

-----Original Message-----

From: Graeme Evans [mailto:g_evansau@yahoo.com.au]

Sent: Monday, 30 March 2009 10:07 PM

To: Committees

Cc: Graeme Evans

Subject: Inquiry into School Closures

Ms Amanda Bresnan MLA

Chair

Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs

ACT Legislative Assembly

Canberra ACT

Dear Ms Bresnan

As a grandparent of three young students adversely affected by school closures, and as a person who has supported, and worked for, the public schooling system for well over 20 years, I wish to record my disgust with the school closures and allied measures that have been thrust on the community.

Not only has the government destroyed a formerly-excellent schooling system, there has been a disgraceful withholding of data needed for the exercise of legal and political rights.

The corollary has been concurrent destruction of the ACT's FoI system. Particularly given the importance the government purportedly places on human rights, this is further reason why future citizens will look back on the present government as responsible for a totally shameless period in the ACT's short history of self-government.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Evans

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-----Original Message-----

From: g_evansau@yahoo.com.au [mailto:g_evansau@yahoo.com.au]

Sent: Tuesday, 31 March 2009 11:29 AM

To: Committees

Cc: Graeme Evans

Subject: Inquiry into School Closures - "Schools Location Bill" Submission

Ms Amanda Bresnan

Chair

Standing Committee on Education, Training and Youth Affairs

ACT Legislative Assembly

Canberra ACT

Dear Ms Bresnan

I attach materials relevant to your inquiry. They are relevant in the sense that they set out one of the many options available if government had placed importance on identifying, analysing and evaluating the courses available.

The tragedy for the ACT community is that we did not have such a government.

The attached materials are -

- * page 4277 of Hansard for 20 November 1990 showing the tabling of a draft of a "Schools Location Bill";
- * the draft Bill itself, as tabled on that date; and
- * page 5 of Hansard for 12 February 1991 showing a parliamentary question seeking information on committee consideration of the draft Bill.

As your inquiry will show, a range of constructive suggestions about schools location and related issues were put to government over the years, including during the recent Towards 2020 period. The government chose to ignore these suggestions and opportunities.

I put it to you and your committee that it is shameful that the government did not properly and responsibly explore the options available to it.

Yours sincerely,

Graeme Evans

GPO Box 2443, Canberra City ACT 2601

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