



Australian Government
National Capital Authority

Senator Kate Lundy
Chair
Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital
and External Territories
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Lundy

Attached is the submission of the National Capital Authority (the Authority) to the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories Inquiry into the Immigration Bridge Australia Proposal.

The Authority's submission addresses the first and third of the Inquiry's Terms of Reference only.

Fundraising actions undertaken by Immigration Bridge Australia (being considered under the second term of reference) is not related to the statutory responsibilities of the Authority. The Authority makes no comment on this matter.

In preparing our submission, the Authority has sought to clarify the role it has played to date in providing advice to the proponents of Immigration Bridge (the proponents).

We have also sought to convey our genuine efforts to ensure the views of lake users and other stakeholders in our national capital are taken into account by the proponents in the further development of their proposal.

The Authority welcomes this opportunity to discuss the Immigration Bridge proposal.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Rake', written in a cursive style.

Gary Rake
Acting Chief Executive
27 March 2009

Building the National Capital in the hearts of all Australians

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Australian Government
National Capital Authority

Submission to the

Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories

Inquiry into the Immigration Bridge Australia Proposal

Terms of Reference

To inquire into and report on:

1. The process adopted by Immigration Bridge Australia (IBA) to settle the design for the Immigration Bridge (the Bridge) taking into account:
 - a. the heritage values of Lake Burley Griffin and its foreshore, and
 - b. the interests of users of the Lake.
2. The process that has been adopted by IBA to raise funds for the construction and ongoing maintenance of the Bridge.
3. The approval process required under the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988* if an application for approval of the Bridge were received by the National Capital Authority.

Introductory Comments

Commemoration in the National Capital

1. All cultures create emblems whose primary purpose is commemoration—the celebration of people, events or ideas that have meaning and value for the community at large. The importance of commemoration as a means of reinforcing and transmitting collective values is demonstrated by the great variety of ways in which it is expressed. Commemorative forms used in contemporary Australian society include the special issue of stamps and coins, the placement of interpretive signs and plaques, the naming of holidays and festivals, the dedication of streets, leisure facilities, gardens, parks, buildings and the construction of memorials.
2. Commemorative works are a physical expression of prevailing ideas and beliefs within the community. As permanent features, their strength resides in the fact that they will remain as constant markers to be appreciated—and historically located— by generations to follow. Such works, when located within a country’s capital city, have a special ‘national significance’¹.

The National Capital Authority

3. The National Capital Authority (the Authority) is the statutory arm of the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia, responsible for ensuring that ‘Canberra and the Territory are planned and developed in accordance with their national significance’ [*Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988*].
4. The character of nationally significant areas within the National Capital is the responsibility of the Authority and it is required to undertake projects for the enhancement and maintenance of the public places in these areas. Public commemorative sites and objects include sculptures, memorials, parks, gardens, tree plantings, fountains, paths, car parks, jetties, signage and lighting.
5. Specifically, the Authority’s responsibilities in relation to commemorative works are to:
 - a. provide advice to the Minister responsible for the National Memorials Ordinance 1928;
 - b. provide guidance on the opportunities for commemorative works proposals. In the past this has included project management services, management of design competitions, design development and management of construction;
 - c. consider applications for Works Approval in Designated Areas (as specified in the National Capital Plan) in accordance with the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988*;
 - d. provide asset management services for commemorative works (on land declared to be for the purposes of the National Capital); and
 - e. liaise with other Commonwealth and Territory agencies, authorities and relevant stakeholders on matters of mutual concern.

National Capital Plan

6. The National Capital Plan specifies five roles that the city of Canberra performs as the National Capital:
 - a. the Seat of Government;
 - b. the location of the National Parliament and the Executive;
 - c. the centre of national administration;

¹ Guidelines for Commemorative Works, August 2002

- d. a location for national institutions in research, education, arts, music and sports; and
 - e. a symbol of Australian national life and a location for memorials and national events.
7. The National Capital Plan acknowledges that this last, symbolic role is one of the most important, but also one of the most intangible, roles of the city.

Historic Context

8. Walter Burley Griffin proposed a road bridge connecting Acton Peninsula to the southern side of the lake in his design for the City of Canberra. It was a feature of Griffin's 1912, 1913 and 1918 plan for Canberra. It was not shown in the 1925 gazetted plan.
9. A number of the entrants in the design competition for the National Museum of Australia, including the winning design, proposed a bridge across the lake in this location.
10. In November 1997 the Authority considered the bridge that was proposed as part of winning entry in the National Museum of Australia design competition. At that meeting (A97-8) the Authority agreed that an amendment to the National Capital Plan be undertaken if a bridge were further contemplated.

Terms of Reference - 1

The process adopted by Immigration Bridge Australia (IBA) to settle the design for the Immigration Bridge (the Bridge) taking into account:
a. the heritage values of Lake Burley Griffin and its foreshore, and
b. the interests of users of the Lake.

