



ABALINX ENEWSLETTER 8

ABALINX ENEWS LETTERS ARE IN RESPONSE TO THE IAN QUICK EMAILS TO MEMBERS FOR HIS ALTERNATIVE VIEWS



INTRODUCING "EL PRESIDENTO"

Slower than artificial intelligence, able to leap two reams of paper, known mix sychophants, Fumblers, Whisperers, Rainbow Warriors and members of the Janus Group. Considered tame when political life supporters systems turned off. Deadly with glasses on but only at short distances. Approach with extreme caution.

THOSE OPPOSED TO EARLY PRE-SELECTIONS

THOSE FOR EARLY PRE-SELECTIONS

THE PRIME MINISTER SCOTT MORRISON

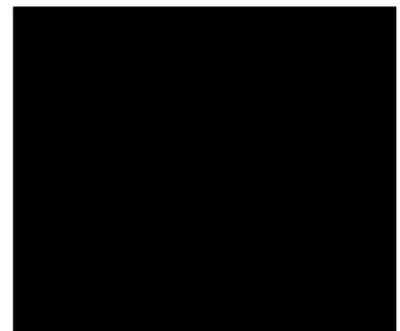
PRESIDENT ROBERT CLARK

VICTORIAN FEDERAL & STATE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE GANG OF 10

THE RANK AND FILE LIBERAL PARTY VICTORIAN DIVISION

WHISPERERS - FUMBLERS - SYCHOPHANTS - RAINBOW WARRIORS - "GENERALS" - WANNABES - JANUS



GRASS ROOTS RESPONSE TO ROBERT CLARKS EMAIL

RESPONSE 1. Robert Clark in his email is trying to buy time. Even Robert can see that the requisitions for the special state council meeting will not go away. The requisitions will keep on rolling in; more quickly & with even more signatures. The rank and file volunteer membership have had enough of being treated with sustain by Robert and his supporters on the administrative committee.

Meanwhile, the Victorian Division is complete paralysed. Having been moribund for over one year, the Division finds now itself unable to function at all due to the state president's and his supporters on the administrative committee's unreasonable & unconstitutional intransigence. In the meantime, when are Robert Clark and his supporters on the administrative committee going to do something constructive about winning a federal election and a state election in 2022? (See Below for Robert Clarks email to members.)

RESPONSE 2. There are various claims and counterclaims regarding the pre-selections for the Victorian Division of the Liberal Party of seats held by sitting members. The Parliamentary Library has produced this fact sheet about the likelihood of Victoria being allocated an additional seat at the expense of Western Australia:

https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/pubs/rp/rp1920/Redistributions46thParl

I am assuming that the Administrative Committee is aware of this information because it would be inconceivable that they would be ignorant of such facts. The AEC and ABS will let us all know on 3 July 2020 or shortly thereafter if Victoria will indeed get another seat in the Federal Parliament triggering a complete redistribution and delaying the setting of final boundaries until mid-2021. This would require all pre-selections to be (re)conducted on the new boundaries (as it would be undemocratic to not allow a full membership plebiscite on the correct boundaries).

This would not matter except for the allegedly high number of members who would all of a sudden become entitled to vote if contested pre-selections were opened and held later. These are the people who joined from mid-2018 to support the Liberal Party after Scott Morrison became leader and before the Liberals comprehensively lost the 2018 State election. Due to secrecy about membership numbers, I can't tell you how many are in the Menzies electorate which is one electorate where the media believe a strong challenge is likely. It would also mean that people whose memberships are not renewed this year would cease to be members on 1 June 2020. It would eliminate a number of members cajoled by "exuberant recruiting" in an attempt to shore up the Turnbull group in the Liberal Party at the 2019 State Council. (See Below for Robert Clarks email to members.)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARGARET KIRBY

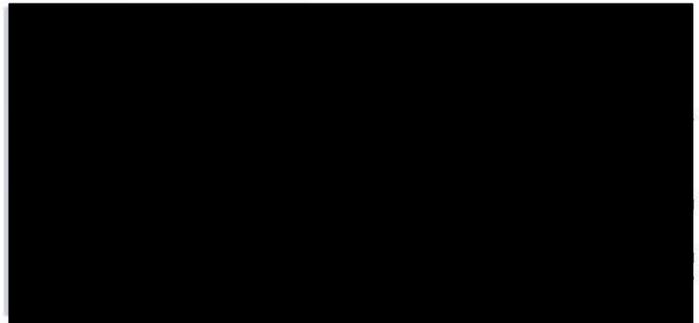


NAME AND FAME PEOPLE OF INTEREST



Sali Miftari is believed to be an Australian of Albanian background. A young man who has gone astray seduced by the General and the whisperer to do their bidding.

