

Government of the
Principality of Hutt River
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**** *MEDIA RELEASE* ****
December 27th 2019

Principality of Hutt River
to close its borders!
By Royal Decree

Effective 31st January 2020

By: HRH Prince Graeme, Sovereign, Principality of Hutt River.

*The Beacon of Hope has not been dimmed.
The light shines for all to be inspired and aspire.*

It is with a heavy heart and after much thought and consultation with my Cabinet and ADC that I have to inform all that the Government of the Principality of Hutt River is about to go on hiatus. Our borders will be closed to all (including tourists) and all government external services will cease at close of business Friday 31st January 2020 until further notice.

Please note:

This means the PHR Government will cease issuing entry/exit VISA's to visit the PHR from that same date. Nor will the Government accept applications for any Government services such as non-resident Subject applications, Passports, all licencing etc. etc.

Prince Leonard with his pen, incredible mind and loving companion Princess Shirley and her typewriter set out 50 years ago to right a wrong. The wrong of a Government stealing a person's *Human Rights*. A government that should be there to protect and encourage the development and growth of individuals which then when added together becomes a mighty nation. Something I liken to what good parenting should be.

The fact that Prince Leonard, a man born Leonard George Casley on the 27 August 1925 in the then remote mining town of Kalgoorlie some 600 kilometres east of Perth went on to carve his way in the world of business, farming, family and fighting for his King and Country. He saw the unjust position governments were placing people in and he fought against that. Certainly out of necessity to save his family's farm but it was bigger than the Casley family, it was a Human Right that needed to be saved. Surely natural justice is what keeps us all at peace?

With his skills and determination he took on the West Australian State, Australian Commonwealth and British Governments. Not to mention when the Australian Government at one stage called on the Government of the USA to assist in blocking the Principality's growth. There he stood with his steadfast wife, Shirley Joy, a person Leonard classed as his equal with her special loving, quiet yet strong traits taking on them all.

The “*David and Goliath*” story quickly spread around the world and many people offered their support, some having special skills were able to come on board and build what we have today. We thank them all. Not to mention those that befriended Prince Leonard to only find out on their death beds that they confessed to having been with the ASIO (Australian Secret Intelligence Organisation).

That was one of Prince Leonard’s many wonderful qualities, that he had trust in his fellow human. Even when infiltrated by Australian spies and British Lords, their surveillance, listening and recording conversations still could not find any criminal charges to place on him.

So they used the Australian Taxation Office to try and break him; multiple times. Still it couldn’t be done.

He outlived many Australian politicians in his full 93 years. Prince Leonard and therefore the Principality lived with the strong sense of natural justice and the principle of Right and Fair. His moral compass never wavered.

However, over the past few years the economic standing of the Principality has been challenging. We have and are experiencing declining revenue from our agricultural pursuits, our largest source of revenue; this finds us in difficult and challenging circumstances. This, along with a steady decline in the number of tourists passing by and dropping in for a chat over more recent times, as well of course the increase in costs of running even such a small country as the PHR, has led me to the difficult current announcement that the Principality of Hutt River is to go on hiatus, closing its borders and public offices at end of business on Friday the 31st January 2020.

Visitors will not be accepted into the Principality following the border closure and most of our offices will stand down at that time also. PHR-OnLine will continue to be available via email phr.online@principality-hutt-river.com general enquiries should be made to the main office hutriver@principality-hutt-river.com The website will remain in place and further updates will be published via that medium www.principality-hutt-river.com so check the website from time to time.

I will remain Sovereign Prince of the Independent Sovereign State, the Principality of Hutt River. My Government will remain in place with me during the hiatus and in this time we will assess the Principality’s future direction.

We take this moment to thank all for your support in helping make the Principality of Hutt River the Beacon of Hope for so many around the world.

**We wish all a very happy and safe Holiday Season
and all the very best for the New Year 2020, the start of a new decade.**

Yours sincerely



*HRH Prince Graeme
Sovereign
Principality of Hutt River*

27th December 2019

