



CENTROC

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Date of Release: 8 April 2013

Approved by: Cr Ken Keith, Chairman of Central NSW Councils and Mayor of Parkes Shire Council

Centroc Board goes to Parliament House

“Centroc (Central NSW Councils) represents over 236,000 people covering an area of more than 70,000 sq kms comprising of 17 councils in the Central NSW. We are an area the same size as Tasmania with a bigger GDP. We work together on matters that are important to our communities,” said Cr Ken Keith, Chairman of Central NSW Councils and Mayor of Parkes Shire Council.

Mayors and General Managers from the region will attend the Centroc Board meeting scheduled for 23 May 2013, held in Parliament House.

“This will be an historic occasion as it will be the first time that the Board has ever met at Parliament House and it will be only the second time that a regional group like ours has ever met at Parliament House,” said Cr Keith.

“The meeting is taking place on a Parliamentary sitting day and allows our members to have direct access to a number of ministers during the course of the day.” said Cr Keith.

“Being able to do this should be beneficial to Centroc as we play our part in assisting the NSW Government in their efforts to develop regional areas through their policy of decentralisation,” said Cr Keith.

“At the 23 May meeting we will be able to raise the issues of the region with relevant State Ministers. This is being co-ordinated by Andrew Gee, the Member for Orange, as part of his commitments from the Centroc Summit last November,” said Cr Keith.

“I would like to thank Mr Gee for his efforts, which has resulted in Ministers having booked out all available time slots to talk to Centroc,” said Cr Keith.

“I am especially pleased that Deputy Premier Andrew Stoner has accepted our invitation to officially open proceedings and he will be with us from 9.45 until 10.15am,” said Cr Keith.

“To date the Ministers for Local Government, Health, Roads and Ports, Planning and Infrastructure, Resources and Energy, Tourism, Primary Industries, Mental Health and Healthy Lifestyles and Western NSW and the Minister for Transport have accepted invitations to attend,” said Cr Keith.



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“Their response to Mr Gee’s request to address our meeting is a great confidence boost to the Central West and shows how important the NSW Government regards the region Centroc represents.

“We are also working with staff at Parliament House to get local produce onto the menu for the day so we can showcase this region,” said Cr Keith.

“The State and Federal Governments like to see regions working together. We Mayors do that really well on the Centroc Board and so I hope to capitalise on this to get the infrastructure and services our community needs,” said Cr Keith.

ENDS

For comment please contact Cr Ken Keith on 0428 669 482

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