

2017.04.8500

NZILA PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1977-1978

I Over the past 12 months the NZILA has been involved with several submissions as well as officially participating in conferences and seminars. The following is a summary of these events -

1. A written submission to the Parliamentary Select Committee on the Town & Country Planning Bill was made and subsequently spoken to by Jim Beard and Tony Jackman. The Committee invited the Institute to make further submissions with particular reference to definitions within Clause 2 of the Bill. A subsequent submission was made.
2. A submission was made to the Land & Agriculture Select Committee on the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust Bill. As the Institute's submission was principally in support of the Bill we did not seek to speak to the submission. Subsequently the NZILA wrote to Sir Thaddeus McCarthy congratulating him on his appointment at the same time offering our assistance and support to the National Trust.
3. We did not make a formal submission to the Local Government Select Committee on the Local Government Amendment No 4 Bill, however we were able to support the submission made by the legislation Committee of the NZPI. We wrote to the Select Committee in support of the NZPI submission.
4. In response to the Commission for the Environment's Discussion Paper on Wild and Scenic Rivers Protection the NZILA made a written submission.

One can well ask if all the effort in preparing submissions is worth it. I believe it is. In our submission on the Reserves Act (which incidentally was the NZILA's first official Parliamentary Submission), we made the point quite forcefully that under Part 1 of the Bill sub-section 4 "Environmental amenity or interest" should read "Environmental and landscape amenity or interest". The word landscape was included in the Reserves Act 1977. Other suggestions made by the NZILA were also incorporated within the Act.

5. The NZILA have been requested to make submissions to the Planning Council on their recent publication "Planning Perspectives 1978-83". We are yet to make our submission. At this point I would like to offer our support to Graham Densem who is about to enter a two year contract with the Planning Council. Graham will be concerning himself with Regional Planning matters. As an Institute we must support Graham in his endeavours to promote and safeguard the landscape.

6. Towards the latter part of last year the Commission for the Environment organised a two day workshop on "Environment and Design in Electric Power Development". Six corporate members of the Institute attended the workshop. Headly Evans is to be commended for his efforts in organising the workshop. Subsequent to the workshop, and as President of the NZILA, I made a presentation to the Environmental Council on the workshop and also on the need for a National Landscape Assessment.

7. As a follow on from my presentation to the Environment Council the Commission for the Environment and the NZILA are to jointly sponsor a one day workshop on Landscape Assessments. The workshop is tentatively set for September 21 and will be restricted to 15 persons. Anyone who has had experience in Landscape Assessments and who would like to participate should see me in the next day or so.

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8. Presently I am representing the NZILA on the Standards Association Committee looking into a proposed Code of Practice for Earthworks.

9. Earlier this year many of our members (approximately 40% of our Corporate Membership) attended the NZPI Conference on Planning & Landscape, at Dunedin Julius Fabos, Visiting Professor of Landscape Architecture was the keynote speaker. Julius was superb and those NZILA members who attended had many opportunities of meeting him and discussing various points of mutual interest and concern. While the NZPI had their AGM we had an informal meeting with Julius. To many of us this was perhaps the highlight of the Conference.

The NZILA have invited Julius back to New Zealand for our Conference in May. I am delighted to report that he has accepted our invitation.

10. Jean Verschuer, President of the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects has expressed an interest in visiting New Zealand on her way home from the IFLA Grand Council Meeting in Brazil. She plans to be in New Zealand around the end of September. I have assured Mrs Verschuer that we look forward to her visit and discussions with her, especially with regard to establishing closer links with our two organisations.

11. We have been corresponding with the Principal at Lincoln College on the question of the establishment of an undergraduate degree course in Landscape Architecture. A lengthy and detailed submission was made and we have been advised that the NZILA will be included on an Expert Committee and/or will assist the Professorial Board in further investigations and discussions on the matter.

12. This year saw the introduction of the Temporary Exams. A great deal of work is involved in this and all those who participated in writing and grading scripts, we thank you and will no doubt call on your services again.

13. Cuttings appears to be a successful and newsy sheet. Emily has done a great job.

14. Finally I would like to thank the members of the Executive who have assisted me during my two year term as President. Special thanks are due to Neil Aitken who has the thankless task of Secretary. For an organisation so small we seem to generate a tremendous amount of paper work. Neil has done a superb job and for those of you fortunate enough to receive one of his letters will no doubt agree he is most eloquent and diplomatic.

