

# THE BACKBENCHER

STILL CHRISTCHURCH, MONDAY 26 AUGUST 2019

## THAT'S IT!!!

We made it to the end of the conference!

Time has flown so fast! WOWOW!! I can still remember everyone walking into the conference, and I am looking forward to remembering that for a very long time. Perhaps in not such a great detail as every individual representative walking into the room, but enough to know that you all did that at some point in time.

Now that I have used up a whole paragraph saying basically nothing, I don't have to write as much. YES.

I really hope you enjoyed this conference. The Organising Committee, National Executive and Conference Assistants have all very much enjoyed accomodating you all at this conference these past three days.

It remains to be seen whether or not this bill passes at time of writing, but that I do not think is the point. The point of this conference is to enhance your understanding of civics in New Zealand. You have all taken away something hopefully (please don't steal anything from UC.) Whether it was what ACT stands for (Association of Consumers and Taxpayers), or what Standing Orders are, everything you learnt here is valuable for your future.

All the best!

*Page 1 written by Patrick Hayes*

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Well done to our Press Team!!

## WISDOM

*"You don't need wisdom from me anymore. I think you are ready to figure life out for yourselves."*

- Patrick Hayes

# PARTY POSITIONS

## NZ LABOUR

### **Azaria Howell, The Spinoff**

Labour's precedent during the 2019 Model Parliament focused on enhancing the voices of marginalised groups by supporting a lower voting age and giving prisoners the right to vote. They remained against the use of nuclear energy throughout, with strong rhetoric against National Party policy.

## NZ NATIONAL

### **Xyryll Gayagoy, Radio New Zealand**

The National Party has struggled in its unity, with contradicting statements and miscommunication. Despite this, the Party made a compromise to respect each MP's position due to their specific electorate's needs and wants.

"We will show a united front - just give us time."

## GREENS

### **Grace Prodanov, NZ Herald**

Even with Greens' "chill and wholesome" party culture, there were concerns among opposition parties that their stance on the bill was particularly hard line. MPs were concerned in particular with the amendment concerning iwi assent, and the fact it was a non-negotiable provision for the party.

## ACT

### **Rose Mason-Collins, Newshub**

ACT's opinions throughout the conference remained mostly unanimous within the party. Their caucus was in agreement with issues such as voters rights, saying "If we had a constitution, voter's rights would need to be protected." They also said that the Constitution needed to be flexible in the future.

## NZ FIRST

### **Alex Brown, Newstalk ZB**

New Zealand First have continually reiterated their unhappiness with the lack of a public referendum on entrenchment of a constitution. They are on the fence about supporting the bill. It is their view that significant changes must be made before they vote in favour of it.

*"Something profound"*  
- Sophie

## HOROSCOPES FOR 26 AUGUST

### ♈ Aries: March 21-April 19

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♉ Taurus: April 20 - May 20

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♊ Gemini: May 21 - June 20

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♋ Cancer: June 21 - July 22

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♌ Leo: July 23 - August 22

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♍ Virgo: August 23 - September 22

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♎ Libra: September 23 - October 22

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♏ Scorpio: October 23 - November 21

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♐ Sagittarius: November 22 - December 21

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♑ Capricorn: December 22 - January 19

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♒ Aquarius: January 20 - February 18

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

### ♓ Pisces: February 19 - March 20

"I don't believe in pseudoscience mumbo jumbo."

*Horoscopes written by Patrick Hayes*

## TIRED NEWS WRITER FINALLY RUNS OUT OF IDEAS

Patrick Hayes, The Backbencher  
26 August 2019

A perplexed and very tired news writer has finally decided to call it quits on finding more ideas for news articles.

In a rare move, the writer has hit a brick wall - not literally but anyways - in terms of content to write about, and has decided it's time to call it quits on any further editions of the paper.

Speaking to the Backbencher in an exclusive interview earlier this afternoon, the writer cited formatting difficulties as the reasoning behind their decision.

"It's just so difficult", said the writer. "Why do the text boxes not just line up normally?!"

The writer has decided to take a long holiday after making four newspapers over the space of 72 hours.

## HEY, WHAT COLOUR WERE THE LANYARDS?

**RED:** Welfare

**ORANGE:** Press facs

**YELLOW:** Logistics

**GREEN:** Media

**BLUE:** Conference Assistants

**PURPLE:** National Executive

**PINK:** Organising committee

**BLACK:** Representatives