Background to Immigration Bridge

11. The proposal to construct an 'Immigration Monument' in the National Capital was initiated by a number of citizens based in the Eden Monaro district of New South Wales in late 2001.
12. Early discussions with the proponents of the monument considered a number of options.
13. A National Capital Authority (Authority) file note dated 7 February 2002 indicates that the proposal of a bridge was put to the Authority by the proponents. This file note records that the bridge proposal had been suggested to the proponents at a meeting with the National Museum of Australia. The file note is at [Attachment A](#).
14. In June 2002, the Authority prepared a single page brochure ([Attachment B](#)) describing three (3) possible commemorative options and three (3) possible sites for the monument. The options for a monument were:
 - a. a bridge connecting the National Museum of Australia to the Parliamentary Zone;
 - b. an individual sculpture or monument; and
 - c. a parkland with interpretative material.
15. The site options put to the proponents were:
 - a. Lake Burley Griffin (between Acton Peninsula and Lennox Gardens);
 - b. Kings Park; and
 - c. Section 27 Parkes – adjacent to Peace Park
16. On 30 June 2002, Mr Geoff Bowland, Chairman of the Immigration Bridge Steering Committee, was interviewed on 'Australia all over' announcing the intention to construct a bridge but without a site.
17. In July 2002, the Authority received written advice from the proponents that, at a meeting of 2 July 2002, they had decided to pursue the bridge option for the monument. The site of the proposed bridge is across Lake Burley Griffin between Lennox Gardens and Acton Peninsula. This letter is at [Attachment C](#).
18. At its July 2002 meeting, the Authority were advised by the Chief Executive, under other business, of a proposal for a national memorial to recognise immigration to Australia in the form of a commemorative bridge. Members noted that any such proposal would require detailed consideration of issues such as sailing on the lake, scale, form and quality.
19. At the Authority meeting in November 2003, it was agreed to support 'in-principle' the concept of a high quality, long span pedestrian bridge commemorating immigration and linking Acton Peninsula with Lennox Gardens. It was noted that it was Griffin's original intention to have a bridge over Lake Burley Griffin connecting Acton Peninsula to the southern side of the lake and that architects for the National Museum of Australia had also included a bridge in this area as part of their winning entry in the design competition. The Authority noted that funding for the bridge was a matter for the proponents, Immigration Bridge Australia (IBA), and their stakeholders and not for the Authority. The Authority's letter of support is at [Attachment D](#).

20. The Authority has not undertaken any design review nor received any application for Works Approval related to Immigration Bridge. In that regard, the Authority does not yet have sufficient information with which to conduct a public consultation process.

Consultation by Immigration Bridge Australia

21. The Authority has encouraged IBA to undertake extensive consultation with the ACT Government, the National Museum of Australia, moral rights holders (such as the designers of the national museum) and the Lake Users Group which is convened by the Authority.
22. The Authority has specifically requested that IBA undertake detailed consultation with representatives of the Canberra yachting and rowing communities.
23. The National Museum of Australia has written to the Authority indicating its support for the proposal ([Attachment E](#)).
24. At [Attachment F](#) is an email from Mr. Neil Savery, Chief Executive, ACT Planning and Land Authority (ACTPLA) advising of the ACT Government's support for the proposal and its agreement to the associated land being declared as National Land to allow for the entire structure to be managed by one government administration.
25. At [Attachment G](#) is the Media Release issued by the then ACT Minister for Planning, Mr Simon Corbell MLA.
26. The Authority has met separately with representatives of the Canberra Yacht Club and advised that if the project proceeds, information from the Lake User Group and other interested parties would be incorporated into the design brief.
27. Correspondence between the Authority, the Canberra Yacht Club and IBA is included at [Attachment H](#).
28. The Authority also facilitated the preparation of a design brief recording the needs and concerns of lake users. This document was endorsed by the Lake User Group and sent to IBA to enable the Bridge designers to address lake user concerns about bridge height and pylon spacing.
29. Included in [Attachment I](#) are extracts from relevant Lake Users Group meetings where the Immigration Bridge proposal was discussed. Also attached is the Design Brief prepared by the Group which was provided to the IBA in March 2007.
30. The Authority has been advised that consultation with the Lake Users Group has resulted in design modifications to the bridge.

Amendment 61 – West Basin

31. On 23 August 2006 the Authority issued Draft Amendment 61 to the National Capital Plan for public comment. A high span pedestrian bridge in this location to connect the National Museum and the Parliamentary Zone was described in the Draft Amendment.
32. The Authority undertook a full statutory consultation process during the preparation of Draft Amendment 61.
33. The Authority received ninety-two (92) written submissions in response to DA 61 (including responses from ACTPLA as well as individuals and organisations from the ACT, New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia and the United States of America).
34. The majority of submissions received by the Authority to DA 61 were supportive, although 23 submissions gave only qualified support and there were 22 submissions opposed.
35. Approximately 8 submissions supported the high-span pedestrian bridge, seeing it as an opportunity to provide a better link between national attractions and contributing to the cycle network. One was concerned that it would limit access to West Basin for water craft, especially

sailing boats. Two were concerned that the proposed footbridge would detract from the wonderful view to the mountains and one doubted many tourists would actually use it given the need to walk back to their car.

36. On 30 November 2006, Amendment 61 of National Capital Plan came into effect and included the proposed pedestrian bridge. (Appendix T9; included in Amendment 61 West Basin).

