

## **Election Shock Ahead — Be Ready or Be Blindsided**

***The 2008 general election could well be New Zealand's major economic down turn since the uptrend of the 1940s***

The major talking point in the media will be the economy and the real possibility of a major recession or a depression in line with the world-wide depression of the 1930's.

***Health Policy as a determinant will probably be conveniently overlooked by the media but should not be overlooked by the voter***

**Even in the doom and gloom of a recession or depression good health enables an individual to take advantage of opportunities for advancement and economic improvement while with ill-health the opposite is the case.**

During downturns the difficulty for an unhealthy individual is their severely hampered ability to combat the economic challenges of life and triumph over adversity.

This **supports the hypothesis** that the health of the individual is super-ordinate to the status of the economy.

Regardless of whether the economy is in a state of boom or bust it is always possible for an individual to work and prosper when the health status is at optimum levels. Disgracefully our entire public health care system is in the worst state it has ever been in and the health of the individual is significantly compromised not only by environmental and nutritional factors but also by hardnosed, inadequate public health care services.

The only healthy part of our healthcare system is the exponential growth of administrative bureaucracy. During the last nine years under the Labour government the administrative bureaucracy has been imprudently and heftily bolstered with millions of dollars of taxpayer funds none of which have been used to successfully advance improved healthcare services.

**In essence healthy individuals advance the economy and unhealthy individuals, through no fault of their own, restrict economic growth. It is therefore critical to the future of New Zealand that we as a nation devote resources to ensure the**

**highest possible level of healthcare for everyone.**

### **Basic Facts**

Official statistics and basic facts are that in the 1940s only one in one thousand contracted cancer. Obesity, diabetes, heart attacks, strokes and asthma were extremely rare – today these are the leading cause of death as is (at last) belatedly recognised by the Ministry of Health. Today we are facing an endemic health crisis with a health care system that is unable to cope and in fact is in danger of breaking down completely.

Rather than facing the present healthcare crisis the government has entered into a high level dictatorial campaign to give “total control” of New Zealand's healthcare to the Australian Therapeutic Goods Authority (a non-governmental, Australian Corporate body) which is dedicated to restricting freedom of choice to take care of one's own health status by implementing the anti-vitamin and herbs Australian treaty. Under this legislation self health care and the availability of supplements and health care therapies would become illegal and eventually heavily restricted or non-existent.

**This legislation will effectively rob us of a basic human right and then sell it back to us at an exorbitant cost as a privilege – in the process trying to convince us that it is for our own good.**

The iniquitous Australian treaty legislation is still at the top of the Labour agenda and if they are elected as a major party it will have priority for enactment.

## New Zealand Health System Scandal

*While the health system's administrative bureaucracy obscenely enjoys exponential growth, (non) performance bonuses and gratuitous golden handshake rewards, the overburdened health system (and most importantly the severely disadvantaged taxpaying public) scandalously suffer from reduced performance outcomes!!!*

The Labour Government scandalously squanders increasingly more and more millions of tax payer dollars into the public health system and distressingly there is no corresponding increase in positive outcomes in health. While the public health system is in dire need of a drastic overhaul the core problem lies much deeper.

### The Core Problem

With what could be interpreted as tightfisted self-indulgence the expenditure of additional and/or corrective finance is not policed in a diligent manner and a major part of additional finance is swallowed up by increased administration instead of being applied to where it is most drastically needed – improved health services for the public. This state of affairs must surely be nothing short of a scandal of mammoth proportions

### Diligent Oversight Required

What is needed is a specialised ***Investigative Oversight Committee*** to rejuvenate and streamline the health sector.

The role of this committee would be ongoing examination of the operation of the Ministry of Health, the Australian New Zealand Food Safety Authority (which plays an important role in basic health) as well as Health Boards with subsequent correlated reporting to Parliament on a quarterly basis.

Further still, provisions are required to ensure onsite, hands-on, formalised investigative probes to provide input for this committee as well as input from parliamentarians, industry stakeholders, healthcare practitioners and the public with submissions similar to the Select Committee process.

The primary guiding principle for the committee would be to ensure that administrators' performance meet the requirements for a productive and efficient public health care system.

The public health care system should be lean and efficient, focused on result outcomes and not a feather bed for non-productive bureaucrats.

**The basis of cure for our failing and inefficient public health care system resides in establishing investigative oversight and with specific parliamentarians ensuring diligent responsibility and accountability enforcement**

### A Lesson Slowly Understood

As a teenage youth I proudly announced to a very wise old man that when I was old enough to vote I would be a fourth generation Labour voter. His answer to me was very simple “we should not vote for what we think will be beneficial for ourselves but most importantly vote for what is beneficial for the country”. Wise words, but it was many years before I fully realised the importance of what he had so clearly stated. During a period of nineteen years I attended annual Labour Party conferences which for some strange reason were known as National conferences in those days. **Eventually the wise words from this old man took root and today are more important to me in my voting choice than ever before.**

### The state of the Political Parties

What is the state of the parties leading up to this election?