II To date the NZILA has a paid up corporate membership of 37. The following table gives an occupational break down of this membership -

Central Govt.	14
Private Practice	8
Overseas	7
Local Govt.	4
Teaching	2
Retired	2
Total	<u>37</u>

The retired and overseas people total 9 or 25% of our membership who are not in the landscape work force.

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and documentation cannot be idly dismissed. It's too important as the implementation of our planning and design schemes hinges on it.

As one of the three examiners in the Institute's oral examination and interview (and I speak for Vas & Jim also), we are concerned at the generally weak level of design. Report documentation, graphics, particularly survey and analysis type presentations are not convincing and the level of drafting often is quite inferior. Drawings do not display any sensitivity or interest. Plans read as harsh impersonal and heavy straight edge ink lines. Sheet composition is poor and lettering lousy. In many cases the work of the people was considerably better when they were students - what happens and why, when they get into job situations is the real concern. Possibly our greatest concern is with the narrowness of professional experience the graduates obtain in their two years experience subsequent to graduation. We must look into ways and means of providing better work experience and we must all sharpen up on our graphics, presentation and report documentation.

Having had a poke at most of the job classifications let me assure our retired two that there is plenty to do and that they can assist the Institute in many ways. Finally to the 20% of our overseas members, many of whom are couriering their way around Europe, I'm sure if all the landscape jobs are taken up when you arrive home the courier business will snap you up.

III Over the past two or three years I have advocated that the Institute widen its base, particularly to include technologists. While I do not have a remit to that effect this year, I again stress that we must look into taking the technologists into the NZILA in a special membership classification. In time we may have to change the Institutes name - who knows - quite frankly, at this stage, I don't really care. The important thing is that we accept the technologists now and under the umbrella of the organisation we have. The Town Planning Institute are about to bring technicians into their Institute. The public service landscape architects included technologists in their claims with the SSC and I believe are the only job classification in the Government where the two classifications are linked. Surely we can organise something to include the technologists. Steve Drakeford and Graham Mulvey have tried to bring the technologists together. Recently they sent out 26 letters and received two replies!

Personally I will be very disappointed if we do not take a positive step towards incorporating the technologists within our organisation. I suggest we agree in principle to including them within our organisation and that our Constitution which is long overdue for revision be rewritten with a view to incorporating a membership classification and representation for technologists. I suggest that this be worked out and passed by Executive for presentation and adoption at the AGM in May 1979. Let's for once be positive about it and do something constructive. We as a responsible profession cannot sit back and let nothing happen. I could justify the move on economic grounds alone, however the reasons are more of concern and the need for cooperation. Morally we have a duty to the technologists.

One further failing of the Institute has been our efforts or lack of efforts to enthuse the students of landscape architecture. Very little initiative on the other hand seems to be coming from the student group and I suggest to them that if they want to be landscape architects then they should be participating and supporting this Institute. I would have thought that most students who believed in their chosen profession would seek out the professional organisation and support it. We are a small group with a long way to go and a big future. The more we cooperate and work together the better it will be for all. Technologists and students, as well as our membership at large, we must all pack in and work together. Too much time has been spent on debating membership issues and the like. I would like to see the students

Of the 28 practising members there are 50% in Central Government and approximately 28% in private practice, 14% in Local Government and 7% are in teaching. The above figures highlight several important points -

1. A quarter of our corporate membership is not in the landscape work force.
2. Approximately 28% of our working members are in private practice. I suspect many of you would have thought the number to be less.

Presently there are a number of public service professional level jobs unfilled. and it is likely that these positions if and when filled will be staffed with inexperienced people. We have the situation developing where we have public agencies seeking staff to meet current work loads and we have consultants practically out of work. Some will interpret my comments as touting for work for the private sector - I don't deny the inference, however, my real concern is with the fact that public works which have been identified as having a landscape content are not being worked on by landscape architects.

Over the past five years or so we as a profession have worked extremely hard to convince others that we have something to offer - now we can't produce the people to meet the work demand. If money is available to employ staff then that same money in theory should be available to employ competent consultants. When you think about it, we are all on the same team seeking common objectives. To not do the work, or worse still, to have it done by others outside the profession because suitable permanent staff can't be found is cutting from under us the very foundation we have all worked so hard to build. Those of you on the inside can achieve far more in this regard than those of us on the outside who are often merely seen as touting for work. I understand it to be Government policy to hold staff levels and employ consultants.

