

NSW Slovenian Community Award 2013

The Hon. Tanya Pliberšek MP

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVER OF SLOVENIAN BACKGROUND IN AUSTRALIAN POLITICS



Tanya Pliberšek je bila rojena v družini slovenskih priseljencev Roze in Jožeta Pliberška, ki sta prispela v Australijo v zgodnjih petdesetih letih prejšnjega stoletja. Tanya je bila drugi otrok od treh v družini.

Obiskovala je Jannali Girls High School, kjer je postala vodja razreda (Dux), nadaljevala v "University of Technology, Sydney, in končala univerzo kot "Bachelor of Arts" in dodatno "Masters in Public Policy and Politics at Macquarie University". Pliberškova družina je imela zelo močne korenine v slovenski domovini in to povezanost so starši posredovali tudi otrokom.

Tanya je prvič obiskala Slovenijo, ko je bila stara štiri leta in ljubezen do prelepe dežele njenih staršev se je okrepila z vsakim ponovnim obiskom. Ljubezen do Slovenije in slovensko dediščino je Tanya posredovala svojim trem otrokom, Louisu, Anni in Josephu, ki so v stalni povezavi s starimi starši vzljubili vse, kar je slovenskega - glasbo, hrano in običaje. Otroci se poizkušajo naučiti tudi slovenskega jezika, kolikor jim razmere dopuščajo.



Tanya had shown very early a great aptitude for politics. After graduating, she worked for the Domestic Violence Unit at the Office for the Status and Advancement of Women in New South Wales, and later in the office of Senator Bruce Childs. She was elected the Member of Parliament for Sydney in 1998, and re-elected five times.

She was Shadow Minister for Work, Family and Community, Shadow Minister for Youth and Early Childhood Education and Shadow Minister Assisting the Leader on the Status of Women since October 2004.

This portfolio was retitled Shadow Minister for Child Care, Youth and Women in June 2005.

Following the Shadow Ministerial reshuffle in December 2006 (when Kevin Rudd assumed the leadership of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party, Tanya was promoted to be Shadow Minister for Human Services, Housing, Youth and Women. Tanya served in both the Rudd and Gillard Governments as Minister for Housing, Minister for Health, Minister for Human Services .

In 2013 she became the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Deputy Leader of the Labor Party while also serving as Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development.

While being so busy with her very demanding political career, Tanya is also a wife and a mother to three well-adjusted and well behaved children and also a loving daughter to her widowed mother.

Even with so many demands on her time and work commitments she always tries to do her best to find time to attend important functions in the Slovenian community, where she is always welcome with great love and appreciation.