Heritage

37. Lake Burley Griffin has been nominated to the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL) but has not been assessed to date. As such there is no formal approval process required under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for a proposal such as the Immigration Bridge.
38. Consistent with its obligations under the EPBC Act, the Authority has commissioned a heritage assessment for Lake Burley Griffin and Adjacent Lands (LBG & AL). The assessment has identified that LBG & AL had potential Commonwealth and National heritage values as defined in the EPBC Act. Following completion of the heritage assessment a heritage management plan (HMP) for LBG & AL was commissioned.
39. The HMP is currently in draft form. The Authority anticipates releasing it for public comment in April 2009. The draft HMP includes heritage policies and actions to consider in relation to any proposal. An extract of the text of the draft HMP, as it would apply to a high-span pedestrian bridge is set out below:
 - a. The design process for the proposed pedestrian bridge should be rigorously managed to ensure that it is sympathetic to the existing heritage values of the place. It should not obscure significant views or have a negative impact on the design qualities of Commonwealth Bridge and the surrounding foreshore areas. Guidelines for its materials, colour, scale, bulk and massing should be developed to ensure that it is sympathetic to the existing heritage values of the place.
 - b. The proposed pedestrian bridge should not have an adverse impact on the use of West Basin and Westlake for sailing and other recreational, non-motorised water based activities.
40. There are a number of heritage places in the near vicinity of the proposed Immigration Bridge including the Parliament House Vista (CHL), Albert Hall (ACT Heritage Register), Acton Peninsula Limestone Outcrops (CHL), Isolation Ward (Building 1) (CHL), H Block (Building 2) (CHL), former Medical Superintendents Residence (Building 5) (CHL) and the Acton Peninsula Trees Group (Register of the National Estate).
41. An assessment of the impact on the heritage values of these places would be sought as part of any future Works Approval assessment.

Terms of Reference - 3

The approval process required under the Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988 if an application for approval of the Bridge were received by the National Capital Authority.

42. The *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988* gives the Authority responsibility for development approval (called Works Approval) in Designated Areas of the National Capital Plan (the Plan).
43. Designated Areas are those areas of land that have the special characteristics of the National Capital, and they generally relate to areas which:
 - a. cater for a wide range of National Capital functions – activities which occur in Canberra because it is the National Capital and which give Canberra a unique function within Australia (e.g. diplomatic estate);
 - b. reflect Griffin’s strong symbolic design for Canberra Central that has given the National Capital a unique and memorable character (the Central National Area); and
 - c. relate to the landscape setting and character of the Capital (e.g. national capital open space system).
44. The Immigration Bridge concept is considered to be consistent with Appendix T.9 – West Basin of the Plan where it notes that “national attractions should be linked with a continuous pedestrian network, including a high-span pedestrian bridge connecting the National Museum and the Parliamentary Zone”.
45. A Works Approval by the Authority is made pursuant to Section 12(1) (b) of the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management Act) 1988*. Under the Act, Works Approval may be given where the works are in accordance with the National Capital Plan. This does not constitute building approval.
46. The Authority is not the proponent of the Immigration Bridge. If the project proceeds, and the Australian Government agrees to accept the gift as an asset, the Authority will require the proponent to:
 - a. enter a written agreement covering such matters as the terms on which work may occur on National Land, various rights and responsibilities of the parties, handover preconditions and arrangements, insurance and risk management;
 - b. lodge a formal application for Works Approval including such plans and specifications required by the Authority; and
 - c. obtain third party certification that the design and structure complies with all relevant standards and codes (including the Building Code of Australia).
47. Although it is not a requirement of the Plan, the Authority will consult with the ACT Government, key stakeholders and the community if a development application is received. This is due to the prominence and significance of the proposed development.
48. In assessing a Works Approval application the Authority will consider
 - a. provisions of the National Capital Plan;
 - b. design quality of the proposal;
 - c. the environmental, heritage and visual impact of the proposal; and
 - d. lake management issue including the impact of the proposal on lake users.
49. The process followed by the Delegate in making a decision is outlined in [Attachment J](#).

From: Andrew Smith
To: Annabelle Pegrum; Diana Williams; Graham Scott-Bohanna
Date: 7/2/02 12:22pm
Subject: Immigration Monument

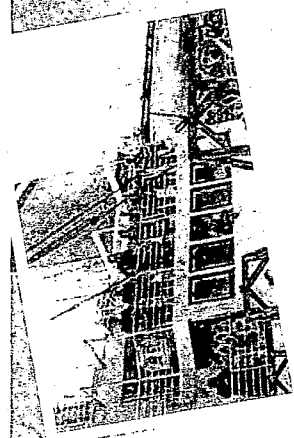
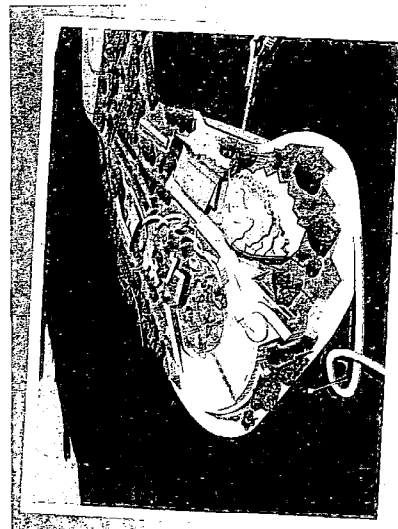
Dear all

further to Sundays radio discussion on 'Australia All Over' (I think that's what's called) on the proposed immigration monument / bridge. The current situation is that

