

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

17th July, 2013

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Maria Strintzos

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Dear Hotham Pre-selection Voters,

You will have received a stream of letters and emails from Cr Geoff Lake seeking your support for the Hotham pre-selection.

I served on Monash Council for three years with Cr Lake. There is no doubt that he is in a hurry to be elected to Parliament. His track record of working with women is questionable. What he espouses is not what he believes.

However, he needs to be more careful about some of his claims.

In his latest message, he states explicitly that "I've been elected by the people of Hotham for thirteen years on Monash Council."

If none of us can remember ever voting for him, that's because none of us ever has.

Cr Lake's council ward is in Glen Waverley- miles away from Hotham in the middle of Chisholm.

Incidentally, that's also where Geoff lived until recently. Everyone in the local ALP knows that Cr Lake only moved into Hotham motivated to become its MP.

Miles away is also where his latest list of celebrity endorsements live.

One lives in Beaumaris, one in Box Hill South, one in Williamstown and one in Albert Park. To my knowledge, none has ever lived in Hotham – including the current member.

Cr Lake has some political skills but he needs to understand how the party works and recognise that ALP members are more impressed by genuine grass-roots campaigns than slick, celebrity-driven ones. He also needs to learn that telling the truth is better than deceptive political spin.

Yours sincerely,



Felicity Smith
Hotham West Branch Member
Former Monash Councillor.

P.S. Does our side of politics need yet another corporate lawyer in Canberra?