



29th June 2018

Cairns Croc Court – Judge reserves decision

Katter's Australian Party candidate for Leichhardt Mr Daniel McCarthy who attended the Cairns court today calls for urgent action for community safety.

"I sat beside Mr Eril Copley in the Cairns court today, who was defending an appeal in the case of a fine for killing a crocodile. The judge has reserved his decision for one month."

"This presents as a ridiculous situation, where the government is not happy with a \$500- fine, claiming the fine isn't an adequate deterrent to stop people trying to defend themselves against being killed by a crocodile", said Mr McCarthy.

"Does the government simply want a second bite of the cherry because they didn't get their fill from the first bite?"

"Are they throwing the dummy out of the cot because they didn't get what they wanted, which was to vilify a man and use him as an example for taking action to protect himself and his family from being attacked by a man-eating crocodile?"

"Clearly the government has failed miserably to deal with the explosion of crocodile numbers in the north and failed disgracefully to protect our citizens from the threat of crocodile attacks' Mr McCarthy said.

The KAP recognises this case as merely one of many consequences of failed Government policy in dealing with this matter.

Mr McCarthy claims that "people can clearly see that this issue will only worsen until firm decisive action is taken to drastically reduce crocodile numbers."

"How on earth can a government expect people to simply ignore the threat when the government themselves have failed to protect the people?"

"If there was a large man-eating animal in the Premiers back yard, would she simply put up a warning sign, educate herself on the dangers and refrain from going outside?" "I bet she wouldn't, so why does her government think those actions are the way to deal with man eaters in our backyards?"

"There is little doubt that the explosion in crocodile numbers will result, sooner than later in the death of a child. Let's be clear, make no mistake, the blood of that child will be on the hands of the government and the people will certainly take the matter into their own hands." said Mr McCarthy.

Mr McCarthy reminds us that in 1985, when Beryl Wruk was taken by a large crocodile in the Daintree river it resulted in extensive public outrage and every crocodile in that area was shot.

"Is this the result the Premier wants?" "I suggest the government gets serious and supports the KAP's Safer Waterways Bill and deal with this issue immediately, said Mr McCarthy.

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