A prolific social media commentator whose abilities are best put to use in the West employed by the Werribee Vegetable Garden farms.



GRASS ROOTS OPEN LETTER

The time seems opportune for an effort to secure unity of action and organisation among those "faction" which stand for a liberal, progressive and "conservative" policy. "As Liberals we" are opposed to socialism with its bureaucratic administration and restrictions of freedom.

To resist effectively those aspects of "Robert Clark and his administration" to which we the grass roots" are opposed to, "we must come to an agreement that inter factional rivalry and battles of influence" are not in the interest of the Victorian Division of the Liberal Party". "We need to regain" public support, "confidence in our abilities to form a coalition" to match Labor's organisation "with a broad church of our own who Liberal likeminded grass roots members.

The Liberal Party "Broad Church" is a conglomeration of traditionalists, Progressives, Nationalists, Conservatives, Farmers, Small Business, Womens Associations, Professionals, Employers, University Students, Veterans, Academics and the Mums and Dads. However despite the traditional Broad Church of Liberals, who appear to be forever in battle; the emerging new generation of young Liberals seek unity and shy away from factionalism. They are fed up with those seeking to remain in power for powers sake.

The new generation silently waiting in in the wings seek to" participate in a full and frank discussion, entirely free to make "their" own decision and not bound by the "minority" of those currently in power in the Victorian Division". The current administration under Robert Clark through their draconian policies have alienated members; while their political methodologies and archaic strategies are seen as repugnant and alien.

"I am of the belief that the majority of grass roots members believe that they have endured far too much and have been neglected and their points of view and input disregarded or not acknowledged". "Therefore it is" most desirable that those of us who share the same broad political beliefs should first see if a basis can be found for unity. A successful outcome of such discussion might quickly and completely alter the current "of the Victorian Division politics". Robert Clark and his administration must resign to ensure the integrity and credibility of the Liberal Party in Victoria remains intact.

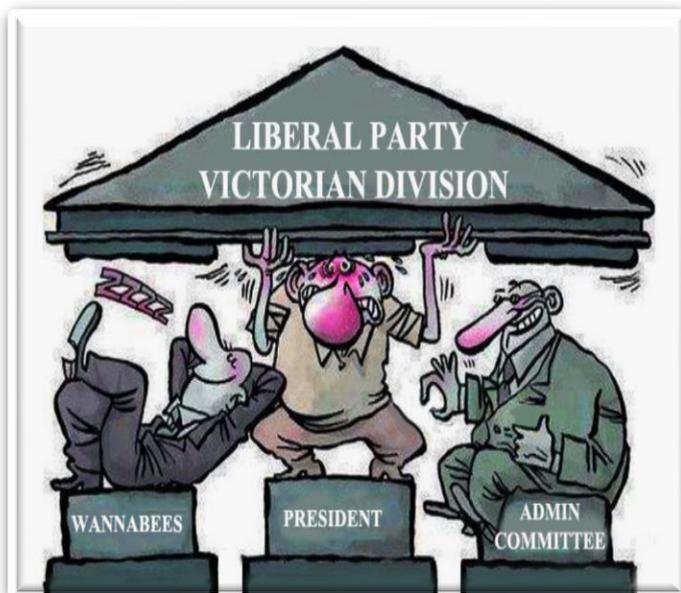


MEMBERS CONTRIBUTIONS:

To ensure transparency and fair play, we seek member's contributions. By using the Abalinx ENewsletter charter as a guide, keep comments short and simple without provocation, malicious language or anything of a defamatory nature and they shall be published. Your views are important. Please address them to Abalinx ENewsletter at: abalinx@gmail.com This is your chance to express your views. Contributor's names will not be published if requested. All Abalinx ENewsletters may be found at abalinx.com The following are but a few selected for publishing:

