

## CCA Political Pod Newsletter July 2024

The Political Pod is a group of climate-aware coaches who aim to support politicians and leaders, whether at international, national or local level, to share collective visions and work with concerned voters. We believe that most people, including politicians, care about the climate crisis and want to act, though it is not easy.

We support policymakers to sort their thoughts, clarify their strategies and shift their emphasis. Our coaching can help them focus on what is crucial and how to handle complex situations in a way which includes not just today's voters but future generations. It can help our clients re-vision preferred futures, shape messages and develop sustainable strategies.

The Political Pod, like the CCA, has a truly global membership which is therefore able to draw on different visions and world views (as well as languages and cultural nuances). We have 130 members from all corners of our Earth.

### **NEXT MEETING**

#### **CCA Political Pod – PEER COACHING: Expanding coaching skills together**

**Thursday 11 July 8.30 am BST (UTC +1) , 9.30 am CEST (UTC +2), 5.30 AEST (UTC +10)**

**Register here** <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwsdeyuqTMrHtd8lJ0-o2pCFGreJxXlJVco#/registration>

Bring your own issues for Peer Coaching

- Do you have a climate-related issue you want help with?
- Have you identified policymakers and leaders who are responding well to climate and biodiversity issues?
- Can we coach you to help leaders use their power for greater environmental harmony?

This session provides peer-coaching opportunities to help you stretch beyond your current thinking about your issues.

Climate-aware coaches endeavour to support politicians to share collective visions and work with concerned voters. They believe that most people including politicians care about the climate and ecological transformation and want to act though it is not easy. We can support policymakers to sort their thoughts, clarify their strategies and shift their emphasis. Our coaching can help them focus on what is crucial and how to handle the complex

situations in a way, which includes today's and future generations. It can help our clients re-vision preferred futures, shape messages and develop sustainable strategies.

Two coaches have 30 mins each to be coached. If you would like to take up the opportunity, write a few sentences about your challenge and overarching questions and send to Lydia Steven: [lydia@climatebiodiversitycoaching.com](mailto:lydia@climatebiodiversitycoaching.com) and [jackie@coach4executives.com](mailto:jackie@coach4executives.com) by Tuesday 9th July.

Whether or not you have a current issue, come along and be part of these dynamic coaching opportunities to stay one step ahead. We are all there to share and challenge with empathy. This session is not being recorded for confidentiality. Our joint lessons from this process and any key take aways can be shared in our next newsletter as well as the coaching questions asked and resources shared.

Peer-coaches will be those who attend the meeting. The Political Pod is attended by experienced and empathetic coaches all of whom care deeply about the state of our planet and are aware of the power dynamics at play locally and globally.

## **Past events:**

### **POLITICAL POD - Reflective Session: Coaching Politicians - what are we learning? 13 June 2024.**

#### **“Swallowing a toad”**

Political Pod regular Volker Molten offered this colourful description of the context in which German politicians work, having to swallow up compromises and negotiate sub optimal agreements to get anywhere towards reaching their goals.

Coaches joined a lively discussion about the importance of the contexts we're working in - especially with increasing polarisation in so many political worlds, especially the USA. Yet with so many elections across the globe this year, we are not seeing climate on the agenda.

We were reflecting on our encounters in the last two meetings with the discussions active politicians, Eveline Lemke, a former Minister for Economic Affairs, Climate Protection, Energy and Regional Planning in Germany, and Georgia Taylor and Christina Coleman, recently elected Green Party politicians.

We debated how new politicians can work on their goals when they feel captured by systems which don't align with their values, leaving them overwhelmed by anxiety. And if they feel the additional work of being coached is be another burden, how we can make

our coaching offer be a way for them to balance short term demands for action and keep their eye on long term perspectives.

**Thanks to** Diana Collett and Katarzyna Schubert Panecka for creating a rich space for us to work together.

You can watch the video of the session on Vimeo [here](#)

## **Coming next : Interview with Coaching in Government co-author Theodora Fitzsimmons**

**Thursday 8 August**

**8.30 am BST (UTC +1) , 9.30 am CEST (UTC +2), 5.30 AEST (UTC +10)**

Jackie Arnold has recorded a conversation with American coach Theodora Fitzsimmons about her recent book *Coaching in Government*, looking at the development of internal coaching in the US Federal Government. It complements the coaching conversations we have been having with politicians, as the book focusses on coaching the administrators tasked with implementing policy. She has great tips for coaches working in the civic space too.

Jackie says: "Settle into this journey of pioneers, tenacious practitioners, and enthusiastic educators— together developing a community of coaches within the federal government setting. Engaging "hearts and minds" throughout the system is important, and for those looking for hard monetary figures, the authors provide fascinating and pragmatic insights into capturing the business case, and inviting the reader to harness the wider system to leverage the indicators of success. The quality of our conversations matter."

You can read more about Theodora [here](#) and about the book [here](#). Look out for the registration link in July.

If you have a suggestion for a speaker for our autumn sessions, please get in touch with us! We focus on how coaches can work with politicians, whether at international, national or local level. Email us at [political@climatecoachingalliance.org](mailto:political@climatecoachingalliance.org)

## **Coming Soon: Political Pod Playbook**

Every conversation holds significance in our collective efforts, complementing the remarkable work undertaken by the multidisciplinary Political Pod Playbook team. With generous sponsorship from the University of Southampton and the dedicated support of individual and organizational volunteers, we're advancing crucial discussions at the intersection of politics and [climate action](#).

We've managed to secure extra funding at USH, we engaged a copy editing firm that can do translations in the future. USH is very happy with our choices and approach, opening up more possibilities for the political pod's impact to be expanded with a sense of urgency.

We'll ensure there are lots of opportunities to explore and discuss the Playbook in our autumn sessions.

## **CCA Global Update**

There's plenty going on at the global level too, so don't miss out!

Join in some future thinking with coach leaders on Tues 2 July at 12.30 BST (UTC+1)

## **Imagining coaching a decade from now – and the contributions it has made to the climate and ecological crisis through systemic collaboration**

In this panel and workshop, with the JGSG (Joint Global Statement Group) we will imagine it is 2034 and the coaching community has accelerated climate and ecological action in the intervening decade. We will explore what will be different in the world of coaching as a result compared to 2024. You can register [here](#)

In addition to the CCA Book Clubs, from September there'll be the opportunity to set up Podcast Clubs, to listen to and discuss a series of podcasts "We are the Great Turning", with Joanna Macey talking with Jessica Serrante. Details on how to set up a club here: <https://www.climatecoachingalliance.org/seasonal-heartbeats/podcast-club/>

New CCA communities are being set up in South-East Asia, Brazil and Hungary as our membership continues to grow. We'll be posting our newsletter on our community page [here](#)

The CCA are also keen to find more people to volunteer a few hours of video editing and social media skills, you can contact the team at [communications@climatecoachingalliance.org](mailto:communications@climatecoachingalliance.org)