

REVIEW OF THE ARCHITECTS ACT 1939, AS AMENDED

The review of the Architects Act 1939, as amended is progressing slowly. As a result of Federal Government initiatives to ensure all legislation effecting Australian citizens is not anti competitive the State Government is reviewing all legislation including the Architects Act to ensure it does not contain clauses which may restrict competition.

The Minister's department has met with a group consisting of the Architects Board, RAIA and the ACAA to consider possible changes to the existing legislation including anti competitive issues and other issues relating to professional indemnity insurance, continuing professional development and Codes of Conduct.

It is expected that any revised legislation will be made available to the community and interested parties for comment prior to finalising a Bill to amend the current Act.

The Board will keep registered architects informed as appropriate.

WELCOME TO NEW ARCHITECTS FUNCTION 19 NOVEMBER 2003

The Board recently held an evening function at the Botanic Gardens Restaurant with the Hon Mr Jay Weatherill presenting certificates and congratulating seventeen newly registered Architects. Other invited guests included the Board's Examiners, those Architects who were transferring to the Retired List and a range of people with whom the Board works.

The Board greatly appreciated the attendance of the Minister who affirmed that the drafting of the new Act was proceeding and also spoke in some detail about proposed improvements in the Planning Act which may involve professionals including Architects sitting on Development Assessment Panels for regional areas.

The invited guest speaker was Mr John Morphett former Managing Director of Hassell Architects who has recently transferred to the Retired List.

Mr Morphett, whilst speaking directly to those at the beginning of their career spoke about matters of great interest to everyone present. He spoke about the vibrancy and challenges of architectural work, the changes over the length of his career and the rewards learnt through his own training of the benefits of working in collaboration with others.

He had four "helpful suggestions" (which are quoted verbatim):-

"Be unfashionable:

Stand your distance. Resist the temptation. Stay away from the latest extremes – They will not endure. Develop your own philosophy – remember that no matter how beautiful the building, we cannot be entirely happy with a stylistic answer to a program which often needs to address issues of economics, politics and human relationships.

Attend to the detail:

The grand design depends on it. There is delight in discovering it. Clients and the public like it – the walls will not crack, the roof will not leak and you will have a lot fewer variations on the job.

Do as little damage as possible:

(Arch. is intrusive) Have respect for context and the environment. Be an urban designer. Educate the public. This is not easy – it is difficult to resolve social conflicts that arise when the impacts of environmental change become apparent.

Have a good time:

Enjoy what you are doing – you might as well because you will work long hours for little reward. Besides, it will improve your work and we will all benefit.

You are entering a profession at a time when the future looks quite rosy. There is a fair bit of work around. Technology has given you lots of options. The standard of much of the work is inspirational.

Congratulations on your achieving registration and the best of luck for the future".

In closing he reflected on the current positive state of the profession and the building industry and offered congratulations and best wishes to the new registrants.

The Board was pleased and enthused by the obvious appreciation of the new Architects at the function and look forward to future successful events.



New registrants Brett Cocksbell, Ben Whittaker, and Kendall Aplin, with Minister Jay Weatherill, Chairman Andrew Davies and John Morpbett

BOARD PRIZES

The Prizes presented by the Board on the basis of the 2003 examination results were:-

University of Adelaide

Dean W Berry Prize

Awarded to the student in the Bachelor of Architecture course who has in the year of the award obtained the highest marks in the practice subject Architecture Practice II – value \$250

Alison Potter

Travelling Prize in Architecture

Awarded to the student achieving the best results in all Level I subjects in the Bachelor of Architecture Degree – value \$1500.

Lachlan Rose

The University of South Australia

Dean W Perry Prize

Awarded to the student who has obtained the highest aggregate of marks in level 3 Practice Management Professional – value \$250.

Hamish Milne

Travelling Prize in Architecture

Awarded to the student achieving the best results in the subjects Architecture Design 9 and Architecture Design 10 – value \$1500.

Adam Cunningham

AACA

The Architects Accreditation Council of Australia's Annual Council meeting was held in Darwin in September 2003.

The Architects Accreditation Council of Australia Incorporated is recognised as the national organisation responsible for establishing, coordinating and advocating national standards for the registration of architects in Australia and for the recognition of Australian architects overseas by the relevant Registration Authorities.

AACA is constituted of and accountable to, all State and Territorial Architects' Registration Boards in Australia. It is not a Registration Authority and can only make recommendations to the various Boards.

Registration of architects in South Australia is solely the responsibility of the Board.

ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE EXAMINATIONS

The timetable for the 2004 examinations are set out below:-

Applications close to sit the examination

Friday, 5 March

Friday, 3 September

Briefing of candidates on examination process (Part 1)

Wednesday, 17 March at 12.30 pm

Wednesday, 15 September at 12.30 pm

National Examination Paper (Part 2)

Wednesday, 7 April at 10.30 am

Wednesday, 6 October at 10.30 am

Oral Examination (Part 3A)

Wednesday, 28 April

Wednesday, 27 October

(timetable will be advised to successful candidates)

Oral Examination (Part 3B) (if required)

Information on the examination process is available on the AACA website: www.aaca.org.au or the SA Board website: archboardsa.org.au

REGISTRATION

Congratulations to the following architects who have successfully registered in South Australia between May 2003 and December 2003. Some of these registrations are for architects from other States and Territories under mutual recognition arrangements.

