



SENATE CANDIDATES

Jim Willmott & Lachlan Lade



Protecting Property Rights – A Fundamental Building Block of our Society

“Your home is your castle”, or so we have been told, is actually a fundamental building block of our society and economic system. The right to save money and acquire or create property, and being secure in the knowledge that it is yours to use, enjoy and develop has underpinned the prosperity we enjoy today. This is in stark contrast to the recent history of communist countries where all land was taken over by the government. In these places, all incentive for the individual disappeared and productivity in the economy plummeted. Indeed, in Russia in the 1920s, the result was famine as food production fell dramatically.

Without clear and unambiguous property rights our economic future as a nation is compromised. It is of great concern that in Australia, over the past 50 years, the rights of property owners have been slowly but steadily eroded by the actions of politicians and public servants.

ISSUES

- Owners of all private properties are concerned about the continuing encroachment on the rights of private property owners in policies and legislation relating to land use, development and planning laws.
- Increasing regulation of land use and more restrictive state, regional and local planning controls are diminishing the potential value and earning potential from owners of private property without due compensation.
- There is a demonstrable lack of transparency, fairness and appeal processes within government acquisition, compensation and consultation processes in consideration of the loss of private property rights.
- State governments are using the approval of native title claims to justify the freeholding of crown lands to native title holders, potentially reducing public access to parks, reserves, waterfronts and fishing spots.
- There is a lack of evidence based data to back up claims that primary production industries are damaging the environment, with much of the...

...justification for the regulatory framework heavily reliant on data derived from modelling.

SOLUTIONS

Jim and Lachlan:

- Believe that property owners are entitled to the basic rights of exclusive access, use and the opportunity to profit from their property. The legal protection of these rights is a fundamental principle of a prosperous society.
- Believe that enduring private property rights are fundamental to success and that anything diminishing these rights must be recognized. If no alternative can be found, full compensation must be paid.
- Believe that integrity and trust in public policy is underpinned by good science - Regulation and legislation must be underpinned by the utilisation of independent quality assured...



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continued...

scientific evidence, as well as stakeholders, who through their work, have a long association with, and observation of, the land and oceans.

- Will fight for a total moratorium on any conversion of crown land to freehold for anyone until such time as the state government introduces an open and transparent process that is fair to all Queenslanders, respecting everyone's rights equally.
- Believe that meaningful consultation and engagement processes with grass roots communities are vital to achieve adoption of public policy. Regional and rural communities must be treated with respect, fairness, impartiality and integrity by all.

