

Grassroot groups to fight poll

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AARON MacDONALD

January 21, 2010 12:01am

<http://www.news.com.au/adelaidenow/story/0,22606,26613533-5006301,00.html>

A GRASSROOTS coalition of community groups will field more than 15 candidates for the state election in March.

The Community Voice Coalition will work together to fight for parliamentary seats to better represent their causes, which it says have been ignored by the State Government.

The coalition - comprising such groups as Save St Clair Reserve Ratepayers Association, Save the RAH, Save Glenside, Dignity for the Disabled, Community Health and Open Spaces - will pool resources and share preferences in an attempt to install as many of its candidates as possible into both houses.

Save the RAH spokesman David McGowan said the group was tired of being ignored by the Government and marginalised by its spin doctors.

"We all share a particular view of what is happening in state politics right now," Mr McGowan said.

"We are sinking in a sea of spin. The politicians say that they are the ones making the hard decisions, but the fact is they don't. We are willing to put our money where our mouth is and say to the community, 'this is the problem!'"

Save St Clair Reserve spokeswoman Kirsten Alexander said the western suburbs land swap demonstrated the Government was not listening to the community. "So the mums and dads of Charles Sturt are getting together with groups from across Adelaide and South Australia to send a clear message to the Government," she said.

Independent MP David Winderlich is working with the coalition.

"The huge barrier for smaller parties and independents is the disparity in resources," he said. "Pooling resources is the way forward."



UNITED WE STAND: Darian Hiles with coalition representatives David McGowan, Kirsten Alexander and Rick Neagle. Picture: ANDREA LAUBE

Have your say

Comments

Another group trying to stop SA moving forward!!

Posted by: Cathryn of Mile End 10:16am today
Comment 25 of 25

The political history of this country is littered with corpse of single issue partys.Groups that fight elections on the issue of not getting their way are doomed.There is only so much publicity available & Mr X seems to grab that with his grandstanding.If you want to gey elected then get policeys that appeal to everyone not just a event that upsets you & most peoplr thing is a goog idea

Posted by: jim of penfield 10:05am today
Comment 24 of 25

The most important question, Tony, is how are YOU going to organise preferences. You can preference who you like at elections. Don't leave it up to politicians.

Posted by: Maxwell Warren of Windsor Gardens 9:50am today
Comment 23 of 25

Another pack of one issue whingers. Get over it.

Posted by: Dave of Adelaide 9:49am today
Comment 22 of 25

What's the deal with this group opposing the cheltnam development. I did some work at the actil site recently and realised it backed onto the racecourse. Why wouldn't you develop it. The actil site is starting to take shape and is fairly huge improvement when compared to the surrounding area.

Posted by: Rob of Adelaide 9:47am today
Comment 21 of 25

Go for it !!!! This is what a true representative democracy is about. Not this two party corrupted and withered thing we have now.

Posted by: Luke Davis of 9:45am today
Comment 20 of 25

If you haven't got a candidate in my electorate, I'm happy to run. Couldn't do any worse than the incumbent.

Posted by: Tony of Poorakistan 9:31am today
Comment 19 of 25

The coalition of the disgruntled. What is the bet they win a legislative council seat and we put up with yet another nutter for 8 years.

Posted by: Jern of North Adelaide 9:28am today
Comment 18 of 25

Fantastic, about bloody time some one listened to the publics concerns about what's been happening in SA.

Posted by: Erin of Whyalla 9:25am today
Comment 17 of 25

Well done to them. But where might I ask is all the media TV coverage on this story? Surely the media would recognise that this is one of the most important political stories ever in South Australia since the 1900's. Does media Mike and his ex jouno ministers really control the media in this state?

Posted by: Ingrid of Tanunda 9:20am today
Comment 16 of 25

Excuse me while I have a big laugh...

Posted by: BJ of Adelaide 8:33am today
Comment 15 of 25

I'm slowly tending to agree with actions such as this. The government - both state and federal - just do what they want - and bugger the people. I know, before you all get on your high horses and say we elected the government to make those decisions for us in our best interests, but sometimes, I really think that governments lose contact with the real world. When was the last time KRudd went shopping to buy

vegetables? or nip down to Woolies. Does KRudd know the price of an avocado in a supermarket (\$2.98 EACH last time I looked). We may trust governments to make decisions for us, but we need to kick 'em every now and then to keep them in line. An ideal example of this is the Broadband Filter. From what I gather, a great majority of voters (the people) are against it, but they are still going to implement it anyway. To me, this shows that they are not listening are are simply intent on doing what they want. We need a huge revamp of the way we are governed. Politicians need to be made accountable, just like the CEO of a company. We are paying them to get results, if we dont get the results we want, out they go.