- the idea for a monument to honour the contribution of migrants was conceived by a Mr Gianna (Johnny) de Bortili of Bredbo
- a steering committee has been formed consisting primarily of Business people from the Cooma district and senior staff of Snowy Hydro
- Snowy Hydro is the name of the corporatised Snowy Mountains Authority
- Snowy Hydro are also the patron of the project and are providing support in the form of office accommodation to the group.
- although the idea has emanated from the Snowy Mountains with its obvious links to immigration, it is hoped by the proponents that the project will be embraced by all immigrants regardless of the timing, method or circumstances surrounding their arrival.
- Graham and I have formally met with the group once to discuss the project. At that meeting they proposed among other things the construction of a bridge between Acton Peninsula and Lennox Gardens as a suitable monument.
- They advised that the idea of the bridge was put to them at a meeting with the Director of the National Museum (Dawn Casey). The symbolism of the bridge appeals to the group.
- A bridge across the Lake in this approximately this location is shown on 1913 & 1918 Griffin plan for Canberra. The bridge was also include as an idea during the design competition for the NMA.
- If the project proceeds the design will be selected following a national design competition. The bridge design will need to incorporate opportunity for artwork, or interpretative material (possibly interactive) to inform visitors of the meaning and origins of the bridge.
- I understand that Gary Nairn (local member) has spoken in Parliament in support of the project.
- I understand that fund raising has just begun. We are collecting images for use in a booklet (to be prepared by the Authority) promoting the project to potential patrons.
- the cost of the project is unknown. estimates based on a rationalised version of the bridge design submitted by the NMA Architects calculated the cost as between \$7,000,000 & \$8,000,000 in 2000.

Hope this helps

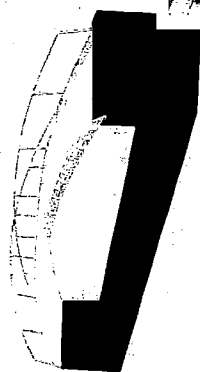
Andy



Through successive waves, migration has shaped this nation

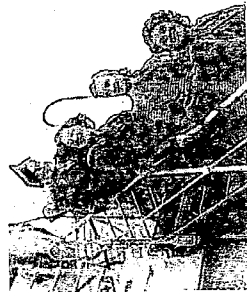
A national monument to honour the contribution and to celebrate the diversity of immigrants is proposed to be constructed in the Canberra, Australia's National Capital.

Form of Monument



The monument may be a constructed as a

- a bridge connecting the National Museum of Australia to the Parliamentary Zone
- an individual sculpture or monument sited within the Parliamentary Zone or Kings Park
- a parkland within interpretative material describing the diversity and contribution of Australia's immigrants

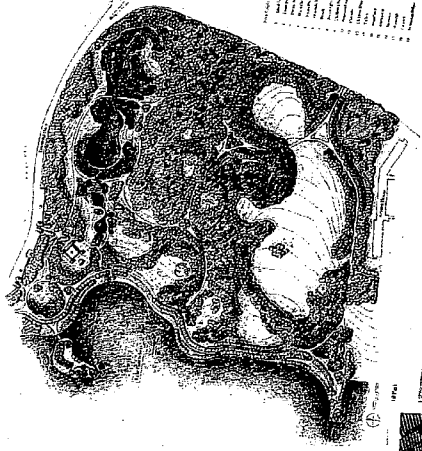
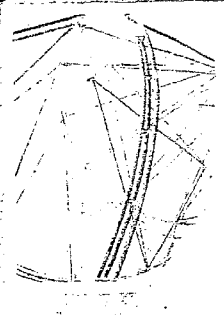


Alternative Sites

Sites for the immigration monument include

- Lake Burley Griffin from the National Museum of Australia to the Lennox Park
- Section 27 Parkes - Adjacent to Peace Park
- Kings Park

For further information regarding the proposed immigration monument please contact in the first instance Mr Geoff Bowland, Chairman of the Immigration Monument Steering Committee at



rsen@stpd.wv.net.au
or ph: 072 4452 4699

NATIONAL CAPITAL
AUTHORITY
Treasury Building
Newland Street Parkes ACT 2600
GPO BOX 373 Canberra ACT 2601