1. **Sent to Liberal Parliamentarians by Contributor:** I agree that candidates should not be preselected early, that would be a mistake. The idea that a candidate should be on the ground, early is wrong. It only attracts the wrong type of candidate, a candidate who needs a "safe seat" to survive. The Liberal party already has parliamentarians of mediocrity, and all of them to be general, have no idea of how to win an election, and use a failed methodology. You would think that in the State of Victoria after so many losses that someone who knew how to win an election would be appointed as an election adviser and reform the existing political methodology that is a proven failure. It would be a good idea, even if not practicable for all the current members to face preselection, so that a better quality candidate might apply... Please name one parliamentarian who was successful in private industry.
2. Why is the State Director Sam McQuestin at the Secretariat phoning around signatories to first requisition for special State Council asking if they were coerced into signing? And so the stalling continues. The Victorian Division is paralysed. If the Division was a government instrumentality (which it is not) it would be put into administration. External administrators would have been appointed by now. Meanwhile, nothing that will turn a vote for federal & state elections 2022 is happening. The Victorian Division is moribund. ([See Below for Robert Clark's email to members.](#))
3. This is the truth the party needs to hear. I applaud your work, well done. Thank you for your Newsletters. They are a breath of fresh air to many of us who remain silent. Describing what occurs behind the scenes is utterly disgusting and does not belong to decent people.
4. Robert Clark and his supporters such as Quick, Armistead, Hutchinson, Guest and their group of supporters should resign immediately for the good of the party.
5. The attacks on Peter Adamis and Abalinx E News are disgraceful. People should take a hard look at themselves. Last time I checked the Liberal Party was the Party for free speech. If those individuals criticising Abalinx for exposing home truths do not like it, then they would be better suited in a party which respects censorship - perhaps the Australian Communist Party! We are lucky diggers like the author of this newsletter fought for our right to freedom of speech and expression. Long may these rights remain in Australia and in the Liberal Party! Power to Abalinx and E News!
6. When I joined the Liberal Party we fought the Labor Party, the Democrats, and the Unions. We were united and any disagreements were hammered out behind closed doors. The antics of Ian Quick and his emails has resulted in your E-Newsletters being published. I am not surprised at the back lash against Ian Quick. In my day he would have been suspended.
7. We are in desperate need of a leader that will unite the Victorian Division, not destroy it as we are currently seeing the administration of Clark and his crowd of misfits. I am disappointed in Robert Clark, I always believed him to be a decent man and now find he is responsible for mayhem in Victoria. He must do the right thing and resign.
8. How can Robert Clark and the Gang of Ten direct a special state council motion? The motion only permits Administrative Committee to set the date of the meeting, not make a ruling on the validity of the motion. What a disgrace. **FEDERAL INTERVENTION NOW!**
9. The circular calling for applications for endorsement for the twelve Victorian Liberal held federal seats is out. What a farce! Issued to give the pretence of business as usual (It's all under control, we're in control, nothing to see here) the twelve pre-selections can only founder. They will be withdrawn as a result of the pending special state council meeting, and would have been made redundant as a result of the pending federal redistribution anyway. Hopeless!
10. Well done to you Peter and whoever is helping you write your newsletters. I may not agree with all that you and your contributors have written, but I do congratulate you on exposing those intent on making changes to our organisation of volunteers. Robert Clark has forgotten that as employers we cannot afford to release our employees for long campaigns. The public will tire of being subjected to long campaigns.

DISCLAIMER: It is important to note that while Abalinx ENewsletters provides all members with the opportunity to contribute, Abalinx takes no responsibility for what is reported or contributed by any person. The Abalinx ENewsletter is a combination of facts, satire, social media and politics based on contributions by members. Please also read the Abalinx Code of Conduct Charter. Abalinx in the interest of fair reporting will allow any person to respond to any allegation made against them. Despite alternative points of view, all members are encouraged to read the Abalinx about Policies (AAP), which remain relevant. A record of Abalinx ENewsletters are archived under the menu ENews and Archives at abalinx.com In addition, members interested in receiving the ENewsletter may subscribe via email address: abalinx@gmail.com



**FROM: HON
ROBERT
CLARK**

**STATE PRESIDENT LIBERAL
PARTY OF AUSTRALIA
(VICTORIAN DIVISION)**

Dear Members,

I'm writing further to my email of late last year, to update you about requisitions the Party has received seeking to hold a special meeting of State Council within the next few weeks.

