



# MURCHISON VOTES

Burnie, Wynyard, Smithton, West Coast, & King Island

Autumn 2023

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTION: MAY 6<sup>th</sup>**

**PREPOLL VOTING OPENS: APRIL 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Selling electricity to Victoria?**

**Leaving the existing**

**Council Amalgamations? Cam River Bridge in place?**

**New tailings dam for  
Rosebery mine?**

**Who will you vote for?  
What issues are important to you?**

**Building more houses?**

**Shutting Ashley Youth Detention Centre?**

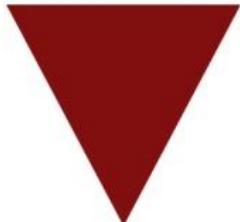
**Improving King  
Island shipping?**

**Salmon Farms in Bass Strait?**

**Fuel Price  
Limits?**

**HUTCHISON**  
**MURCHISON**

**DIRECT  
DEMOCRACY**



## Who is Codie Hutchison?

I have been a resident of the Murchison electorate for the majority of my life, growing up in Wynyard and have lived mostly between Burnie and Smithton. My wife and I are raising three beautiful children from our home-base in Preolenna and we love going to the beach and exploring local reserves. I have worked as a casual teacher since 2013, but in the past 12-15 months have focused exclusively on local community projects. In my spare time, I love to play music with friends, talk big ideas over a game of chess, or play sport whether Soccer, B'ball, Footy, or Tennis. In early March, I made the decision to stand for the Legislative Council for the Murchison election. I stand for Direct Democracy because I believe everyone deserves the opportunity to be part of the decision making on issues that affect them & where they live. You can contact me directly via my mobile **0476249373**.

Want to know more? Checkout my website: [hutchisonmurchison.com](http://hutchisonmurchison.com) or my Facebook – [www.facebook.com/codie.hutchison.1](http://www.facebook.com/codie.hutchison.1)



SCAN ME

## What is Direct Democracy?

In short, a pure Direct Democracy is where **the electorate decides on policy initiatives without elected representatives**. A semi-direct democracy is where residents are the higher authority, but representatives administer day to day governance. It will encourage more referendum votes in Tasmania, and provide opportunities for the community to call existing legislation to a popular vote or propose policies or law changes. Some semi-direct democracies have the power of recall, to remove elected officials from office before the end of their term. Direct democracy can

emphasise community deliberation on issues, and use consensus decision making or majority rule when making decisions. Participation is key, and direct democracies can use tools like the Citizen Assembly or Citizen Jury, Deliberative Opinion Polls, Online Policy Debates, and Participatory Budgeting. The aim could be for consensus to ensure that views are heard and considered in the final choice(s). Direct Democracy should provide the community with the opportunity to determine which issues matter and should be raised in State Parliament.

## Direct Democracy in Practice looks like

My plan for improving democracy is using two key civic tools – a **Regional Parliament** and a **Community Assembly**. The **Community Assembly** is:

- A space and a time for individuals to come together, discuss, and deliberate before making decisions as a community, with a suggested schedule of monthly meetings held in local community spaces across the electoral division of Murchison.
- The ability for individuals to raise new issues and bring current issues to the discussion.
- The ability for individuals to suggest new laws and suggest changes to established laws.
- Where the community vote takes place.

The Representative must commit to honour & respect decisions made at Community Assemblies. Communities will nominate 1 volunteer delegate from each local Community Assembly to go to the 'Regional Parliament'.

The **Regional Parliament** is:

- A monthly gathering of nominated delegates from each Community Assembly.
- Where recorded votes and the reasons for those votes from Community Assemblies are communicated between delegates and directly to the Member for Murchison.
- Where delegates are given responsibilities to make decisions about if to seek advice from Advisory Panels or Technical Experts.
- Video recorded and published on an open platform for the benefit of the community.

## Why Direct Democracy?

Providing access to State Parliament through local means is like participation in local sports. We don't let the AFL or the Olympic Committee be the only organisations to let people play sport. We have local sporting clubs with different divisions, different clubs, and different codes to allow people to access local sport. Direct Democracy will support communities to access state politics – but right in their community in a meaningful way, just like local clubs provide access to a range of sports. In the past, representatives have

consulted the community, but ultimate decision making power remained with those representatives. **The community is ready for something new to give more power to the people.** Direct Democracy will put the ultimate decision making power in the hands of the people, where it belongs, empowering the community to decide. This will mean that the representative will need to respect the collective decisions of the people of Murchison.

## Other instances of Direct Democracy

A pure direct democracy would be a big change to the existing system, so Tasmanians could decide to transform to different practices smartly and slowly. Tasmania does already have the Referendum Procedures Act 2004 which guides the use of Referendums, but this is far too formal and scarcely used by Tasmanian Governments. There have only been 3

**Tasmanian referendums** since 1900, the last being in 1981. The Australian Federal Government has held 44 referendums and 4 plebiscites since 1900, with between 1(NT) and 16(NSW) referendums held in each other state. Other places, such as Switzerland, use direct democratic tools frequently in their decision making process, helping to empower community voices.

## What will you decide?

Examples of issues that would be debated & voted on at your local Community Assembly:

To enter your votes, go online to

[hutchisonmurchison.com](http://hutchisonmurchison.com) and follow the prompts.

*Please choose one option per issue*

**Yes**

**No**

A new \$375 million AFL stadium at Hobart's Macquarie Pt.		
Salmon farm expansion in Bass Strait		
Fin fish farming operations moved on to the land		
A new freight service between King Island & Victoria		
A treaty between Tasmania and Tasmania's First Nations peoples		
The building of more houses in towns and villages		
The building of more houses in rural areas		
A new tailings dam for the Rosebery Mine		
A ban on swastika symbols in relation to promoting hate		
Local Government Area boundary changes or council amalgamations		
The provision of more ambulances to be available for emergencies across Murchison		
Closing the current Ashley Youth Detention Centre		
A new northern prison in Deloraine		
An increase in wind farms in Northern Tasmania for energy generation		
An increase in wind farms in Western Tasmania for energy generation		
Tasmania continuing to sell electricity to Victoria		
The existing Cam River bridge should be left in place		
Alternate coastal access tracks along the Arthur Pieman Conservation Area		
Transgender women should be allowed access to Women's shelters and Women's prisons		
A Federally funded \$70b Tasmanian-Victorian under sea tunnel link		
A state funded research program into the feasibility of personal electric flying vehicles		

**Which issues would you raise with your local Community Assembly?**

**What expertise and ideas do you have to share?**

**Which existing issues should be discussed?**