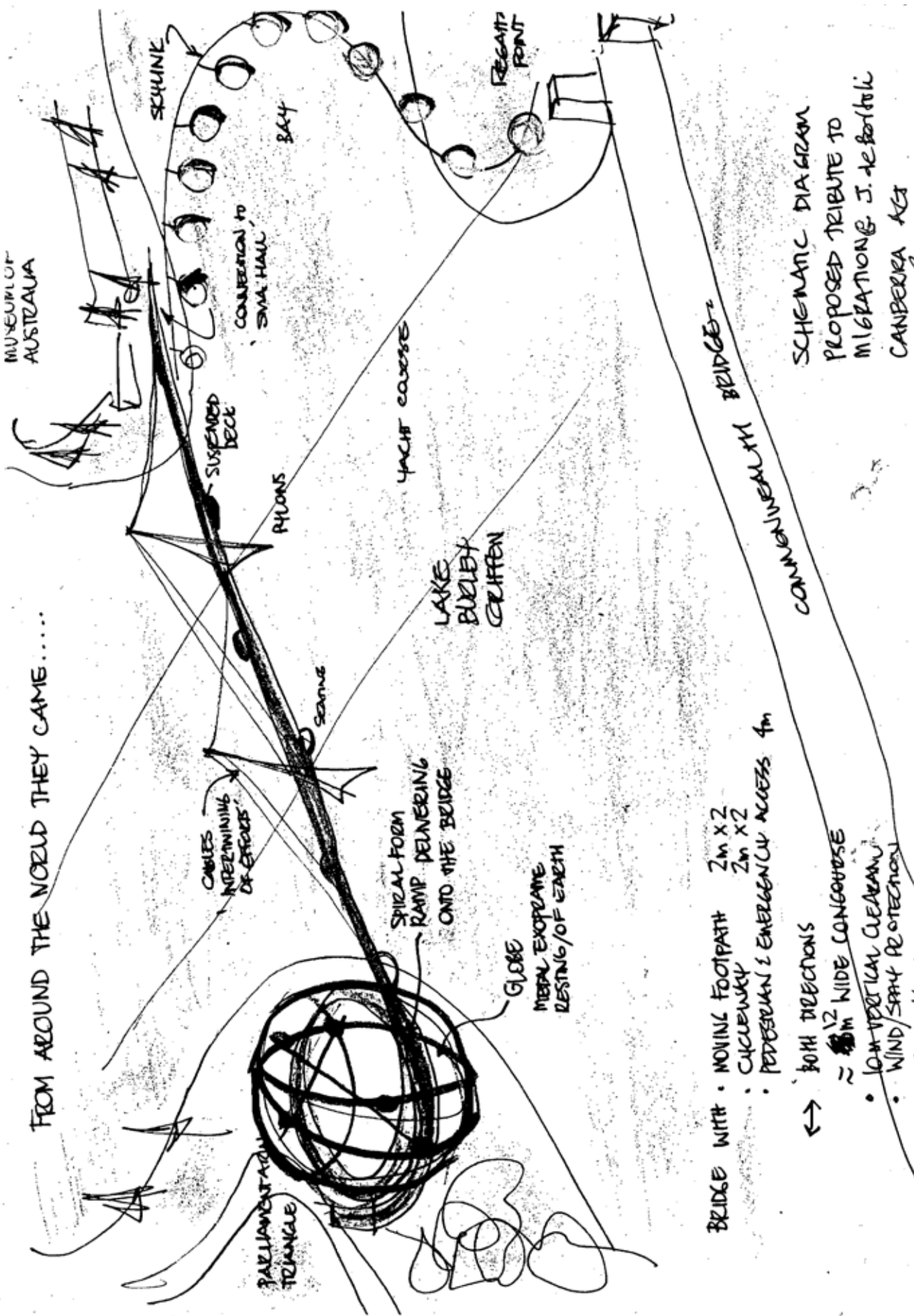
National Monument
TO Migration
Gianni Johppi De Bortoli
10 MARY Street
Berridale NSW 2628
PH 02.64563131

Dear Mr. Andrew SMITH

As you see
Cooma Committee for the National
Monument to Migration we will try our best.
Last our meeting was on 02-07-02 we accept
with the bridge as was suggested!
My self and Ross we went on side of
National Museum of Australia making
a diagram proposed of the bridge, copy
is included. We are hopping some one
opened same door for us.

Thank You
Gianni Johppi De Bortoli

PS regards to
Graham Scott Bohanna
7 copy to have look



FROM AROUND THE WORLD THEY CAME.....

- BRIDGE WITH • MOVING FOOTPATH 2m x 2
- CYCLEWAY 2m x 2
- PEDESTRIAN & EMERGENCY ACCESS 4m
- ↔ BOTH DIRECTIONS
- 12m WIDE CONCOURSE
- 10m VERTICAL CLEARANCE
- WIND/SPLAT PROTECTION

SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM
 PROPOSED TRIBUTE TO
 MIGRATION & J. DE BOTTHOLIC
 CANBERRA ACT



Australian Government
National Capital Authority

Mr Geoff Bowland
Chair, Steering Committee
Immigration Bridge Australia
PO Box 1333
Cooma NSW 2630

Dear Sir

National Monument to Immigration

At its meeting of 14 November 2003 the National Capital Authority considered the proposal by Immigration Bridge Australia to construct a bridge commemorating immigration across Lake Burley Griffin.

I am pleased to advise that the Authority agreed to support 'in-principle' the concept of a high quality, long span pedestrian bridge commemorating immigration linking Acton Peninsula with Lennox Gardens.

The Authority also noted that it was Griffin's original intention to have a bridge over Lake Burley Griffin connecting Acton Peninsula to the southern side of the lake and that architects for the National Museum of Australia had also included a bridge in this area as part of their winning entry in the design competition.

