

## Wendy Duncan, State President

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**MEDIA STATEMENT**

10<sup>th</sup> December 2007

### **The Nationals call for candidates for next State Election**

The Nationals WA State President Wendy Duncan has started the pre-selection process for the next State election saying the party was looking for candidates prepared to think outside the square and deliver policy to ensure all Western Australians benefited from the State's prosperous times.

"We are looking for people who will add real value to the Parliament of Western Australia," Mrs Duncan said.

"These will be the people who will bring a local focus to our key policy of *Royalties for Regions*, our plan to deliver 25 per cent of all royalties collected in regional Western Australia back to regional Western Australia."

She said the Party had proven its ability to attract broad-spectrum support by tackling issues that were important to a wide range of communities.

"We were the only voice for the public against daylight saving when Labor and the Liberal Party introduced the much maligned trial," she said.

"We were the only voice for the people of Halls Creek when the housing situation reached crisis point earlier in the year, and we've taken Telstra to task over the CDMA network to make sure everyone has access to quality telecommunications services.

"Our philosophy is that all Western Australian's deserve to benefit from these prosperous times."

Mrs Duncan said that candidates would go into the next election unfettered by the constraints of a traditional Coalition Agreement.

A resolution passed in 2006 at the State Council meeting held in Wagin means The Nationals will contest the next State election as an independent party.

"We have conducted polling to test public opinion on the decision and I'm pleased to report nearly 70 per cent of people polled agree with our independent stance," Mrs Duncan said.

"I'd encourage anyone that wants to be part of a political party offering voters a real alternative to the Liberal and Labor Party to submit their nomination form.

She said the party's core philosophy of looking after country people would never be discarded but warned against pigeonholing the party as the farmer's party.

Nominations open today for all Legislative Assembly electorates and Legislative Council regions.

Mrs Duncan said she was delighted with Max Trenorden's decision to run for a Legislative Council seat at the next State Election.

"Max, who has represented his Avon electorate with distinction for the past two decades, will head the party's ticket in the Agricultural Region as we try to establish a balance of power scenario to ensure core policy initiatives are delivered to regional Western Australia," she said.

Mrs Duncan said nominations for the electorates of Central Wheatbelt, Wagin, Blackwood Stirling and Moore would close 11<sup>th</sup> January 2008.

All remaining electorates, including the Legislative Council Regions, will be closed on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2008.

"I am pleased to advise that aside from Hon Murray Criddle MLC, who announced his intention to retire over the Christmas period, all our current Members of Parliament have indicated they will seek pre-selection under the new boundaries," Mrs Duncan said.

"The upcoming State election provides The Nationals will a wonderful opportunity to expand its horizons and bring some quality individuals into the Parliament to support our experienced team."

#### **For the Editor**

The current Members of the Parliamentary Nationals' have indicated they will be seeking endorsement as the candidate for the following seats:

Brendon Grylls MLA	Central Wheatbelt
Terry Waldron MLA	Wagin
Terry Redman MLA	Blackwood Stirling
Grant Woodhams MLA	Moore
Max Trenorden MLA	Agricultural Region

For more information contact Mia Davies, State Director, on 0412 656 005 or [info@nationalswa.com](mailto:info@nationalswa.com).

*Please note Wendy Duncan may not be available for interview as she may be out of mobile range.*