



Rod McLennan

Candidate for Gellibrand

Citizens Electoral Council of Australia



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MEDIA RELEASE

Questions:

You are free to respond to any or all of these questions:

1. If you were elected, what would be your first initiative within the electorate, to improve the outcomes for young people moving from school to work or further study?

To launch an emergency economic recovery program, rebuilding the country's decrepit and inadequate infrastructure via the funding of a national credit bank, like the old Commonwealth bank was originally designed for. This would both create millions of highly skilled jobs, and drive crash training programs for which we would have to mobilise all existing and many newly created educational facilities, as well as on the job training.

See <http://cecaust.com.au/main.asp?sub=newsite&id=wamd.htm> for more.

2. What resources would you commit to better synchronise state and federal education, employment and training programmes operating throughout the electorate?

As mentioned above, if we issue government-directed credit created by a national credit bank and spend it on the building of grand national water, transport, energy, space, health and other infrastructure projects, this would create mammoth spin-offs to the entire economy. Investment in this way will create abundant funding for training which is going to be urgently required in all fields.

3. What will you do to improve the skills of the community and enhance the local regional economies and labour markets?

Productive industries, manufacturing, and agriculture have been collapsing for decades, due to the policies of free trade and globalisation, which favour outsourcing to cheaper labour areas. This has created a lower demand for skilled trades at home, and our young people have been encouraged to go into the service sector, such as finance or the computer industry, where we now have an influx of capability.

Only if the federal government launches an emergency program to rebuild our industry and manufacturing capability can we save our dying rural towns, uplifting them with an upsurge of work, including building infrastructure, plant and equipment, and at the same time bring young people back into skilled trades.

4. How will you address youth unemployment across the electorate?

As above, with economic reconstruction programs to create millions of jobs. One of the key things with youth is that they see they have a future ahead of them. When we put man on the moon, every young person could see a sense of mission, of man exploring the universe. Since then all our young people see is the shut-down of industry, agriculture, and the collapse of our infrastructure. That would change under the CEC's visionary economic development approach.

5. What is your position on the immediate needs to better synchronise education and training provision in the electorate?

As per question 2.

6. What do you see as the future for the current federal government's Local Community Partnerships [LCP's] initiative?

I will have to learn more about this before I can make any comment.

7. What role do you see for the use of high speed telecommunications infrastructure in this electorate?

Very important, so that people have access to information and communications at fast pace.

8. Can you provide a commitment to increase resources/funding available to education and training providers in this electorate?

Yes, as described above, with national banking practises.

The education system has to be completely revitalised, with a classical education replacing rote learning and new-age methods at schools and universities, and with dramatically increased further-education, particularly work-based training, apprenticeships, training courses, and many more university places.

9. Each community is unique and education providers need to be flexible to meet the needs of their students/community. What do you propose as an appropriate funding model or models that would support a student-centred education and training system?

As above.

10. If you were elected, what would be your first initiative within the electorate, to improve the outcomes for young people moving from school to work or further study?

This is the same as question 1.

See <http://www.cecaust.com.au/main.asp?sub=culture&id=whyculture.htm> for “A science driver economy”, including more on education.