

Liberal Party on election trail with North Sydney MP Trent Zimmerman stepping down from party duties

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North Sydney federal Liberal MP Trent Zimmerman announced \$15,000 in grant funding for Lane Cove Bowling Club as prepares to step down as NSW Liberal Party president.

NORTH Sydney federal Liberal MP Trent Zimmerman is on an election footing as he makes himself ready for an expected July 2 polling day.

After only a few months in the job, Mr Zimmerman said he would not be taking anything for granted and was pushing on to deliver his by-election promises.

The NSW Liberal Party president said the May 3 budget would outline the Liberal Government's agenda heading into the election.

Factional fault-lines in the Liberal Party could be exposed in the lead up to a July 2 election with state president Trent Zimmerman eager to step down before the federal poll.

The North Sydney MP said the early election timetable had complicated matters as an internal ballot would be required to decide the new president of the NSW branch of the Liberal Party.

Mr Zimmerman wanted to step down from his post prior to the North Sydney by-election but was forced to wait until a new state director was selected. In February, former lobbyist Chris Stone accepted the role, clearing the way for Mr Zimmerman to step aside.

“Whoever is elected as the new president will just be a puppet,” a Liberal party source said. “The moderates have been trying to gradually remove the conservative members.”

The news follows [reports in News Corp papers earlier last week](#) detailing the moderate faction’s growing power base within the federal element of the party.



There are few balls up in the air as with a Federal Election to be set down for July 2.

Mr Zimmerman said commentary like this always popped up around an election but he was reassured by his short-time in Canberra that the party was united.

“The Liberal party is a broad church and will always be so. We have to make sure that we embrace everyone on our side of the political spectrum,” he said.

“The fact that is an early election has complicated that a little bit (stepping down as president), so I am in discussions over whether or not we can go to a transition. It does involve an election internally and I do not want to interfere with our election preparedness but if I can relinquish that role before the election than I will do so.”

Mr Zimmerman made the comments as he announced \$15,000 would be provided to the Lane Cove Bowling Club so scorching summer days and drenching winter rains would no longer halt the family fun.

The federal funding will allow the club to kickstart their proposed project to build a new all-weather outdoor entertainment space.

Chairman David Madsom welcomed the funding and said the club was hopeful Lane Cove Council would come to the party as the total project was expected to cost about \$65,000.

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/newslocal/north-shore/liberal-party-on-election-trail-with-north-sydney-mp-trent-zimmeran-stepping-down-from-party-duties/news-story/cc7ca909cb9a79c4392ab51b2a8804b2#load-story-comments>