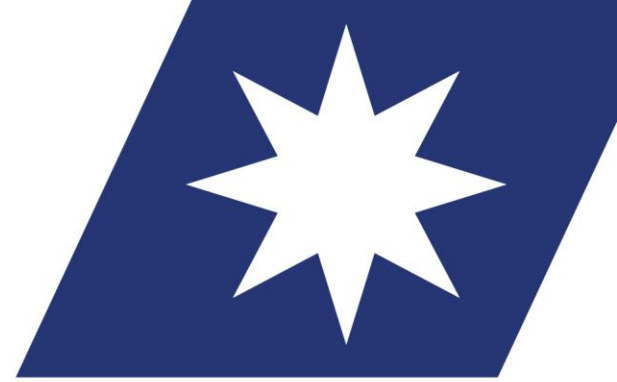


BOB KATTER

Katter's Australian Party

Federal Member for Kennedy



MEDIA RELEASE

12 February 2020

Two out of seven = “Failed Miserably”

KAP Federal Member for Kennedy Bob Katter declared “war” on the Australian government at a press conference held beside the ‘Closing the Gap’ luncheon in Parliament House today where he condemned both sides of government for the abysmal results outlined in the Closing the Gap report.

Mr Katter slammed his fellow MPs who lunched and patted themselves on the back merely metres away, “You’ve had continuous and continuing assessments and your report card says you failed, you failed, you failed, you failed, you failed.

“The great football coach Wayne Bennett said *‘if you’re doing something in a particularly manner and you keep doing it in the same way, and it doesn’t work, then that is the actual definition of insanity’*.”

Mr Katter spoke on behalf of a number of First Australians communities voicing their criticism.

“We have the highest incarceration rates, the lowest life expectancy and the highest number of stolen children in the world.

“I was told that the life expectancy in a community of over a thousand people in the Cape is 53. This is compared to 81 for a white male and 83 for a female. And so are we as Australians proud of this?

“New data reveals there were 72 deaths attributed to diabetes in the Cape York, Torres Strait region last year; an outcome of which I place the blame on a lack of access to fresh fruit and vegetables.

“It was a shame, sin and scar upon the soul of this Nation that the market gardens were removed by the incoming Queensland ALP government when they discontinued the Department which ran the market garden program.

“Of all deaths, two per cent are attributable to diabetes. There should be four diabetes deaths amongst the people living in the Torres Strait and Cape York (a population of 20,000), and in the Aboriginal communities of the Gulf: there have been 18 in a period of four years.”

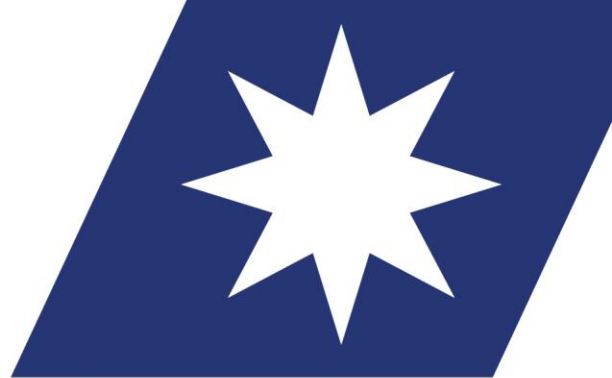
Mr Katter recited First Australian and former KAP Senate candidate Greg Wallace who famously started the dole programs in Aboriginal communities in the late 1980s, which resulted in local work force building community housing as well as opening a brick making facility.

“Greg Wallace at a press conference for his candidacy said, *“When I was CEO of Napraanum Aboriginal Shire Council, all Cape York CEOs were black fellas. Now, they are all white fellas. When I was CEO we had 36,000 head of cattle. Now we have none. When I was CEO, we had rights to quarrying, timber and water and now they’ve taken them off us. When I was CEO, we had 2000 jobs and a work for the dole scheme. Now, we have no jobs, no house building and no dole program.”*

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Mr Katter warned the government that an advisory group of distinguished Australians was in the process of being assembled who will work with an established authority council to take control of the issues failing First Australian communities.

“We’ve had enough. You’ve picked the fight. I’m going after every single person in that Parliament. You haven’t convinced us with your reports, you haven’t worked with us, and so now we are working against you.

“A group of distinguished Australians are going to stand up and say ‘it is all over’! The black fellas are going to be making decisions about black fellas from now on.”

—ENDS—