



News Letter

JANUARY 2007

CHAIRMANS COLUMN

Swan Song

This is my last column as Chairman. After 8 years it is time to step aside to enable a fresh approach to what is now a very different role. With a more heavily consumer oriented focus, the Board is a totally different animal to the one I joined 14 years ago when I was asked by the then Chair to assist in the preparation of the proposed amendments to the 1921 Act. A lot has happened in those 14 years but rather than dwell on the past I would rather look to the future and what challenges lie ahead.

The first challenge the Board must address with some urgency are the necessary amendments to the new Act and the Regulations to overcome the difficulties we are facing in administering them and to address those issues that they have simply ignored. I have over the last 12 months met with the DHW on several occasions to discuss the necessary amendments and they have undertaken to progress them, however the new WA Building Act is taking priority and progress is slow. It is going to be a case of "the squeaky wheel getting the grease" I'm afraid so patience and perseverance are necessary if we are to achieve our goals.

The next major task for the Board is to increase public

awareness of its existence and its function. We have made a start, but a lot more needs to be done so that the public is well aware of the fact that there are Architects and there are those that pretend to be Architects. The Board also needs to make the profession more aware of its role and their obligations if they wish to maintain registration. Active promotion of the use of the Board Logo on all stationary, job signs, advertisements and the like needs to be encouraged by the Board and the public advised to look for the logo as a sign of quality and professionalism.

The National Scene

On the national scene, SA has made little progress toward producing its new Act even though it has been talked about for some time. There definitely seems to be no urgency here. All other states and territories continue to bed in their new or amended Acts and Qld is still trying to write its regulations!! One thing that all the jurisdictions do agree on is that we have taken a step backward in terms of the uniformity of the Acts across the country. After initial registration, we are far more diverse in our requirements for ongoing registration and the handling of corporate entities than we were before the changes.

AACA

A major role for AACA in the coming years is going to be the restoration of uniformity in the Acts of the various jurisdictions. I believe an Australian Architect is a real possibility and the AACA is in the best position to take on the role of a national focal point for the registration of Architects. A major hurdle we have is that there is no federal mechanism under which the works portfolios sit and therefore they are jurisdictional based making it difficult to drive any national agendas. We must therefore look to other models to achieve national registration. Professions Australia has launched a "Blue Print for National Registration of the Professions" which the AACA and the State and Territory Boards have agreed is a good starting point for discussions outlining a way forward for national registration.

The WA Board has agreed for me to continue as its member to AACA for this year so that I can fulfil my obligation to AACA as its National President until the next Council meeting in September. One of my main goals in my last year with AACA is to initiate serious investigation into how the Architectural Profession can achieve national registration and ultimately the "Australian Architect".

Happy 2007.

Brian Wright
Chairman – Architects Board
of Western Australia.

REGISTRAR'S COLUMN

I would like to introduce myself as the new Registrar for the Architects Board of Western Australia. With the new Act still to bed down in Western Australia, there are many exciting challenges ahead for the Board, and I look forward to playing a role in addressing these.

Board Elections/Appointments

Elected Board Members

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr Rod Mollett and Mr Simon Bodycoat who have been re-elected as Board Members for a term from 16.11.06 until 30.6.08.

Appointed Board Members

Congratulations too to new Board members, Ms Kate Hislop and Mrs Joanne Parnell who have been appointed by the Minister for a period from 16.11.06 until 30.6.08; and Mr John McBain who has been re-appointed to the Board for the same period.

On behalf of the members and staff of the Board, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Ms Janine Marsh, who has been a Board member for 8 years, for her time and invaluable contributions to the Board which will be sadly missed. We would

also like to thank Ms Diane Annear for her contributions as an appointed Consumer Representative on the Board from 16.11.05 until 15.11.06.

Architects Board Members

The current Board Members are as follows:

Mr Brian Wright (Chair) -
Appointed Architect

Mr Bruce Callow (Deputy
Chair) - Elected Architect

Mr Rod Mollett - Elected
Architect

Mr Simon Bodycoat - Elected
Architect

Mr Brian Klopper - Elected
Architect

Ms Kate Hislop - Appointed
Architect

Dr Frank Pitman - Appointed
Consumer Representative

Ms Anna Ciffolilli - Appointed
Consumer Representative

Mr John McBain - Appointed
Consumer Representative

Mrs Joanne Parnell - Appointed
Consumer Representative

Changes to Register

5.9.06 - 1.1.07

New Registrations:

W J Barrett (2081)

B M Elber (2083)

M J Davis (2082)

D M Fiore (2084)

C M G Hartfield (2085)

P M Hubble (2086)

R J Phillipson (2087)

M E Ciesielski (2088)

Y H (Jacqui) Rong (2089)

G A Russell (2090)

D R Walton (2091)

D L L Barr (2093)

C M Hickey (2094)

J A Vandongen (2095)

M J Goodwin (2097)

M A Francis (2101)

N J E Gibson (2102)

N Yammine (2103)

Re-Registrations:

E L Fredriksson (1270)

Placed on Non-Practising List:

R N Longley (892)

F W Robinson (880)

Nicole Kerr
Registrar