Funding for the bridge is a matter for Immigration Bridge Australia and their stakeholders and not for the Authority.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Annabelle Pegrum'.

Annabelle Pegrum
Chief Executive

13 January 2004

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From the Office of the Director



6 May 2003



Ms A Pegrum
Chief Executive
National Capital Authority
PO Box 373
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Annabelle

Re: National Monument to Immigration

I wish to confirm the National Museum of Australia's (NMA) in-principle support for the proposed National Monument to Immigration.

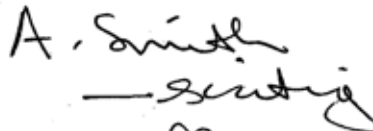

The current proposal of a foot bridge which will link the museum to the other side of the lake is highly attractive to NMA.

The NMA would be pleased to be a contributor to this significant monument and I envisage that we could provide a range of inputs during the life of the project. I would hope that the museum could provide practical support in terms of providing expertise to develop content and interactive displays for the bridge.

This is an exciting initiative and I look forward to working with you on it.

Yours sincerely


Dawn Casey
Director


—

8/5/03

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Fax 61 (0) 2 6208 5098
information@nma.gov.au
www.nma.gov.au



From: "Savery, Neil"
To: Andrew.Smith@act.gov.au
Date: Mon, Sep 1, 2008 11:25 am
Subject: RE: Immigration bridge

I am well Andrew and I trust that things are okay over there as you go through the inevitable process of change.
In relation to the Immigration bridge I can confirm as follows:
The ACT Government resolved to support the transfer of up to 2000m2 to national land at a peppercorn rate (never discussed but likely to be \$1), if the project proceeds. The land would form the ground for the southern anchor of the bridge and by transferring it to national land, would enable there to be one approving authority and one future administrator for its on-going operation/maintenance.
There were also a number of conditions that would be attached to any transfer, including designing the bridge in a way that maintains continuous public access along the edge of the lake, not limiting small sailing craft from negotiating under the bridge and providing for disabled and cyclist access.
The decision of the ACT Government is up for review in 2009 if the project has not commenced (a built review period of the decision).
Hope this helps.
Neil

-----Original Message-----

From: Andrew Smith
Sent: Monday, 1 September 2008 11:15 AM
To: Savery, Neil
Subject: Immigration bridge

Hi Neil

Hope things are going well at ACTPLA. I thought I should let you know about a statement buried deep within the Immigration bridge web site. IBA claim that

" The project taking the form of a bridge was at the suggestion of the NCA, and the land at the southern landing has been given as an in-kind contribution by the ACT Government to the project, so one planning authority (the NCA) would be involved in the building approvals process."

To my knowledge all that has happened is Simon Corbell, in his former capacity as the planning minister, announced the intention to undertake a land transfer if the project proceeded, but to date nothing has actually happened.

I am writing to the proponents and asking them to modify the web site, but I would appreciate it if you could confirm my understanding of the land status is correct.

Regards

Andrew



Simon Corbell MLA

ATTORNEY GENERAL
MINISTER FOR PLANNING
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

MEDIA RELEASE

ACT Government contributes land for Immigration bridge

The ACT Government will, subject to the project proceeding, give about 2000 square metres of Territory land to the Commonwealth for the proposed Immigration Bridge, Planning Minister Simon Corbell said today. The symbolic bridge will recognise the contributions migrants have made to Australia.

"This land is unleased Territory land, forming part of Lennox Gardens next to the shores of Lake Burley Griffin. Its transfer will facilitate the construction of the pedestrian bridge, linking Acton Peninsula with the Parliamentary zone," Mr Corbell said.

The Immigration Bridge is planned to be an iconic structure symbolising connections and in doing so recognises at a national level the contributions of migrants to the development of Australia. It is the idea of the Immigration Bridge Australia group.

"A bridge in this location has the potential to be an attraction in its own right, as well as improve local pedestrian connectivity, increase the significance of the National Museum to the City's economy, help achieve the objectives of both Canberra Central and the National Capital Authority's Griffin Legacy, including the future development potential in the West Basin," the Minister said.

"The land the Government will contribute would in part be used for the southern footing of the bridge, which is necessary to provide access to the bridge, as well as maintain continuous pedestrian access along the Lake's foreshore and a possible café/tourist shop integrated into the 'toe' of the bridge."

Mr Corbell said a pedestrian bridge was part of Walter Burley Griffin's plan for Canberra and that in taking this decision the ACT Government is clearly expressing its strong support for the project.

"If the proposal proceeds, it is intended that any land contributed by the Territory Government would become National Land to allow for the entire structure to be managed by one government administration."

Should the project proceed, any formal consultation associated with a works approval will be conducted by the National Capital Authority.


More details about the proposal can be found at www.immigrationbridge.com.au.

