



## MEDIA RELEASE

14<sup>th</sup> April 2019

### **Southern focused LNP and Labor gang up to put Croc's lives ahead of kids in FNQ**

The outgoing Member for Leichhardt was caught out in the media saying he had known about a large crocodile that has been living within 50 metres of a public school. He has done nothing about it. Recently it ate a kids dog.

The members state LNP colleagues colluded with Labor on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 and rejected the KAP Safer Waterways Bill. Shane Knuth, State member for Hill expressed his disgust at misleading statements made by Brisbane based members of Parliament and the Chair of the Environment Committee on the Bill.

The State LNP members of parliament were speaking vehemently against fixing the infestation, while their own crocodile management plan has been proven to be a dismal failure. Labor doesn't have any plan.

In a poll conducted last year by the Cairns Post, 75% of North Queenslanders voted for a controlled cull of crocodiles in our waterways, yet both major parties voted against the wishes of the majority of North Queenslanders.

The KAP Safer Waterways Bill provided widely consulted solutions that included establishing a Queensland Crocodile Authority in Cairns. The Authority would take measures to minimise injuries and deaths caused by crocodiles in the State by authorising persons to farm crocodiles; decide the number of crocodile eggs that may be harvested each year; authorise persons to harvest crocodile eggs; decide the number of crocodiles that may be culled each year; authorise persons to carry out the culling of crocodiles; ensure the prompt management of rogue crocodiles by authorising persons to kill or relocate rogue crocodiles along with other issues.

"The major parties have rejected a sensible and balanced crocodile management plan. They are refusing to act and deal with the escalating problems now. They clearly do not care about kids having safe access to swimming holes and beaches. If they have a better solution, then where is it? It's not good enough that they do nothing. Vote the major political parties out and give North Queenslanders the balance of power in our parliaments, before we lose another life", says Daniel McCarthy.

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