Posted by: Mark Thall of Adelaide 8:29am today
Comment 14 of 25

Don't waste your vote on rag-tag independents ! The purpose of the general election is to elect a Government that can run the state for the next 4 years. There are only two choices - Labor or Liberal. So stop whinging about minor issues and focus on the main game. Choose which of these two parties you want to run Government, and vote for that party in both Houses so they can get on with the job of running the State without riff-raff independents getting in the way.

Posted by: Lang.White of Rose Park SA 8:26am today
Comment 13 of 25

Totally right "tony of exeter", the whole election will be won on preferences, as usual, these community groups will gain support from voters of both sides of politics but they historically place their preferences with labour so the primary vote is wasted and labour pick up the valuable preference, the answer is "don't" follow the how to vote card, place your vote for the community candidate and then mark the organisation of "your choice" down the list and avoid the main parties if you are annoyed with them but "don't" follow the how to vote card.

Posted by: Grahame Jones of Elizabeth Grove 8:17am today
Comment 12 of 25

The most important question is where are they directing their preferences?

Posted by: Tony of Exeter 7:11am today
Comment 11 of 25

Seems to me like it's the way to go for these groups to form a coalition as it's a good idea to put their resources together. There are a lot of unhappy people out in the community who don't know which way to vote in our undemocratic 2 party system. Stay in there to all involved.

Posted by: HG of Gawler 7:03am today
Comment 10 of 25

Thought I would have seen something from the Train spotter from Croydon by now. So he does in fact sleep after all.

Posted by: Ray Hill of Old Cheltenham 6:54am today
Comment 9 of 25

To Sanity, I know some of these people and there are some regular mainstream church goers (as there are in all parliaments now) but none are run by or motivated by there beliefs. The St.Clair people are a true grassroots group who came together organically due to the fact of being shafted by CS Council which makes

the claims made by some MPs and councilors of rent a crowd ridiculous. Its a case of you want something done-do it yourself. Even if they don't win seats they will shake a few of them up-which is good for everybody.

Posted by: Ray Hill of Old Cheltenham 6:52am today
Comment 8 of 25

The NIMBY Party anyone? Guess it has a certain appeal from time to time.

Posted by: observa of Adelaide 12:53am today
Comment 7 of 25

The answer, in my opinion, is Citizens' Initiated Referendums.

Posted by: Ronald Evans of Norwood 12:27am today
Comment 6 of 25

The 2 Party systems needs a swift kick, good on the coalition, the electorate across the country need an honest voice, in particular one that answers only to the people

Posted by: Mark M Aldridge INDEPENDENT of Penfield Gardens 12:10am today
Comment 5 of 25

The two party system leaves the public with very limited points of view. This Coalition of Community Groups is a great idea finally "the people will be represented by the people." These members are genuinely prepared to listen to the community and represent them in parliament.. It can be done just look at what Nick Xenophon has helped achieve for South Australia. Good Luck to them all. PS - I must have missed all of the Television News coverage on this story. Well done Adelaide Now for breaking it first.

Posted by: THUÂN of Pennington 11:41pm January 20, 2010
Comment 4 of 25

Great idea but we4 have so many sheep disguised as voters who only know liberal or labor. Unfortunately they can't see the forest for the trees.

Posted by: Arejay of Para Vista 10:29pm January 20, 2010
Comment 3 of 25

As long as these groups do not have a religious focus and represent EVERY aspect of the community-this includes the teenagers as well (and then we wonder why they complain about being bored) I see no problem with it. Reason why I don't want religion? Because every time religion gets involved, the community ends up caving in, which does not represent Australia as a multicultural society (there's no laws based on Islam or sharia law, there are no laws based on jewish or hindu beliefs, it only seems to be Christianity)

Posted by: Sanity of 10:17pm January 20, 2010
Comment 2 of 25

Everything's fine.

Posted by: Alberto of Adelaide 10:12pm January 20, 2010
Comment 1 of 25