Most are new architects registering for the first time having completed the Architectural Practice Examination.

Christie Jane Bailey
Glenn Kevin Agars
Samuel Jason Aukland
Dion Byas
Vicki Rae Jacobs
Raphael Philippe Christinat
Alexander Thomas James
Peter William Martin (re-reg)
Daren Jeffrey Kaye
Simon Robert Douglass Bathgate
Themis Georgiou Themistocleous
Gillan Frances Manning
Paul James Thatcher
Lisa Mannillo
Dianne Margaret Peacock
David Shannon Girolamo
David Robert Homburg
Kevin John Green (re-reg)
Brett Andrew Cockshell
Ben John Whittaker
John Caporaso
Martin John Williamson
Nicole Lesley Gardner
Don Steven Iannicelli
Christopher Simon Greening
Myles Grant Croser
Louisa Jayne Flynn
Stephen Charles Clements
Karen Elizabeth Hill
Guy Sien Pierre Berry
Stuart Michael Clark
Katica Pedisic
Katalin Anastasia Apponyi
Robert Andrew King
Gregory Yew Li Chin
Mark Andrew Snowden
Adam Walker

Companies:

Drew & Villis Architects Pty Ltd
Villis Architects Pty Ltd
Keam Consultants Architecture Pty Ltd
Alex Bryzgalin Pty Ltd

COMPLAINTS

The Board has received a significant increase in the number of complaints from members of the public against the conduct of registered architects particularly as they relate to fees and cost expectations for estimating costs of building projects.

In the current economic climate of increased activity in the building sector it appears as though members of the public and architects have underestimated the cost of building work when considering new projects.

The Board wishes to bring to registered architects attention that they should ensure:-

- client fee agreements are clear unequivocal and agreed at the outset of an assignment.
- the implications of changes in scope or redesign of a project upon fees should be clear.
- the architect does not give cost estimates without proper consideration and advice as appropriate.
- clients are informed as to the process which leads to the determination of cost of a project, and the financial implications.

The Board also draws to the attention of registered architects that it understands some professional indemnity insurance policies do not provide cover for advice given in relation to opinions of probable cost.

ROLE OF THE BOARD

The Architects Board of South Australia is the statutory authority responsible to the Minister for administering the Architects Act 1939, as amended, 'which provides for the registration of architects, to regulate the practice of architecture, and for purposes incidental thereto'. the purpose of limiting the use of the title architect to those properly qualified to use it is to protect the public from the activities of unqualified persons who may present themselves as having professional qualifications in architecture they do not possess.

The relevant Minister is the Minister for Urban Development and Planning and Planning SA is the department responsible for supporting the Minister.

The Board is composed of individuals nominated by government and elected registered architects. Members of the board act in honorary capacity.

The Board may promote education in architecture and take such other measures as it thinks proper for extending knowledge of architecture among the public.

The Architects Board is responsible for maintaining a register of architects and architectural companies and for ensuring that only properly qualified and experienced people are listed on the register of architects, and only companies which satisfy the requirements of the architects act are registered as architect companies.

The Board has a statutory role to investigate complaints made against architects and against unregistered persons holding themselves out to be architects and also to discipline those who are found to have contravened the act.

A further role of the Board is to accredit architectural courses.

The Board charges fees to registered architects to cover costs of administering the board's activities and there is no cost to the government or members of the public.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

The current membership of the Board is as follows:-

Government nominees:

Judith Carr
Director Project Services - Department for Administrative and Information Services

Susan Phillips
Partner - Phillips/Pilkington Architects

Lolita Mohyla
Managing Partner – Mohyla Architects Interior Designers

Elected members:

Sue Campbell
Partner – Campbell & Campbell Architects

Robert Cheesman
Director - Cheesman Architects Pty Ltd

Professor John Cooper
Retired Architect

Andrew Davies (Chairman)
Director - Brown Falconer Group Pty Ltd

David Hassell
Managing Principal - Hassell Pty Ltd

Tom Maxwell,
Capital Works Coordinator - City of Adelaide.

THE ARCHITECTS BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Registrar: Mr Richard Krantz
Secretary: Mrs Marion Rawlings

The offices of the Board are located on the First Floor, Grant Thornton House, 67 Greenhill Road, Wayville.

Business hours are 8.45am to 5pm.

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PLEASE NOTE:

It is the responsibility of all architects to advise the Board in writing or by telephone of a change of address.

It is the responsibility of all registered architectural practice companies to advise of changes to company details including changes of directors, shareholders and constitution.