



Northern Land Council

MEDIA RELEASE

Alison Anderson must resign from Parliament

10 August 2009

The Northern Land Council's (NLC) Chief Executive, Kim Hill has today called on Alison Anderson to immediately resign from the Northern Territory Parliament which, he says, would be in the best interests of all Territorians.

Mr Hill said that NLC strongly believed in the rule of law, the constitutional processes of the NT Parliament, democracy and stable government, and questioned Ms Anderson's responsibility to Territorians to faithfully fulfil her role as a Member of the Legislative Assembly.

"Ms Anderson's actions in recent weeks have been un-parliamentary, and she has also called for the Commonwealth to resume its government of the Northern Territory. This is unconstitutional and is contrary to the *Northern Territory (Self Government) Act 1978* and Ms Anderson cannot faithfully represent her constituents, or anyone else, if this is what she believes.

"Ms Anderson has effectively said that Territorians cannot govern their own affairs – yet she continues to be a member of the parliament. Ms Anderson does not respect Territorians, and does not trust Territorians to govern.

"Ms Anderson's selfish actions and self indulgence has delivered instability and chaos – not "peace, order and good government".

"If Ms Anderson truly believes, as she has said, that the feds should come and take over governing the Territory, then she has no choice but to resign immediately. Full stop!

"She has also been a Minister of the Crown, presiding over Indigenous affairs, and in the Westminster system the buck stops with her, so she must take responsibility for not delivering Indigenous programs.

"Like every other Territorian, Aboriginal people need certainty and stability in their lives not endless elections, and we want to work with a government that is constructive and inclusive. We also want to work with a Parliament whose members are elected from our local community – not from Canberra."

ALISON ANDERSON: *"...I think the federal government should just come in and take over the territory politics full stop."*

Source: <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,,25892072-5006790,00.html> – 6 August 2009.

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