Statement Ends/ Date to be placed here (11 font)

Media Contact: Monika Boogs 6205 0497(w) 0419 423 603(m) monika.boogs@act.gov.au

ACT Government

Phone (02) 6205 0000 Fax (02) 6205 0535

	<h1>Canberra Yacht Club</h1>
<p>PO Box 7169 Yarralumla 2600 Mariner Pl, Yarralumla ACT (ACT Sailing Inc T/A) ABN 93 090 967 514</p>	<p>Tel (02) 6273 4777 Fax (02) 6273 7177 email: matt.owen@canberrayachtclub.com.au Website: canberrayachtclub.com.au</p>

Ms Annabelle Pegrum,
Chief Executive Officer
National Capital Authority
PO Box 373
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Handwritten: 23/8/06



22 August 2006

Handwritten notes:
A. Smith
please draft
letter to NCA
bridge enquiry
(*) & cc do
Gordon
CNS
Supt
please

Dear Annabelle,

Thank you for the opportunity on Friday 21 July to meet with you and your team to discuss the concerns of the members of the Canberra Yacht Club over the recently announced Immigration Bridge proposals. The structure illustrated in the Canberra Times and City News publication has produced many calls of concern to the Yacht Club, coming from people actively racing or cruising on Lake Burley Griffin as well as those who merely seek the enjoyment of relaxing and watching sailing activities from around the lakeshores.

We had earlier provided your office with a copy of our reasons for opposition to the proposed bridge, as we had submitted to the bridge promoter. Similarly worded comments are shown on our club website. We remain concerned about the negative impacts of the bridge, and our committee has agreed to further discuss with the proposers our concerns in order to try to influence their plans.

Your assurance that no design or formal proposal for the Immigration Bridge has been submitted to the NCA for approval is welcomed. None the less, we understand that the NCA has indicated to the Immigration Bridge Consortium its endorsement of the concept of a high level pedestrian bridge at the proposed location, on the basis that any bridge structure will not adversely affect or impede sailing or other activities on Lake Burley Griffin.

Handwritten: ✓ correct

We also welcome your advice that any bridge design will need to satisfy design benchmarks which provide for a safe and efficient sailing passage for all sized sailboats operating near and underneath the structure. Current illustrations presented to the public by the proposers do not appear to have properly addressed this criteria and have created concern in the local sailing community.


As discussed, we strongly support the idea that the bridge consortium be asked to prepare a design brief for the bridge, and that this then be circulated to stakeholders and developed to satisfy the needs of all. Consultation in this process would seem to have the potential to clear the air on many aspect. We believe that this process, supported by continuing consultation, should have the potential to ensure that any bridge that might be built will have minimal impact on lake users and the amenity of the lake for all people, whether lake users or not. We look forward to participating in this process.

Handwritten: ✓
(*)

Please note that at our AGM on 10 August I assumed the position of Commodore previously held by Peter Dalton. I look forward to the continuation of the excellent level of consultation, support and cooperation between our organisations as has been experienced while Peter was Commodore.

Handwritten: Noted —

Yours faithfully,


Graham Giles
Commodore
0412 507 061

Mr. Graham Giles
Commodore
Canberra Yacht Club
PO Box 7169
Yarralumla ACT 2600

Dear Mr Giles

Thank you for your letter of 22 August 2006 regarding my meeting with Mr. Peter Dalton and other representatives of the Canberra Yacht Club regarding the proposed Immigration Bridge.

As you note, the National Capital Authority (NCA) has agreed 'in-principle' to the concept of a high quality, long span pedestrian bridge linking Acton Peninsula with Lennox Gardens. As I advised at our meeting there is no agreement to the published or any other any bridge design. In addition there is no commitment by the Australian Government to construct the bridge.

The NCA agrees that matters raised by the sailing community should be considered in the design of the bridge and that the best way to address these concerns is the preparation of a design brief which provides for safe and efficient boating on the lake and is used to prepare a revised design for the bridge.

We will advise Immigration Bridge Australia of the need to prepare a design brief which addresses the concerns of the existing lake users.

Yours sincerely



Annabelle Pegrum
Chief Executive

10 September 2006

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Australian Government
National Capital Authority

File No: 06/760
Our Ref: 17319

Lt. General Laurie O'Donnell AC (Rtd)
Chairman
Immigration Bridge Australia
PO Box 447
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Lieutenant General *Laurie*

I am writing to you regarding the published design for the proposed Immigration Bridge.

As you would be aware the proposal to construct a bridge connecting Acton Peninsula and Lennox Gardens has caused some concern within the Canberra lake users community. Concerns about the bridge have also been raised in the media, at the NCA's lake users forum and directly to myself by the Canberra Yacht Club.

Most comment is concentrated on the height of the bridge and the concept design which gives the appearance of a significant number of pylons supporting the deck and canopy. There is concern that the number of pylons will restrict the ability of boats to manoeuvre and reduce the overall level of boating safety on the lake.

Lake Burley Griffin is a popular venue for water sports, in particular sailing, rowing, sail boarding and canoeing. Any bridge design will need to satisfy design guidelines which provide for safe and efficient boating on the lake. I have made it clear that the design in the media is only an illustration and is not before the NCA as a works approval. However, I am concerned that the bridge as it currently appears may diminish opportunities for lake recreational use.

To address these concerns, I believe it is appropriate that Immigration Bridge Australia work with lake users to prepare a brief for the bridge design. The NCA would of course be happy to facilitate liaison with our lake users forum.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact Andrew Smith, NCA's, Director: Projects on 6271 2842.

