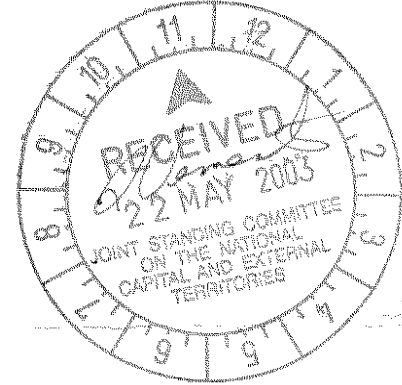


# STOKES

N . L . S T O K E S G R O U P

## FILE COPY

SUBMISSION ..... 5 .....



19 May, 2003

The Committee Secretary  
Joint Standing Committee on National Capital and External Territories  
Dept. of House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600  
AUSTRALIA.

Dear Sir,

**RE: Inquiry Into the Role of the National Capital Authority**

As a former member of the National Capital Authority I wish to make the following submission to your Committee.

Canberra is not only the capital of the Australian Capital Territory, it is the National Capital and the international face of Australia and its Government.

It is therefore essential that the integrity, heritage and values of the Australian people be reflected in the character and cultural fabric of the National Capital.

This balancing of interests is best achieved by the National elements of Canberra being controlled by a National Capital Plan administered by a dedicated body, as The National Capital Authority.

Without the National Capital Authority it would be too easy for local or Territory governments to undermine the integrity of the Plan on behalf of localised issues, rather than maintaining or enhancing the character of the National Capital for all Australians.

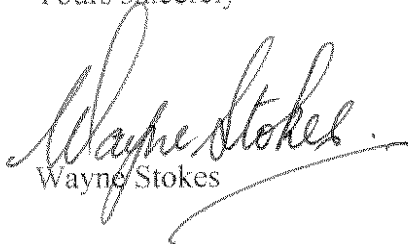
The ability of The National Capital Authority to deliver Icon projects within the Parliamentary Zone on behalf of the Federal Government and others is unquestionable. Recent examples being Reconciliation Place, Commonwealth Place, the new lighting along Anzac Parade, various new Memorials and much more. The use of design competitions to attract the the very best National and International expertise to ensure the character and integrity of the National Capital is maintained, enhanced and progressed, have delivered projects that all Australians can relate to and be proud of.

Canberra must continue to grow in status in the hearts of all Australians and Internationally, as the National Capital. It cannot do so without a dedicated Authority to administer and review the National Capital Plan on an ongoing basis, to ensure the integrity of our Nation's Capital and to work with all layers of government, bureaucracy and the community to achieve results befitting the National Capital.

The National Capital Authority has a tried and proven record as custodian of our National Capital and should continue to be so.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

Yours sincerely

  
Wayne Stokes