

NewsFlash September 2017



The Northern Action Group Incorporated

Vote right to get your right to vote...

Dear NAG Member/Supporter,

This week at the Wellsford community centre 'meet the candidates' meeting hosted by Federated Farmers, Winston Peters (New Zealand First party) announced to the meeting in his introductory statement that if he formed part of the next Government he would ensure that our Community of North Rodney would be given a referendum on whether or not we are allowed to separate from Auckland Council.

None of the other 3 parties present, National, Labour or Greens, would commit to such a referendum and the National Candidate went further to say that his party and he, would ensure that we stay as part of Auckland because 'that's just the way it is'!!!.

During question time I pressed Mr. Peters as to the nature of the referendum and he assured us that it would be run as:

Independent of any prescribed process, so it cannot be corrupted by vested interests.

Localised so only the voters of North Rodney would be able to take part to avoid us being out voted by other parts of Auckland

Binding – what's the point otherwise!!

However, as often the case with Winston, there is a rider in that he will be examining the poll results booth by booth and if we don't support him in achieving a position of strength to be able to make the referendum happen we cannot blame him if he cannot do it.

I believe that is a fair rider so now it is up to us to make sure he gets the support he needs to carry out the plan.

NAG have always held itself as 'apolitical' (non- aligned politically) and will continue to do so, however with all the other parties rejecting our pleas for help we have no choice on this occasion but to urge support for the one party that is committed to helping this community.

Whether you love him or hate him Winston is the only political help we are likely to get and with the Local government Commission also showing no signs of giving us a fair hearing, this election might be the last chance of getting a democratic outcome for our local governance – something denied us when we were forced into the not-so-super-city.

Accordingly we urge you to think very carefully on what you want your vote to achieve this election and whether you want to cast your vote for more of the same, or for a democratic outcome for our local governance.

Please pass this thought along to your various circles of contacts.

Yours sincerely

Bill Townson

Chair - Northern Action Group Inc.

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