Summary

In brief, the requisition I informed you about in my previous email was referred to the Party's Constitutional Committee for advice, and the Constitutional Committee has advised that both the original and the amended versions of the motion proposed by the requisitionists are unconstitutional and therefore the requisition is invalid. However, the organiser of the requisition has now lodged a second requisition seeking to overturn the Constitutional Committee's advice and, if successful, to again prevent any Federal pre-selections being started prior to 1st September and to terminate all pre-selections already underway.

This second requisition has also been referred to the Constitutional Committee for advice, including on the constitutional validity of each of the various motions it proposes. Once that advice is received, the Administrative Committee will make any necessary arrangements for the holding of a special meeting of State Council. I have asked the State Director to make inquiries and provisional arrangements regarding potential dates and venues. This further attempt to delay the Party's pre-selections, if successful, will have significant consequences for the pre-selection of candidates for key target seats we want to win at the next election, as well as for traditional Labor seats that we need to seek to win over time.

Invalidity of first requisition. The Constitutional Committee has provided detailed written advice on the first requisition. That advice is that the requisition is void and of no effect, meaning that it has not validly requisitioned a special meeting and no such meeting should be held as a result. The Constitutional Committee have advised that the Party's constitution does not give power to State Council to direct the Administrative Committee about the timing of the holding of pre-selections, as the requisition sought to do. The Committee points out that the constitution expressly makes a number of the powers of the Administrative Committee subject to direction of State Council, but does not do so for other powers, including the power to determine the timing of the holding of pre-selections.

Flexibility needed. The timing of pre-selections is often a crucial decision with important electoral implications, on which the Administrative Committee needs to have as much flexibility as possible, and the capacity to exercise judgment, sometimes at short notice. It therefore makes sense that the drafters of the constitution would not have intended to allow crucial decisions on pre-selections to be tied up by a resolution of State Council, potentially months in advance and without full knowledge of the facts and considerations involved, save by full and careful consideration of an amendment to the Party's constitution.

Advice available on Party's web site. Given the importance of the Constitutional Committee's advice, the Administrative Committee considers that all Party members should be able to read the full terms of the Committee's conclusion and their reasons. Accordingly, a copy of the Constitutional Committee's advice is being made available on the member resources page of the Party's web site. This advice includes a full copy of the requisition as lodged, save for the redaction of the membership numbers, phone numbers, email addresses and signatures of the requisitionists. (Note that, following the lodgement of this first requisition, some requisitionists have contacted the State Director asking to withdraw their support for the requisition.)

A second requisition. On Friday last week a second requisition document was emailed to the State Director, and a signed original was lodged with the State Director yesterday. This requisition proposes four lengthy motions, which I am setting out in full at the end of this email. As you will see, the first motion seeks to re-state part of the existing wording of the constitution on the role the Administrative Committee, about which the Constitutional Committee has already advised. The practical effect, if any, of this motion is unclear. The second motion seeks to declare that the Party's constitution means something the Constitutional Committee has concluded it does not mean, namely that State Council can overrule the Administrative Committee about the timing and other arrangements for pre-selections.

The third motion seeks to direct the Administrative Committee not to start any pre-selections prior to 1st September this year, whether for Liberal held seats or for other seats, and to scrap existing pre-selection processes. This would include allowing sitting MPs to be challenged after 1st September even if they have not been challenged when preselection applications close as scheduled on 29th January. The fourth motion seeks to amend the constitution, for pre-selections for the next Federal election only, to set aside all current preselection processes and to prohibit any pre-selections being started before 1st September 2020.

