

Building a Fiscal Conservative Majority February 2012

This National Government has been a disappointment to fiscal conservatives. The wet wing of the National Party control the senior ranks of the party, and cannot be easily replaced without losing an election.

After National loses an election there will be a clean out. It is essential we have fiscal conservatives who are willing to make serious changes to control the culture of the party.

This is part of a long term plan to move the political centre to the right. This means reducing the size of government, weakening the power of those who believe in big government, and investing for at least 20 years to ensure that these changes are permanent.

I have formed a loose alliance of committed fiscal conservatives who believe in this, and to date have funded it myself as I believe in it. The organisation is informal as formality imposes costs, and I believe entrepreneurial ventures are best when they are informal until they are ready to hit the market.

New Zealand's political market is exceptionally retarded. The first organized group to professionalise and fund politics properly will obtain prime mover advantage, and control the market for some time. There is a one off opportunity to exploit the gap in the market, and I am looking to exploit this gap.

Project Outline

Building a better New Zealand by creating an enduring fiscal conservative majority.

Aims:

1. To move New Zealand's political centre to the right by professionalising politics, placing fiscal conservatives in key elected positions and support them by building teams around them.
2. To grow the New Zealand economy rapidly by implementing free market policies that engage growth. Limit government, remove regulation and subsidies, and reduce taxes and government spending.

Areas of Operation

1. Politicians:

- a. Place fiscal conservatives in safe blue seats.
- b. Select and develop a limited number of young people to position them for a career in politics.
- c. Build capable politically able teams to serve on local bodies and as mayors.
- d. Train potential candidates over many years so when they are elected they can make real change based on solid planning rather than intent.

2. Media

- a. Dominate the media by controlling the message through credible right wing blogs.

3. Professional Campaigning

- a. Build a professional campaigning industry that exploits the gap created by amateur campaigners.
- b. Make fundraising a key part of political professionalism.
- c. Prepare long term campaigns for reducing the size of government, changing education, increasing mining's contribution to GDP and making property development easier.

4. Taking Over the Public Service

- a. Work with public servants to create a pool of fiscal conservative bureaucrats who will work with politicians to implement policy.
- b. Institute reforms necessary to ensure policy is implemented by bureaucrats, rather than blocked by them.

5. Company Boards

- a. Work with good people to build a network of company directors who are fiscal conservatives for long term careers at director level.
- b. Use this to build long term donor networks based on personal relationships, rather than having to cold call donors.

Investment for the Future

Making these changes requires investment. I have been personally funding this as much as I can, but there are limits to my resources and poor cashflow delays.

- 1. Invest in groups making a difference:** Stop donating to the current Government. They have not listened and will not listen.

- 2. Support Professionalisation of politics:** Politics in New Zealand is amateur. There is a huge gap in campaign professionalism. The introduction of funding and professionalism to New Zealand politics will create a gap that Labour will have to match to gain power. To match donations they will have to move to the right to receive business donations. Union money will not be able to match business money.

Currently National raises about \$6m per three year cycle. Tripling this would create a huge gap between National and Labour which would take many years for Labour to catch up.

- 3. Build a Donor Network:** Rather than contributing cash, support the building of a large donor network by providing or obtaining board appointments to a small number of individuals. These people will be responsible for building the war chest for a fiscally conservative National Party, and funding the professionalisation of campaigning.

Cold calling for donations is very, very difficult. Calling based on long term friendships and shared experience is much more straightforward. To fundraise effectively we need good people with tenure as directors who are known amongst potential donors. I can provide resumes for several people who are fiscal conservatives and understand the role they will play in the future.

- 4. Blackball Current MPs:** Support the blackballing of current National MPs, stopping them from trading on their time as MPs to build a lucrative business career. National's Cabinet have largely ignored the financial backers, MPs will continue to do so unless I can point out the consequences of ignoring donors.

If donors buy into this, and the next National government does not offer former Ministers jobs there will be a very clear incentive for the next crop of Ministers to listen carefully to donors, rather than ignoring them.

There is a broader approach I will brief you on verbally.

- 5. Supporting the Right Wing Blogosphere:** The right currently controls the blogosphere, and the political journalists repeat much of what appears on blogs.

The case in point is the way the Maritime Union have received huge negative publicity about their salaries, based on POAL working with certain bloggers to control the story. Financial support for these bloggers will enable them to build their credibility and readership.

Fiscal Neutrality

I have a personal policy of never suggesting spending without suggesting where corresponding cuts can be made:

- 1. National Party Donations:** Cease giving and tell them that until their *actions* show they have listened they should not bother asking.
- 2. Government Relations & Lobbying:** This project will provide a direct link into caucus. This means government relations and lobbying expenses can be reduced, and in the medium term reduced dramatically.