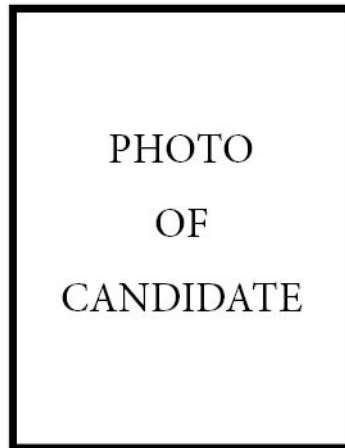


media release #2



GREG McMAHON

**INDEPENDENT SENATE CANDIDATE for QUEENSLAND
FEDERAL ELECTION - 2 JULY 2016**

Royal Commission into Australian Banking Sector Essential

Queensland Senate candidate for the forthcoming election, Greg McMahon, said today that a Royal Commission into the banking sector in Australia was essential.

"I would make disclosures to that Commission," he said.

"Alleged wrongdoing in this sector over a period of decades may be so systemic, that any finding by an inquiry against particular business practices may be fiscally threatening to some entities."

Mr McMahon said that during the campaign he would like to make disclosures to the Prime Minister, because he might be able, through those disclosures, to change the Prime Minister's mind on the need for a banking Royal Commission.

He said he would also like to meet with the Leader of the Opposition.

"The reform of governance processes for unions should not rely on spill-overs from what a Construction watchdog might achieve for unions in the construction industry. "

"I would make disclosures to the Opposition Leader that may cause him to drive this reform himself, in all spheres, including the ACTU, where he has a leadership role."

Mr McMahon said other areas in critical need of a Commission of Inquiry were:

- Institutional response to disclosures of abuse and rough justice in the Australian Defence Force;
- Institutional response to disclosures of assault and other crimes against the elderly in care; and
- Institutional response to disclosures of practices used in veterans affairs damaging to veterans.

"Unfortunately this is a long list," Mr McMahon said.

"But the number indicates the lack of performance of watchdog authorities and law enforcement in dealing with decades of past disclosures.

"Victims perceive government to be content for existing responses to continue."

Mr McMahon said he would advocate other inquiries of pressing need to Queenslanders, who are in special need because the State lacks an Upper House of its own.

He said deficiencies with recent inquiries, and accumulations of allegations of wrongdoing in other functions of government that had attracted concerns, included:

- Insufficiencies in certain flood inquiries and flood studies conducted in Queensland to date, and the omission of upgrades to Wivenhoe Dam and Somerset Dam from priority infrastructure programs. Dam safety, federal financing, the role of the Bureau of Meteorology and the responsibilities and ethics of national professional organisations supported by Federal Government participation, entitled the Senate to inquire into any such insufficiencies;
- The accumulation of allegations of destruction or disposal by government agencies of documents sought by citizens for intended litigation or litigation already afoot. A decision by a Cabinet two decades ago in the Heiner Affair, may have become a routine practice amongst middle level bureaucrats. Entities may be using practices unaffected by the attention of law enforcement agencies, already compromised or confused by the example set by institutions when the destruction of the Heiner documents was disclosed to those institutions;
- The coverage given by the current Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse allegations.

"Should that Commission fail to pursue other institutions in Queensland with the same intensity as that Commission has properly pursued religious organisations, I will bring those deficiencies to the attention of the Senate in its constitutional role as the Grand Inquest of our Nation," Mr McMahon stated.

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