changes require 80% of PIBCI members voting for the change.

## PRE-SELECTION

Candidates have to fund their nomination fee and are personally responsible for any costs incurred in their election campaign.

The executive will consider requests for financial assistance regarding nomination fees if candidates are not able to raise the funds required.

If more than one candidate nominates for a House of Representatives seat or more than six candidates nominate for a Senate seat, members on the electoral roll residing within a particular House of Representatives seat or in a particular state will determine who the candidates are.

The order of candidates in each state in a Senate election will be determined by the executive.

Nominations for pre-selection need to be received by the 28<sup>th</sup> February in the year a Federal election is to be held. If a snap election is called, the executive will pre-select candidates.

## PREFERENCES

Preferences will be allocated by each candidate on the basis of similarity in political positions of other candidates. Preference deals based on other criteria will result in disendorsement by the executive of that candidate's nomination.

## BRANCHES

The executive can establish a state based branch when it is needed.

## CHANGES TO THE ACTIVITIES, MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE AND PRE-SELECTION

Need to be raised by 70% of members before a vote can be held by the membership to determine any alternatives raised.

## PROVISION FOR WINDING UP OF THE PARTY AND APPORTIONING ITS ASSETS

If PIBCI fails to meet the AEC's requirements to continue to be a Registered Political Party (once it becomes registered) and is not able to re-register within a three year period, its assets will be equally divided amongst its members.

## ROLE OF INTERIM EXECUTIVE UNTIL PUBLIC INTERESTS BEFORE CORPORATE INTERESTS IS REGISTERED AS A POLITICAL PARTY

The interim executive will be responsible for running the party until the party is registered. Once Public Interests Before Corporate Interests becomes a registered political party the interim executive will be responsible for the running of the party until the new executive is sworn in at the Annual General Meeting on the first Wednesday in November.

Written and authorised by : Dr. Joseph TOSCANO - Secretary / Convenor Public Interests Before Corporate Interests  
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