The past actions of the each political party is the only guideline that we have to fully judge the value of voting for them. Election promises are just that – **past performance is the guiding criteria.**

In nine years of Labour autocratic control there has not been any positive action to rectify the very sick public health care system.

Labour has become the most **autocratic government** in the history of the New Zealand Parliament with a Minister that claimed that she was put in Parliament to govern, that the government made the laws and that politicians were above the Law – in my opinion as a long time political observer Labour is no longer worthy of my vote.

A vote for Labour would ensure the development of the most **dictatorial government** that New Zealand has ever seen.

Total control for control's sake; from the amount of water you are allowed in your shower to every aspect of development and life – from the cradle to the grave.

The Labour government has refused to remove the Australian take over Treaty from the order paper of parliament instead ignoring the wishes of the majority members of parliament and of the public by underhandedly leaving it in abeyance. If by some mischance they become the major party after the election they would enact the infamous Treaty as a first priority.

#### **How will the author of this article vote?**

Well you may work it out for yourself after you read my summary below.

**The following list of the parties in Parliament is set out in alphabetical order, and is primarily based around their stand on health and their parliamentary performance:**

#### **Act**

**Voted against the Australian Treaty takeover and fully supported the right for natural self health care.** The Act Party also embraces a basic philosophy of self-regulation which is an admirable concept which would negate the need for government bureaucrats and if correctly designed and implemented would allow for the consumer to be the regulator and in charge of their own healthcare status.

Sir Roger Douglas, has re-emerged as a significant leading light for Act, and he announced the parties health policy in Auckland recently. **This policy is innovatively different to the policies embraced by the other parties, but it does require full examination to determine the outcome when enacted.**

#### **Greens**

**The Green party diligently established the investigation into the Australian Treaty takeover and fully supported the right to natural self healthcare.** The Green Party has campaigned ceaselessly for improved health legislation as well as improvements in food production, food manufacturing, genetic engineering and country of origin labeling.

**Against all opposition Labour has dictatorially demanded that control of the health of New Zealanders be given away to an Australian Corporate Body. Labour has in indecent haste continually squandered millions of dollars of public funds on health without due diligence and without improved health outcomes.**

Under the Labour Government New Zealanders are dying while waiting to be placed on lengthy waiting list even when additional funding is allocated to supposedly rectify the waiting list problem. Labours spurious approach to this problem was to take people off the waiting list so as to deceitfully present the illusion that waiting lists were reducing.

#### **National**

**Voted against the Australian Treaty takeover and fully supported the right for natural self health care as well as embracing a policy for the protection of small business concerns which included Natural Healthcare Providers.** National has announced their intention to straighten out the health care system and to improve district hospital staffing as well as placing a cap on the growth of the bureaucracy. *It would be great if National would also embrace a policy to ensure that bureaucrats are held responsible and accountable for their actions.* The major fault with our health care system is that bureaucrats are not held responsible for their actions or lack thereof.

#### **The Maori Party**

**Voted against the Australian Treaty takeover and fully supported the right for natural self health care** and have stood firm in support of Rongoa Maori and the practice of indigenous therapies and remedies in the face of the Australian total healthcare takeover.

#### **New Zealand First**

**Voted against the Australian Treaty takeover and fully supported the right for natural self health care.** Inexplicably the New Zealand First Health Select Committee representative while voting against the Australian Treaty also appeared to equivocate by forwarding a New Zealand First newsletter to party supporters which word for word reiterated Medsafe pronouncements in favour of the Treaty. This action created a difficulty for Freedom of Choice advocates and why such

an absurd action was taken has never been explained.

### **United Future**

**Voted against the Australian Treaty takeover and fully supported the right for natural self health care.** Unfortunately the United Future Health Select Committee representative while voting against the Australian Treaty also appeared to equivocate in email communications.

Some of our members may feel that I have been a little too harsh in my judgment of some of the political parties or individuals above.

However knowing full well the mis-information, coercion and intimidation by government officials and Australian officials, I can understand somewhat why some parliamentarians may equivocate.

**At the end of the day when it comes to natural and self healthcare the politicians are either with us or against us.**

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*The above is the heading for this article and this is why!*

### **Blind Sided by the Media!!!**

Last month the media and all the pundits widely circulated that National would overwhelmingly be the government or at least the major party after the election. For many years this ploy has been used by Granny Herald on the eve of election, aimed at the uncommitted and uncertain voter as well as a stimulus for the party faithful to get out and ensure that the party that appeared to be behind would benefit from an increased voter turnout.

This election ploy has been implemented early in the opening campaign accompanied with

magical smoke and mirrors as well as spin-doctor wording and 'clever' articles to influence the election outcome.

**So in conclusion before you cast your vote be very sure of what you are voting for and do not be blinded by the smoke, mirrors and slyly crafted spin-doctor emotional announcements.**

**Whether the health of New Zealand prospers or goes down the drain will depend on how you cast your vote – in the field of politics past performance is a key indicator of future actions.**

### **Take Care Now — Your's in health**

**Repair our broken down, under performing health care system – vote for the party that will UNDERTAKE that REPAIR!!!**

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