

Whangarei Leader
7 Sept 2010

Election year

Hello! Three councillors come out of the woodwork. Where have they been for the past three years?

Another crop of signs sprouting up like mushrooms, candidates soliciting votes, unsightly billboards cluttering the road sides, adding to hazards for drivers. That's if people take any notice?

I for one am fed up with the "in your face" advertising from a bunch of sitting councillors who have been a dead loss. None of them will get my vote.

As far as I am concerned they have let the community down, mainly over the polluted harbour issue.

To dear Sue Glen, one would think she has paid for Onerahi Shopping Mall out of her own pocket. Funny that, it was the ratepayers was it not? That's about all Mrs Glen has to show for her input. As for Merv Williams, I did not know he represented the ward, he has been non-existent, the same goes for Mr McLachlan, utter waste of time.

With regards to the Okara pump station. Yes, only after the public outcry, have council started the patch-up.

The Save The Harbour Group, can take the kudos for that, not the council and its highly paid planners.

Chief executive Mark Simpson has the gall to say he has stopped the overflows from Okara. Mr Simpson, as an ex-drainage engineer, I find it strange that you do not know the difference between an overflow and a deliberate discharge.

Clearly, at this time, you have only moved the discharges to another place, from Okara to Hatea. I would have thought that over 20 years council would have had this all fixed.

I urge ratepayers, if you want the mess cleared up, vote in people who will listen to you, protect our harbour, protect our recreational space and food chain.

No one in Whangarei cares what Auckland has, nor Paris or London. What we are concerned about is our own backyard.

It's time to get real. You are the ones who pay the bills.

Clyde Korach
Onerahi
- Abridged