



MEDIA STATEMENT

Tony Simpson MLA

Opposition Spokesperson for Volunteering
and IT and Communications

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Labor Government ignores Kwinana

The Carpenter Government has once again shown its contempt for volunteers and Western Australia's IT industry in a double-whammy of neglect.

Residents of Kwinana are in danger of losing access to valuable community activities such as child care and computer classes as the local community centre faces the consequences of State Government neglect.

The Frank Konecny Community Centre - which is the only community centre in the suburbs of eastern Kwinana - has served its community well for the last 16 years. However, faced with a lack of funding, it is having trouble paying for existing and new services alike.

Opposition spokesperson for Volunteers and IT and Communications Tony Simpson has called on the government to provide the centre with the support and funding it desperately needs.

"The plight of this valuable community centre came to my light when I heard a story about it on talkback radio," said Mr Simpson

"The people who sacrifice long hours every week running this centre had become so desperate after being neglected by the State Government, that they had taken their problem public.

"This centre, run largely by volunteers, provides essential services to the local community. Essential services that have clearly been neglected by the government.

"The services provided includes a newly established computer course for adults. Something essential for those people who want to remain competitive in the workplace well into the future.

"This is something that is important to the future prosperity of the people of Kwinana.

"The centre has been ignored by the government and ignored by their local MP. That is why I have offered to help.

"Norm Marlborough, Minister for Small Business; Peel and the South West Promised a rescue package a few weeks ago, but so far the centre has heard no details and nothing has been done.



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"Most of the computer equipment to be used in this course has been donated by various companies. Not the Government.

"The State government should help out and provide some of the needed funding to make sure that this important service is provided to the community.

"This is yet another example of the Labor State Government ignoring the needs to volunteers and under investing in the IT skills of Western Australia."

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