

Shepparton no university city.

In the discussion regarding Parkside Gardens , to my knowledge nobody has yet mentioned that if

Shepparton wish to reach the status of a "university town" and in particular wish to improve and

impress the Faculty of Medicine, then what kind of "university town " will Shepparton be, without a

botanical garden with a majority of native species, to show our (future) international medical students and lecturers .

This council and the city of Greater Shepparton will become a without any doubt a laughing stock

trying to simulate other city's with a university, with a medical faculty, but no botanical garden to relate to.

May I remind this council that the historical and scientific basis of any Faculty of Medicine is the

botanical garden. Despite the fact that today the majority of all medicines are made synthetically, the

botanic garden still and will continue to educate, not only to show the medical students the origins of

their medicines, but also show the visitor a range of other not native species, of which they rely on in

daily life, but seldom think about, for example the indigo plant for their jeans.

In the city of Leiden, the oldest University city in the Netherlands, the University was established in

1574, with a botanical garden and herbarium connected to the Faculty of Medicine.

This garden attracts more than a 100 000 visitors a year, not only local, but also from Europe and

overseas.

As for the argument that those medical students here in Shepparton, who wish to see a botanical

garden, they can go and visit Melbourne or Canberra, this argument can also be applied for any other

service this council wish to attract and maintain, why the need for a Faculty of Medicine, why the need

for a local hospital? Why the need for a local airport?

The second argument that Parkside Gardens is too far out of the centre of Shepparton, and people

can't be bothered, strangely enough this also applies for D.E..C.A. .It is remarkable how many local people

and interstate visitors can find their way to this complex when the Spring Nats start next month.

If this council wins this case, and starts building in Parkside Gardens, I wonder how long it will take,

before the first complaints of these future residents will come to the council about the screeching

of cars driving at D.E.C.A., or will the council use the profits from the sale of Parkside Gardens, to

relocate D.E.C.A. to ensure the future residents of Parkside Gardens Estate a tranquil living?

There is no doubt in my mind that a botanical garden would compliment this expanding city.

With the expansion of the city and the present advertising campaign from regional towns to entice

people from the major cities towards the smaller regional towns, Shepparton must offer more than only

cheaper housing.

Having a decent botanical garden, instead of a mosaic of gardens, could be the draw card.

The majority of Councilors of Greater Shepparton don't live in Shepparton, I start to wonder if they are truly interested in improving the quality of life of people living in the city, as many of them mentioned this, in one form or another during their last election rhetoric.

Or is the electorate fobbed again?

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