



King Island Council

Media Release

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KING ISLAND TASMANIA

King Island's Mayor Duncan McFie was surprised to read recent news reports concerning King Island's secession from Tasmania. "Instead of disparaging the ABC or any other news outlets with accusations of false news I think I'll join most King Islanders and have a bit of a laugh about this story," said Mayor McFie, "We held our monthly Council meeting last night which is open to the public and it certainly wasn't mentioned there".

This week Mayor McFie is holding a number of face-to-face meetings with community members who are concerned about some of recent challenges facing King Island. "Myself and my colleagues believe talking with our community is one of the best ways to counter incorrect news stories", Mayor McFie explained. "King Island Council has come in for a fair bit of stick recently but we'll not shy away from engaging and listening to a range of constructive ideas suggested by our free thinking and creative community", he said.

Like many places, secession is a bit of a bar room favourite on King Island and last sprang onto the national news scene when Jeff Kennett was Premier of Victoria in the 1990's. "I remember someone showing me a double page spread in the Herald Sun but I was told the idea died after a few days," Mayor McFie said.

King Island Council recently held a survey to ask for ideas from the community about the future of King Island. Despite 10% of the population responding to the survey no one mentioned the idea of secession. "I think we will concentrate our energies at the moment on the important issues" said Mayor McFie.

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