

Media Release

Monday, 12 February 2007

New candidate for Penrith

Geoff Brown has announced his intention to nominate as an Independent Candidate for the State seat of Penrith.

Mr Brown decision to stand was decided because he considers the social and environmental policies of the Labor and Liberal Parties are failing many residents in Penrith and Western Sydney. He believes that there needs to be an independent voice in Parliament representing the people of Penrith.

Mr Brown has lived in Penrith since 1974, he has a partner, 2 boys and 2 step daughters, works as a Welfare Officer and Student Advocate representing 10000 students at the UWS Penrith Campus, led the ADI Site campaign for nearly a decade, organised many successful rallies and public meetings, kicked off and ran the Werrington Community Festival for three years. He has a keen interest in harness racing as a breeder and owner (has had a few good ones), plays guitar and enjoys seeing things grow in his garden.

“I am sure many people in Penrith and surrounding areas would support an Independent that is prepared to stand up to the major parties and have a real go.” Said, Geoff Brown.

“There are decisions being foisted on the people of Penrith by the NSW Government that are not in the public interest and they are happening because our local members are weak and simply toe the party line. The policies of the Liberals are no better than Labor and they don't seem to have come up with any practical solutions for Penrith.”

“I think there is way too much urban development planned for Penrith and this only benefits developers not locals. Peter Debnams comments today that we need to release even more land in Western Sydney should be a warning to voters of what we can expect if the Liberals get into government. It now appears we do not have much choice between Labor and Liberal on urban planning and environmental protection.”

“I have big concerns with the ADI development and plans to build houses and factories on the 230 ha of bushland along the Northern Rd. I'm sure most people would rather views of the roos and not a sea of roofs. The contract between the State and Lend Lease should be amended to extract more of their massive profits to be spent on local infrastructure such as the lights at Sherringham Rd Cranebrook.”

The WELL Precinct at Werrington and Kingswood is another development that appears dodgy and will affect locals and the environment. The Nth Penrith Army land should be used for jobs not housing or a park. The Penrith Lakes housing development will really put the squeeze on Cranebrook residents and local roads; Castlereagh Rd into Penrith is already a nightmare so there needs to be some thought about major roadworks into Penrith soon.

“The water policy of both parties is pathetic. We should be using recycled water for drinking because we have the technology to do it. The Penrith Lakes Scheme has the potential to be a massive reservoir that can be used for all sorts of purposes not just sailing boats on. There is already a reverse osmosis plant being built at St Marys, the technology you need to turn effluent into drinking water, that will not produce one cup of drinking water, why is this so? Why isn't this plant being built with enough capacity to produce water for drinking purposes? For what Kurnell is costing we can roll out several plants like that being built at St Marys.”

“There needs to be more done to make Penrith a safe place. Cranebrook needs a greater police presence and the vacant building on the corner of Laycock and Hosking St which is owned by Penrith Council would be a perfect location for a Police Station. With all the urban growth planned for the north of Penrith we need to act now and not play catch up on such important matters.”

“If people would like to contact me about any matters or help out on Election Day then they can contact me by logging onto www.savecranebrook.com/election2007.htm they can also attend a meeting focussed on election issues at the Nth St Mary Neighbourhood Centre, Debrincat Rd St Marys at 7.45 pm Thursday the 22nd February.”

Further comment

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