Overriding the constitution. The Party's constitution includes (at clause 27.2) a mechanism to enable unclear issues about the meaning or effect of the constitution to be resolved. This is a mechanism that needs to be used properly and responsibly to seek to arrive at the correct legal interpretation of the constitution, in other words, at the interpretation a court would reach if the issue were taken to court. The mechanism should not be used simply to interpret the constitution to mean whatever best suits those doing the interpreting. For many years, the Constitutional Committee has operated as the accepted authority for advice on the meaning and effect of the Party's constitution, providing its advice on what it considers to be the best legal interpretation.

The Constitutional Committee currently consists of 10 well qualified members, chaired by respected QC, Daryl Williams. In my view, the attempt by the requisitionists in their second motion to overturn without constitutional justification the clear legal advice provided by the Constitutional Committee, and instead to impose their own interpretation of the Party's constitution, is very dangerous for the future proper running of our Party. If successful, it creates a precedent for a simple majority vote either at State Council or on the Administrative Committee to declare that the Party's constitution means whatever that majority wants it mean, by-passing the normal requirement for a two-thirds vote of State Council to amend our constitution.

Timing of pre-selections. The second issue raised by the requisition is that of the timing of pre-selections. This issue is one on which there are a range of considerations and views, and it is ultimately a matter of judgment. The Administrative Committee resolved last October that pre-selections for Liberal held seats would commence early this year, in order to open the way for pre-selections for selected target and other seats to be held during the course of 2020. I set out in my previous email the Administrative Committee's reasons for starting pre-selections earlier than has been done for recent elections. The key reason is to have candidates in the field earlier for the crucial seats we need to win, so we can win more seats. The requisitionists want to delay the commencement of pre-selections for a period of 7 ½ months, from 15th January until 1st September. However, it is hard to see the logic in a delay of this period in itself, which may mean that additional delays are also being envisaged for the future if these initial delays are implemented.

Federal re-distribution. One concern that has been raised about timing is the likelihood of a Federal redistribution, and thus the possible need to re-assign pre-selected candidates once the new boundaries are known. This likely redistribution does indeed create significant difficulties for all political parties. However, any new boundaries are unlikely to be known until well into 2021, meaning the proposed 7½ month delay will make no difference to this. We either have to postpone pre-selections until after the new boundaries are known, and risk running out of time for a full pre-selection process and not having candidates in seats for long enough time to win them (as happened before the last election), or else we have to start pre-selections prior to knowing the new boundaries, and make any adjustments afterwards.

Vetting. Another concern that has been raised is the need to have proper vetting of candidates. Better vetting of candidates is of vital importance, as the last election showed. However, the Administrative Committee has already addressed this issue, adopting a new candidate vetting mechanism for Victoria based on the well-regarded NSW model, including expert and detailed candidate background checking.

"Quality candidates". Concern has also been raised that quality candidates will be deterred by early pre-selections, particularly those who have jobs that they wouldn't be able to keep once they became a candidate. However, to avoid this possibility by delaying all pre-selections would require pre-selections to be delayed until very close to the next election. This would mean that for every "quality candidate" the Party might succeed in attracting by such a delay, there would likely be multiple seats we would fail to win because our candidates in those seats weren't given enough time to campaign. It is far better to follow the approach the Administrative Committee has adopted, namely to decide on pre-selection timing for target seats on a case by case basis, so that in the relatively rare case where there is a known high calibre potential candidate for a specific target seat who is not currently able to nominate, this can be taken into account in setting the pre-selection dates for that seat, but without requiring the delay of pre-selections for all other seats.

Parliamentary majority. It has also been claimed that early pre-selections will put the Parliamentary majority of the Morrison government at risk. However, this assumes that, if any of our MPs are challenged and are not pre-selected, they would cease to support the government. No evidence has been provided to support this grave insinuation against our MPs.

No sufficient reason for change. For all of these reasons, while there will always be a range of views and competing considerations regarding the best timing for any pre-selections, in the view of the Administrative Committee, there is no sufficient reason to throw away the many advantages of the pre-selection arrangements that were resolved upon by the Administrative Committee in October last year and notified to Party members at that time.

