To Whom it May Concern,

Feedback from **Inner North Melbourne Parents for Climate Action**
Contact: innernorthmelbparentsclimate@gmail.com

**About our group**

We are a group of approximately 270 parents, grandparents and carers who live in Melbourne’s inner northern suburbs and are committed to taking action to combat the climate emergency.

Our aims are
1. To build community connections around climate action in Inner North Melbourne
2. To encourage more parents and carers to learn about and advocate for action on climate change.
3. To provide resources for concerned parents and carers to help them parent and feel supported emotionally in the era of the climate emergency
4. To organise our own family friendly climate actions and support those of other groups
5. To speak out on behalf of frustrated parents and carers who don’t see or hear their political leaders representing their interests, and the interests of their families and communities on climate change.
6. To feed into Australian Parents for Climate Action (www.ap4ca.org) and support national actions

**Our feedback:**

- Recent surveys show that Australians are concerned about the impacts of climate change, and support strong government action to address it. For example, in the recent Lowy poll, 60% of respondents say Australia needs to address the threat of climate change even if that means incurring significant costs.

- In the face of the current federal government’s failure to act effectively to address the climate emergency, we look to you, a state that has shown climate leadership, to step up and lead at the level needed to effectively address the climate crisis.

- We support strong Victorian emissions reduction targets to ensure that we reach the target of zero net emissions by 2050. We urge you to go further than the interim targets recommended by the Combet panel and set an interim target of 67% by 2030 to ensure we keep global warming within 1.5 degrees over pre-industrial levels. This would be consistent with our commitment under the Climate Leadership Declaration.

- As the IPCC report demonstrates, 1.5 degrees still poses significant risks to human life and health, economies, dramatic climate changes and ecosystems and may still trigger dangerous tipping points.

- For many people in low lying and less affluent regions, the difference between 1.5 and 2 degrees may well be the difference between life and death.
Global warming is progressing faster than predicted, and its impacts are being felt every day. We have no time to waste.

For this reason we urge you to set clear targets based on 1.5 degrees to send a signal to industry about the direction of our economy and help deliver on your commitment to create 100,000 new climate and renewable energy jobs by 2030.

Further, we consider that a dedicated ministry is warranted to map a just transition away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy. This includes ensuring that there are no new coal, oil or gas projects approved, that there is a clear plan for decommissioning existing dirty coal stations with transition plans for existing workers, and that there is investment in infrastructure for large scale renewable energy projects. We also urge you to support emissions reduction in other key sectors, including supporting our farmers to transition their farming practices to reduce the high levels of emissions from agriculture, to move Victoria out of native forest logging and complete the transition to plantation-sourced wood products industries, to invest in public and active transport infrastructure, and increase action on industrial and domestic waste reduction.

We cannot continue with business as usual if we are to keep global warming within 1.5 degrees. As a strong government in its second term, with a clear mandate, you have the opportunity to bring all Victorians together to act on the climate emergency via strong emissions targets. The Andrews government has shown strong leadership and decisive action in relation to ending family violence; for the sake of all our children we urge you to do the same in relation to the climate emergency.