There are other aspects I would like to dwell on but time does not permit, however I will briefly mention some of the major concerns I have -

We must avoid the situation from arising where we have a them and us situation. I mean a consultant's division of the NZILA and a public servants division. Recently the public service landscape architects and technologists successfully concluded negotiations with the State Services Commission on both salary structures and job classifications. This was long overdue and required a great effort over the past few years. While the SSC and the PSA may not have permitted the NZILA to be a party to the negotiations I consider that the NZILA as the only body representing all landscape architects should have been kept better informed on the progress and the negotiations. Personally I applaud those people who put so much into achieving their objectives. I would like to see the same dedication and enthusiasm put into Institute matters.

Lincoln College is seeking support for the formation of a Rural Advisory Centre. Various agencies including the Commission for the Environment and Government Departments were contacted for their views on the subject. The NZILA who quite obviously have an interest and involvement in the countryside were not approached. It bothers me that some of the College administrators appear to dismiss and ignore the very existence of the NZILA.

I see a definite weakness in our professions ability to cope with office procedures, job systems, contract administration and the like. What do many of us know and what experience have we in the laws of contract, the general provisions of contracts, tenders, certificates of payment, insurance, performance bonds etc. How competent are we to prepare a fair and reasonable landscape specification? Speaking for our practice, I can say we have a long way to go and much to learn. In landscape and office administration we as a profession, are still wet behind the ears. We must make an effort to improve our knowledge and experience in these important areas. Implementation

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formally or informally organise themselves and make representations to the NZILA if they don't agree or like the way we do things.

During the past 5 years we have established a profession and Institute on a relatively solid and accepted foundation - let's not ruin it all by continually debating our parochial interests, and internal concerns. If we don't step out now as an integrated group who know where they are at and where they are going then we might as well all go our own merry ways.

Frank Boffa
President NZILA

2017.04.12.00

NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS (INC)

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 July 1978

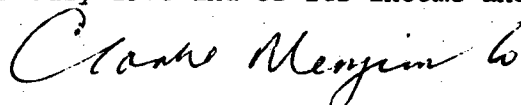
	<u>1978</u>	<u>1977</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
<u>General Account</u>		
Balance 31.7.77	1,046.82	2,141.53
<u>Plus Excess of Income over Expenditure</u>	<u>2,025.33</u>	<u>(1,094.71)</u>
Accumulated Funds 31.7.78	3,072.15	1,046.82
<u>Conference Account</u>		
Balance 31.7.77	(250.00)	1,270.55
<u>Plus Excess of Income over Expenditure</u>	<u>442.11</u>	<u>(1,520.55)</u>
Accumulated Funds 31.7.78	<u>192.11</u>	<u>(250.00)</u>
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS	<u>\$3,264.26</u>	<u>\$ 796.82</u>
Represented by:		
General Bank Account	2,840.33	655.55
Conference Bank Account	-	1,223.10
Accounts Receivable	538.08	103.22
<u>Less Subs in Advance</u>	<u>2.90</u>	
Prepaid Expenses for 1977 Conference	-	216.90
Advance to 1977 Conference	-	250.00
Accrued Interest	18.75	11.24
	<u>3,394.26</u>	<u>2,460.01</u>
<u>Less Accounts Payable</u>	<u>130.00</u>	<u>223.19</u>
Income in Advance for 1977 Conference	-	1,440.00
	<u>\$3,264.26</u>	<u>\$ 796.82</u>

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The general principles recommended by the New Zealand Society of Accountants for the measurement and reporting of profits on a historical cost basis have been followed by the Institute.

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS (INC)

We have examined the above balance sheet and income and expenditure accounts. As most of the Institute's income cannot be verified prior to entry in the records our examination of these has been confined to testing recorded receipts to the bank account. In our opinion, but subject to this limitation, the balance sheet and income and expenditure accounts give respectively a true and fair view of the state of the Institute's affairs as at 31 July 1978 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.



CLARKE MENZIES & CO., Chartered Accountants

WELLINGTON, N.Z.
18 August 1978