



New Party To Split the Cape Independence Vote



Dear {{ contact.FIRSTNAME | default : "Supporter" }}

In a disappointing move for Cape independence, Phil Craig of the CIAG, has decided to form his own political party called the "Referendum Party", whose platform is no different to what the Cape Independence Party - CAPEXIT, has been pushing for since 2007.

The "Referendum Party" website states that it was established to "force a referendum on Cape Independence."

This is the same pledge that Phil Craig made at the CIAG, which he formed in 2020, stating that he had de facto already delivered a referendum on Cape independence as he had personally guaranteed it through private conversations with the DA.

As a result, in the critically important 2021 Elections, Phil Craig told Western Cape voters that they didn't necessarily have to vote for the Cape Independence Party if they wanted a referendum on Cape independence, but that they could vote for a wide range of parties including the CCC, FF+, KOP amongst others, and of course, the DA.

For the long term Cape independence supporters it was clear that his actions were going to "split the vote", and do damage to the one party exclusively devoted to Cape independence and delivering a referendum - the Cape Independence Party - CAPEXIT.

Western Cape voters had now been led into the false belief that they could continue to vote for the DA - which many consider to be a safe vote - and still get a referendum on Cape independence.

At the time, Cape Independence Party leader, Jack Miller, had attempted

to warn Phil Craig saying that he doubted the sincerity and realistic probability of a DA promised referendum.

Nonetheless, the CIAG continued with its campaign of support for the DA, and promoted a range of political parties that had no history of having any serious interest in Cape independence.

As predicted, the DA won another comfortable majority in 2021 with no threat or pressure being placed on them.

This is precisely what the DA would have wanted. They could pretend to be in support of a referendum around election time, and then suppress it again after they had won.

Two years later, with another valuable election cycle come and gone, it has become clear to all that the DA never had any intention of supporting a referendum.

However, instead of coming to terms with the costly mistake of investing their hopes in the DA - and realigning their support with the one political party that has remained true to Cape independence over 17 years - the CIAG have instead chosen to start their own political party.

As a result, Phil Craig's new political party will now directly challenge the Cape Independence Party for votes in elections. With both parties competing for the same electorate, a vote for the one party, will be a vote lost for the other.

The electoral system in South Africa is designed in such a way that if a party does not receive enough votes to get a seat in government, then those votes cannot be merged with another party once the election is over, those votes are lost.

Considering that both parties stand for the same thing it is difficult to understand the motivation behind Phil Craig's new venture.

But once again, because of this, in 2024 (as in 2021), supporters of Cape independence will be presented political choices that will end up splitting the vote again.

Jack Miller stated, "After so many years of fighting for Cape independence it is once again sad to see yet another new player in the Cape independence scene diverting political focus. We have tried very hard over the years to work together with all of these new organisations, but many have been determined to either try sabotage our election campaigns, or in spite of our experience and our willingness to share it, believe they know best, and would rather reinvent their own wheel than work together."

The Cape Independence Party, has not waived in its steadfast dedication to Cape independence over 17 years, and already has two seats in local government as a platform to build on.

The Referendum Party has never contested an election before, but will be hoping that in its opening attempt it will be able to gain representation in government.

According to Phil Craig, if the Referendum Party attains any seats it will use those seats to "vote with the DA".

If the Cape Independence Party gains representation it says it will "hold the DA to account", but would form an alliance with the DA on the basis that they give the people of the Western Cape a referendum on Cape independence.

If both parties want to succeed next year, then both parties will need to win a seat outright. Furthermore, the general concept of Cape independence will be hoping to win seats in government next year. But with the creation of the new Referendum Party, it will be making this task that much harder for both.

If you want to help spread the vision of Cape independence, please feel free to join the team and get involved below!

Complete/Update your [Membership Form](#) and [Support Form](#) here.

Together we can expand and build the fight to achieve our referendum on Cape independence, and through our efforts give life to a peaceful and prosperous country for our children, and our future, the Cape Republic!

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