September 9, 2014

CLP CIRCUS ROLLS ON TO CASUARINA

Opposition Leader Delia Lawrie today said the return of Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu to the CLP clears the way for Chief Minister Adam Giles to announce the date of the Casuarina by-election.

Ms Lawrie said that the CLP now has the numbers to continue to govern even if disgraced Fong Lim MLA Dave Tollner follows through on his threat to walk away from the "nest of vipers".

"With Dave Tollner still in hiding and huge doubts over his future with the CLP, the Government were delaying the Casuarina by-election but now the opportunity exists for Adam Giles to announce the poll date," Ms Lawrie said.

"The people of Casuarina should be represented in the October sittings of Parliament and there is nothing preventing the CLP Government from calling a by-election date for either October 11 or 18.

"Kon Vatskalis did the right thing by giving Government plenty of notice of his September 18 resignation date now the CLP need to announce the poll date."

Ms Lawrie said the by-election would give residents the chance to have their say on the spiralling cost of living under the CLP and crippling cuts to education and health.

"The CLP has broken its election commitments and torn up its contract with Territorians.

"They continue to be a dysfunctional government out of touch with the issues affecting our everyday lives.

"Families are struggling to make ends meet with crippling power and water bills causing enormous family and small business financial stress.

"I challenge the CLP to spend time in our classrooms and see the unreasonable demands on teachers now that they've increased class sizes and stripped away crucial support resources.

"Will anyone from the Government spend a night in our RDH emergency department which is in crisis due to bed block and has our wonderful doctors and nurses working under intolerable conditions trying to care for Territorians?"

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