

Miletic, Daniel (REPS)

From: Volunteering ACT Referral [referral@volunteeract.com.au]
Sent: Thursday, 22 May 2003 10:16 AM
To: Committee, NCET (REPS)
Subject: Fw: Submission

SUBMISSION 4

The Secretary of the Joint Committee on the National Capital and External Territories

Dear Sir/Madam

I write in response to your request for submissions pertaining to the Select Committee "Inquiry into the role of the National Capital Authority."

As a long-time resident of Canberra and one who has a great love of and respect for the Nation's capital I write to support the maintenance of the National Capital Authority.

I believe that such an authority is vital in order that the integrity of the Griffin/Mahoney plan is preserved and the best way that this is able to be achieved is to have a single authority charged with the responsibility of achieving this end.

Canberra is a living monument to our nation and uniquely captures the essence of a thriving, dynamic country whilst at the same time recognising that our land is predominately uninhabited "bush", thus it is imperative that the character of the "Bush Capital" is maintained.

That is not to say that the National Capital Authority should conduct its work in glorious isolation. It is vital that it consults with those of us that choose to call Canberra home however, the NCA has a wider responsibility to the nation to ensure that Canberra is a place of which all Australians are rightly proud and that it has a significant place on the world map of capital cities.

It is particularly important that the NCA continues to exercise planning control over the parliamentary triangle as this is in many ways the heart of our nation containing as it does, not only Parliament House, our shrine to democracy, but also many of our major national attractions that say so much about us as a people. It is vital that the consistency of planning and development is maintained and I believe that the NCA is the instrumentality best resourced to perform this important task.

Elected governments both locally and federally come and go however statutory authorities should be above the imperatives of day to day party politics and whilst decisions taken by the NCA may be criticised by politicians from both sides such an apolitical authority is necessary, with the proviso that all points of view are considered prior to important decisions being made.

I fully endorse the maintainance of the National Capital Authority with its current powers and request that this committee makes such a recommendation.

My thanks for the opportunity of presenting this submission.

Kind regards

Ian De Landelles
8 Erldunda Circuit
Hawker ACT 2614

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