

The Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories
Parliament House
CANBERRA, ACT 2600

IMMIGRATION BRIDGE AUSTRALIA

At a meeting on the 18th March 2008, between Senator Lundy and the Chairman and Campaign Director of Immigration Bridge Australia (IBA), it was suggested IBA should make a submission to the Joint Standing Committee (JSC) on the National Capital and External Territories Inquiry on the role of the National Capital Authority (NCA) with a view to better informing the JSC about the IBA Project.

IBA is planning a significant commemorative work in the National Capital in the form of a pedestrian bridge across Lake Burley Griffin linking the National Museum of Australia (NMA) with the national institutions in the Parliamentary Zone. The Bridge will be a major national infrastructure community project designed to commemorate the valuable contributions of all the migrants who have settled in Australia since 1788.

Upon completion, in time for the centenary of Canberra in 2013, it is proposed that ownership of the Bridge be transferred to the NCA as a 'Gift to the Nation'. The Immigration Bridge will be both a monument to immigration and a valuable piece of infrastructure for the Nation's Capital.

The NCA has assisted IBA to understand the detailed planning, design and construction process. Very constructive consultation is ongoing between IBA, NCA, the ACT Government (ACTPLA), NMA, the Australian National University (ANU) and the Lake Users Group (LUG) which is convened by the NCA. In particular the NCA has requested that IBA undertake detailed consultation with representatives of the Canberra yachting community and has asked that the IBA modify the Bridge design to address their concerns

IBA supports the ongoing role of the NCA in assisting to facilitate this major initiative and as the long term custodian of the bridge.

The JSC is invited to visit the IBA website www.immigrationbridge.com.au for up-to-date information on the Project, noting the generous sponsorships already given to the Project by the Bendigo Bank, ActewAGL and SBS TV and radio and the intention to use 'state of the art' technology in the construction of the Bridge.

Support of the JSC for the IBA Project and its significance as a major commemorative work for our National Capital would be appreciated.

L.G. O'Donnell
Chairman
Immigration Bridge Australia

7 April 2008

07/1316

11 April 2008

Mr Andrew Baulch
Campaign Director
Immigration Bridge Australia
PO Box 447
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Andrew

Thank you for your e-mail of 28 March 2008 providing an update of progress in your planning for the proposed Immigration Bridge between the National Museum of Australia and Lennox Gardens in Canberra.

From a National Museum of Australia perspective, the immigration theme of the bridge complements the Museum's role of celebrating Australian social history by telling stories of ordinary and extraordinary Australians. Stories of immigrants will feature in the Museum's *Australian Journeys Gallery*, which is currently being redeveloped for opening later this year.

In addition, the proposed Immigration Bridge will provide easier pedestrian access between the National Museum and the other major cultural institutions in the Parliamentary precinct, which should enhance visitor numbers to the Museum on Acton Peninsula.

I wish you well in your endeavours to make the bridge a reality.

Yours sincerely

Craddock Morton
Director

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