

Melting Pot talk

Taking the Pulse

How is government doing in Australia?



A challenging talk by Mr Terry Moran AC
1.30 pm on 5 March, 2013
Salvation Army Hall, Victoria Street, Seymour

The role, size and effectiveness of government are always matters of great public debate. We all have strong views on our governments (national, state and local governments) because their services and powers touch all of us - and we all pay for them.

Government here and around the world is currently under fire. At the political level, there is despair with the level of debate and the perceived inability to make sound long term decisions in the national or community interest. At the public service level, there are strong forces arguing for a substantial decrease in the numbers of government employees at all levels of government and suggesting that the system is bloated, inefficient and unresponsive. Of course these claims about Government are not necessarily close to the mark.

It is very important to think hard about how well we are served by our governments. Is the criticism of them well founded or do we have good government despite the disparagement from many quarters? Mr Terry Moran AC, until recently one of Australia's most distinguished public servants, is well placed to offer some important insights into the state of government in Australia today.

Mr Terry Moran AC was previously CEO of the Victorian State Training Board and Australian National Training Authority, Director General of the Queensland Education Department, and Secretary of the Department of Premier and Cabinet in Victoria. He was then appointed Secretary of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the most senior position in the public service, where he conducted the most significant review and reform of the Australian Public Service since the Royal Commission into the Public Service in 1976. Mr Moran led the work on the National Reform Agenda for the Council of Australian Governments, which reformed business regulation, health care and hospitals, schooling, vocational education and training, social housing and indigenous affairs.

Melting Pot is a monthly forum where eminent guest speakers enrich us with knowledge, stimulating ideas and discussion. It is held at 1.30 pm on the first Tuesday of every month at the Salvation Army Hall, Victoria Street, Seymour. Everyone is welcome.

**For enquiries about Seymour & District U3A
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