Applications for Liberal-held seats open tomorrow. A reminder that, as resolved by the Administrative Committee, applications for endorsement for all Liberal-held House of Representatives electorates will open tomorrow, Wednesday, 15th January, and close at 5pm on Wednesday, 29th January.

Regards,

Hon Robert Clark
State President
Liberal Party of Australia (Victorian Division)

SECOND REQUISITION'S MOTIONS FOR SPECIAL MEETING OF STATE COUNCIL

Motion 1. This State Council affirms that, pursuant to clauses 11.4 and 13.4 of the Constitution:

- a. State Council is the governing body of the party; and
- b. The Administrative Committee conducts the business and affairs of the party subject to the direction of State Council

Motion 2. Pursuant to clause 27.2 of the Constitution, this State Council:

- a. rejects and does not ratify the determination of the Administrative Committee that the powers to determine pre-selection timings (under clauses 21.3 and 21.3A of the Constitution) are exclusive to the Administrative Committee, and that the Administrative Committee does not exercise those powers under the direction or oversight of State Council;
- b. directs that the meaning and effect of clause 11.4 of the Constitution is that State Council, as the governing body of the Party, has the inherent power to override or countermand decisions of inferior bodies such as the Administrative Committee;
- c. further directs that the meaning and effect of clause 13.4 of the Constitution is that all decisions of the Administrative Committee are ultimately subject to the direction of State Council made by way of an organisational motion; and
- d. with particular regard to pre-selections, directs that the meaning and effect of clause 21.1(a) of the Constitution is that anything done by the Administrative Committee pursuant to its powers under clause 21 of the Constitution to ensure that "all necessary action is taken for the preselection of candidates" is subject to any direction by State Council. This includes, for instance, aspects such as the date of opening and closing of nominations, nomination fees, dates of conventions, and all other issues associated with the proper conduct of pre-selections in accordance with the Constitution.

Motion 3. If this State Council endorses the interpretation of the Constitution set out in Motion 2, this State Council further resolves, and directs the Administrative Committee, as follows:

- a. in compliance with clause 21.3A of the Constitution, that nominations for preselection for the next Federal Election are to open no earlier than 1 September 2020;
- b. to the extent that any preselection processes have already commenced and/or been closed or concluded as at the date of this meeting of State Council, those pre-selections are to be set aside, with nominations opened afresh, no earlier than 1 September 2020;
- c. in Liberal-held seats requiring a convention after 1 September 2020, the State Director is to propose a timeline that ensures completion of the preselection and endorsement process by 18 November 2020, in compliance with clause 21.3A of the Constitution; and
- d. to provide for the unlikely event of an early election, if the Federal Director of the Liberal Party advises the Administrative Committee that a Federal Election is likely before 1 July 2021, the Administrative Committee may amend the schedule for pre-selections as it considers reasonably necessary.

Motion 4. This State Council resolves that the Constitution be amended to insert the following provision:

