

Good Morning

Welcome to Wellington's Way E-News

Scam Alert - USB Drives delivered to residential mailboxes

I would like to make you aware of a scam that appears to be a harmless promotional freebie. Cyber criminals have been dropping malware loaded USB-drives into mailboxes in Victoria. The USB's are unmarked and contain a fake offer, which when clicked will crash your computer. It is unknown what type of malware is on the drives. This is a timely reminder – do not use a USB left lying around or if you are not aware of where it came from.

Taboo Subject Must Be Aired

It is time Queensland Parliament consulted with Queenslanders on the topic of end of life choices for adults including the case of people experiencing unbearable and hopeless suffering as a criteria for requesting help to die.

Recently in Parliament the law was amended so that the Parliamentary Committees can conduct their own inquiries into matters without being called to do so by the Parliament. I have now asked the Health Committee to hold an enquiry into this important topic.

My proposed terms of reference for the committee inquiry, is that the committee consider and report on the need for laws in Queensland, to allow citizens to make informed decisions regarding their own end of life choices and in particular-

- (1) assess the practices currently being utilised within the medical community to assist a person to exercise their preferences for the way they want to manage their end of life, including the role of palliative care;
- (2) review the current framework of legislation, proposed legislation and other relevant reports and materials in other Australian states and territories and overseas jurisdictions; and
- (3) consider what type of legislative change may be required, including an examination of any federal laws that may impact such legislation.

These terms of reference are similar to the Victorian Legislative Council inquiry conducted last year.

I believe there is overwhelming support for adults who are experiencing unbearable and hopeless suffering, to be able to request assistance to die.

Voluntary euthanasia has been a taboo subject for too long and I believe Queenslanders should have their say on this matter.

There is no certainty that the committee will support my request and it is important that people who share my views write to the committee, the particulars are as follows:

Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee

Parliament House

George Street

BRISBANE QLD 4000

Phone: 07 3553 6626

Email: hcdfsdfvpc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Native bees take up residence in Queensland Parliament's garden

Earlier this year you would remember that I talked about the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between myself and Queensland University Technology and Sugar Bag Bees, to allow native bees to reside in the Queensland Parliament's garden.

I am pleased to report that during this month's parliament sittings I joined with Professor Stuart Parsons from QUT and Dr Tim Heard from Sugarbag Bees, to welcome the native bee residents to the Queensland parliamentary gardens.



Pic: Peter with Professor Stuart Parsons from QUT and Dr Tim Heard from Sugarbag Bees

Councillor complaints are Caesar Judging Caesar – it must stop

Under the current legislation the CEOs of Local Government Councils are tasked with sitting in judgment against councillors who have had complaints made against them.

This is ridiculous because the CEO has been employed by and is answerable to the councillors who he is charged with investigating. This current arrangement calls into question the independence of the CEOs in this matter.

Recently in Parliament Deputy Premier Jackie Trad tabled, the Councillor Conduct Discussion Paper which seeks feedback from you by Friday, September 23. One of the options put forward in the discussion paper is that the investigations be taken out of the hands of the CEOs and undertaken by an independent tribunal. I support this change and urge everyone who wants the investigation of complaints about their local government councillors taken out of the hands of the CEO, to make a submission either via email or in writing to the addresses below.

This is a very serious matter and the current arrangement must be changed.

A copy of the discussion paper is available at: www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au and written submissions can be emailed to: ComplaintsReviewPanel@dilgp.qld.gov.au or posted to: Councillor Complaints Review Panel c/o The Project Manager PO Box 15000 City East, Queensland 4002

Update Abandoned Buildings – Currie Street/Coronation Avenue

Recently, I met with Minister Hinchliffe in relation to the future of the abandoned buildings in Currie Street. The Minister acknowledged the submissions that were made by the community and interested parties.

After taking everything into account, the Minister decided to have the buildings demolished and have the area turned into open space to complement the open space of Petrie Creek. The Department of Transport and Main Roads has applied to council to have the buildings demolished. Once the approval comes through, the Department will then seek tenders for the demolition. The Department has also recently barricaded the buildings in preparation for the demolition.



Pic: Abandoned Buildings

Yandina Street Fair

It was great to open the 39th Annual Yandina Street Fair on Sunday. Jenny and I had a wonderful time catching up with members of the community and enjoying a few of the Fun activities. The fair was a credit to the organising committee and the many support people working behind the scenes. Congratulations to all involved.



Pic: Peter on a camel with Rose Nation.

Sunshine Coast PCYC Car Show

As vintage car enthusiasts, Jenny and I had a wonderful time at the Sunshine Coast PCYC Car Show held in Nambour on the weekend. I am sure the organisers would have been very happy with the turn out for the event. Well done!



Pic: Peter and Jenny

Thank you Burnside State High School

It was a pleasure to join the students and staff at Burnside State High School for their regular school assembly. This was an opportunity for me to hear of the many positive programs that are operating at the school and to thank the students who volunteered at the recent Sunshine Coast Show. I presented the volunteers with certificates of appreciation to say thank you on behalf of our community. Your efforts were truly appreciated.



Pic: Peter with students of Burnside State High School and Principal Kerri Dunn

Laurel Springs Retirement Village 30th Anniversary

I recently joined the residents and management of Laurel Springs Retirement Village to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Village. Congratulations to all involved in the event.



Pic: Peter at Laurel Springs Retirement Village 30th Anniversary

Until my next edition.

Regards

Peter Wellington

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