



Michael Ferguson



Liberal for Bass

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FERGUSON'S \$5 MILLION PLAN FOR NORTH EAST TASMANIA

'North East Roads, and Trail of Tin Dragon big winners'

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Bass Liberal candidate Michael Ferguson said a re-elected Howard Government will continue to provide real support for North East Tasmania's future development.

"The Howard Government's strong economic management will allow the Coalition to provide the infrastructure and incentives to grow our economy and provide for better facilities here in the North East," Mr Ferguson said.

The \$5 million plan provides better roads for the area, encouragement for a major tourism project and funding to help our communities grow and improve our community facilities.

A re-elected Howard Government will spend \$3 million to help upgrade the Bridport-Scottsdale and Nunamara to Targa roads, Bass Liberal candidate Michael Ferguson revealed today.

A re-elected Howard Government will contribute \$150,000 for a Planning Strategy for Bridport to help the township manage its growth.

"Bridport is expected to expand over the next five years, especially with the assistance for tourism ventures and roadworks from the Howard Government," Mr Ferguson said.

Mr Ferguson reaffirmed a Howard Government pledge to provide \$1.7 million for the Trail of the Tin Dragon tourism venture, if a Federally funded \$50,000 feasibility study deems it viable.

"Winding its way through the towns and historic sites of North East Tasmania, from Scottsdale to St Helens, the trail has the potential to bring tourists and jobs to our region," Mr Ferguson said.

He announced funds for the Winnaleah Swimming Pool, the Bridport Bowls Club and a Legerwood Memorial Garden to remember World War I diggers from the district.

"We have listened to concerns and ideas in the North East region and we have acted," Mr Ferguson said

"If I am elected as the Federal Member for Bass I pledge to work tirelessly to ensure that the young people of the North East do not have to leave here in order to get a career and prosper. This is why yesterday's announcement of plans to establish an Australian Technical College in Northern Tasmania is such good news," he said.

The Australian Technical College will provide tuition for up to 300 talented Years 11 and 12 students with an interest in the trades. The College will offer both academic and vocational education to students while completing their school studies.

"If I am elected on October 9 what I am announcing here today is just the beginning. I will represent the people of the North East with determination," Mr Ferguson said.

"I will fight for fair treatment of this region to help it reach its potential. This is why we committed \$10 million for the Scottsdale-Lilydale Road in 2001 and contributed funds for projects such as the Bambougle Dunes Golf Links," he said.

Funding under the Ferguson plan and approved by Prime Minister John Howard includes:

- \$1.5 million to upgrade the Bridport-Scottsdale Road. The Tasmanian State Government must meet the remaining costs of this important project.
- \$1.5 million to upgrade the Tasman Highway between Nunamara and Targa. The Tasmanian State Government must meet the remaining costs of this important project.
- \$1.7 million for the Trail of the Tin Dragon venture, subject to a \$50,000 feasibility study.
- \$150,000 for a Bridport Planning Strategy undertaken by the Dorset Council.
- \$70,000 for an all weather bowling green at the Bridport Bowls Club.
- \$25,000 to upgrade the Winnaleah Swimming Pool.
- \$10,000 for a World War I memorial at Legerwood.

Question no. AUSL 08 - attachment

"Defence Minister Robert Hill today put to rest the Labor scare campaign about the future of the Scottsdale Defence Research Centre. This centre will be maintained. Its future was never under threat," Mr Ferguson said.

"We won't deal in scare campaigns such as the one causing distress for staff and families of the Scottsdale Defence Research Centre. Instead, a re-elected Howard Government will build on the strengths of this vibrant region," he said.

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