30.6. 2020-2022 Pre-selections – Special Provision

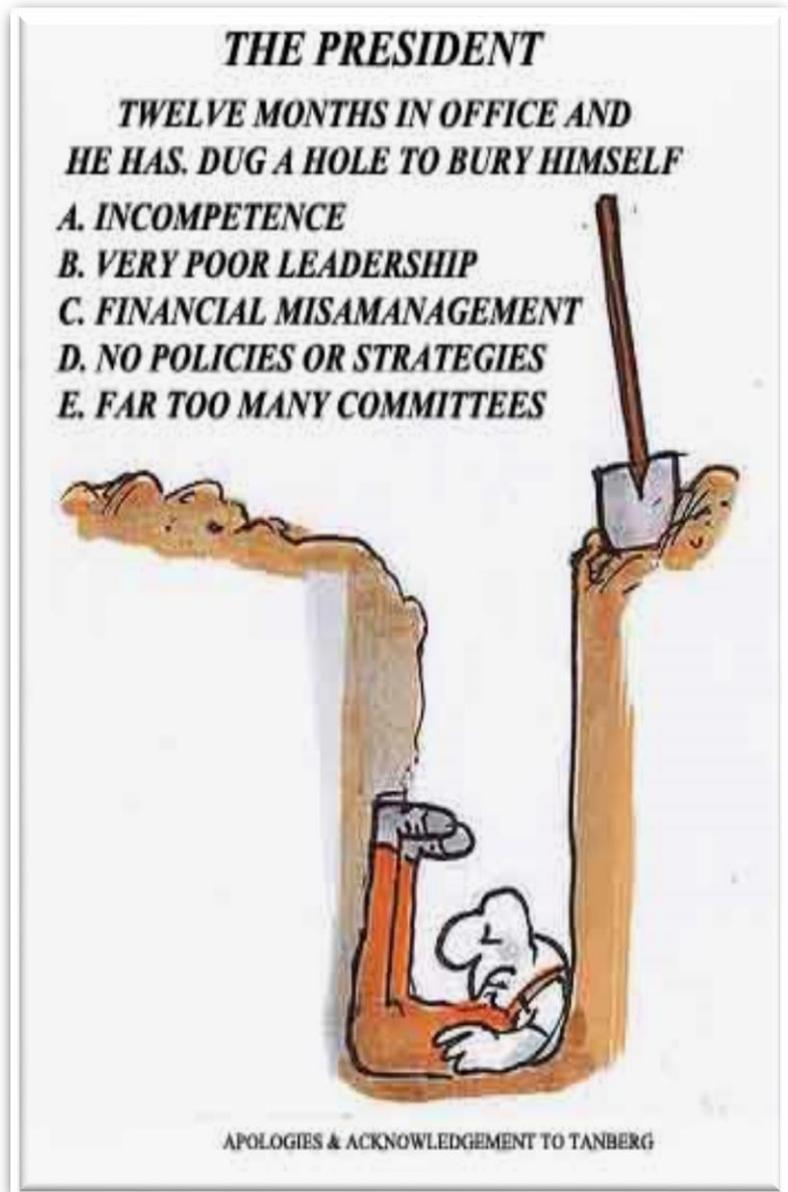
- a. Subject to this clause 30.6, nominations for preselection of candidates for the Federal Election to elect the 47th Parliament of Australia are to open no earlier than 1 September 2020.
- b. To the extent that any preselection processes have already commenced and/or been closed or concluded as at the date of this meeting of State Council, those pre-selections are to be set aside, with nominations opened afresh, no earlier than 1 September 2020;
- c. In Liberal-held seats requiring a convention after 1 September 2020, the State Director is to propose a timeline that ensures completion of the preselection and endorsement process by 18 November 2020, in compliance with clause 21.3A.
If the Federal Director of the Liberal Party advises the Administrative Committee that a Federal Election to elect the 47th Parliament of Australia is likely before 1 July 2021, the Administrative Committee may amend the schedule for pre-selections provided for in this clause 30.6 as it considers reasonably necessary.

CONCLUSION: ROBERT CLARK AND HIS ADMINISTRATIVE GANG OF TEN HAVE LOST THE CONFIDENCE OF THE VICTORIAN DIVISION OF THE LIBERAL PARTY AND THEY MUST RESIGN IMMEDIATELY. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

APPLICATIONS FOR ENDORSEMENT FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Administrative Committee has resolved that applications for endorsement for the following Electoral Divisions are called today, 15 January 2020 and will close on Wednesday, 29 January 2020 at 5:00pm: An application fee of \$3,000 applies to applications for endorsement for these Electoral Divisions. To obtain an application form please call the State Director's office on (03) 9652 3114.

- **ASTON**
- **CASEY**
- **CHISHOLM**
- **DEAKIN**
- **FLINDERS**
- **GOLDSTEIN**
- **HIGGINS**
- **KOOYONG**
- **LA TROBE**
- **MENZIES**
- **MONASH**
- **WANNON**



Applications for Endorsement for the Casual Vacancy in the Victorian Legislative Council

The Administrative Committee has resolved that applications for endorsement for the anticipated casual vacancy in the Victorian Legislative Council for the Eastern Metropolitan Region caused by the retirement of the Hon Mary Wooldridge MP are called today, 15 January 2020 and will close on Wednesday, 29 January 2020 at 5:00pm. An application fee of \$2,500 applies to applications for endorsement for the casual vacancy. To obtain an application form please call the State Director's office on (03) 9652 3114.