

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal

Dear Members

Re: " Clubs to canvas role in local life " published in the June 7, 2007 edition of the Tweed Sun.

I would like to give my complete support to the contention that the provisions made by the club industry is directly vital to the social and physical well being of the thousands who partake of the many opportunities available in the clubs. Indirectly all Australians are affected because non participants can know that those particular segments of society for which many have a concern, viz. the elderly and the youth , are served quite well.It is known that many other contributions to the society are made by the clubs using some of their disposable income.

The above is not an idle comment. At the risk of being simply boastful and egotistical I would like to submit some data , which collectively could be considered a 'license'to make such recommendations. I am originally Canadian and now hold dual citizenship. My profession was education- I have 5 earned university degrees B.A., B.P.H.E., B.Ed. , M.Sc. , Ph.D.I have had the privilege and opportunities to live and work in 6 different countries , viz. Canada , Finland , Germany, U.S.A., Czechoslovakia ( now the Czech Republic) and Australia.At the end of my career it was to Tweed Heads that I came to retire . The attraction was not only sun, sand , and surf , but the aspects of freedom,security, strong social sense , and sense of responsibility. This is the social responsibility that the clubs adhere to and foster in their programmes for both the elderly and the youth.( The rest are allowed to make their own mistakes)This combination of social and physical factors exists nowhere else in the world that I have traveled and worked in.

In my opinion the clubs must be supported.The social responsibility shouldered by these institutions is focused on the local needs – at the functional level of society. This responsibility is far too important to be placed in the hands of politicians who are too prone to distance themselves from the nitty gritty of daily needs of the people.It is just too much to expect the polity to get involved in the minutae of the lives of the needy.The locals are making a fine contribution . They must be allowed to continue.

Sincerely

Gregg McKelvey