Yours sincerely

Annabelle Pegrum
Chief Executive

18 September 2006

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Lake Users Group

Wednesday 20th September 2006

9:00 AM

Griffin Room

Treasury Building

National Capital Authority

Meeting called by: National Capital Authority

Chair: Tony Blunn – (Chairman)

Attendees:

Tony Blunn	Chairman
Graham Scott Bohanna	NCA
Peter Byron	NCA
Peter Griffiths	NCA
Jason Rose	NCA
Sri Tharan	NCA
Bruce Chalmers	NCA
Stuart McKenzie	NCA
Iain Kerr	Traditional Boat Squadron of Australia
Matt Owen	Canberra Yacht Club
Brian Marriott	Canberra Southern Cross Club
Chris Markcrow	AFP Water Police
Cameron Knight	AFP Water Police
Allan Le Levire	AFP Water Police
Phil Durnan	ADFA Boatshed
Jim Paterson	Lake Burley Griffin Cruises
Camilla Hayman	Rowing ACT
David Bagnall	Black Mountain RC
Rohan Reynolds	Real Fun
Kate Borger	Canberra Grammar School
John Harmer	Lake Burley Griffin Canoe Club
Ken Eynon	ACT Cross Country Club
Fred Lehman	Canberra Dragon Boat Association
Ben McCulloch	ACT Water Ski Association
Stephen Windthrop	Lakeside Ferry Cruises
Angus Gorman	ACT Government: Land Development Agency
Andy Lopez	Out There Productions
Jessie Whichelo	Secretariat

Minutes

1. Introductions

Mr. Blunn (Chairman) greeted attendees and opened the meeting of the Lake Users Group at 9.00 am on Wednesday, 20th September 2006.

3.2 Immigration Bridge Proposal

The NCA confirmed that the minutes from the previous Lake Users Group had been included in a meeting with the proponents' stakeholders of the Immigration Bridge Proposal.

Lake Users Group

Wednesday 21st June 2006

9:00 AM

Griffin Room

Treasury Building

National Capital Authority

Meeting called by: National Capital Authority

Chair: Tony Blunn – (Chairman)

Attendees:

Tony Blunn.....Chairman
Peter Byron.....NCA
Peter Griffiths..... NCA
Majdie Horden.....NCA
Sri Tharan.....NCA
Andrew Smith.....NCA
Iain Kerr..... Traditional Boat Squadron of Australia
Matt Owen..... Canberra Southern Cross Club Yacht Club
Peter Doulton..... Canberra Southern Cross Club Yacht Club
Chris Markcrow.....AFP Water Police
Phil Duman.....ADFA Boatshed
Jim Paterson.....Lake Burley Griffin Cruises
Jim Sears.....Lake Burley Griffin Boat Hire
Kip Tanner.....Pedal Power ACT
Camilla Hayman.....Rowing ACT
Kate Borger.....CGS
Elsbeth Humphries.....Dragons Abreast
Juliana Madden.....Burley Griffin Canoe Club (attended for end of meeting)
Kathy Airs.....ACT Parks & Places
Jessie Whichelo.....(secretariat)

Apologies:

John Harmer.....Burley Griffin Canoe Club

4. Agenda Items for discussion

5.1 Immigration Bridge Proposal & Consultation

Mr Andrew Smith (NCA) gave an overview on the background of the proposed Immigration Bridge. The concept is a private initiative to develop a monument to recognise the contribution of migrants to Australia. The idea of a bridge that would link Action Peninsula to the south side of the lake was published in the 'Griffin Legacy' in December 2004.

The estimated cost of the project is estimated at \$30 million, however there has been no government funding for this bridge. A preliminary design has been published, with the specifications of the bridge outlined to span approximately 90 metres between columns.

Mr Blunn sought clarification as to the NCA's involvement of the project, and that of the Department of Immigration (DIMIA). In previous LUG minutes, it had been stated that DIMIA were the lead agency.

Mr Smith clarified that, at present, DIMIA has no co-ordinating role in the project and that members of the private organisation proposing the bridge had tried to see Amanda Vanstone MP regarding DIMIA's involvement, but no further actions had arisen.

Mr Smith advised that the project is at this time only a proposal.

Mr Doullan (CSCCYC) raised the issue that if the Immigration Bridge concept was only at proposal stage would the NCA accept other proposals or ideas for the monument. He also asked if the NCA has been in discussion with post-war immigration groups and the reasoning behind NCA not openly seeking ideas for the recognition for immigrants.

Mr Smith responded:

- It was not the NCA's role to say the best way to commemorate groups. All proposals submitted to NCA are considered on the asset form and on merit.
- The concept is only a proposal, and has not been finalised.
- There was no plan at this stage for NCA to open a competition or request for an Immigration project.

Mr Blunn asked the LUG if the bridge, in its current proposal form, affected lake users. The following issues were raised:

- Mr Blunn- concerns over the dimension and size of the bridge
- Mr Seears - raised the issue of the strength of winds around the bridge, and how those winds would affect smaller craft.
- Mr Tanner – Use of the bridge in relation to cyclists. Would there be enough room for cyclists to ride across the bridge without causing too much traffic, or injury to pedestrians and cyclists.
- Mr Kerr also expressed concern over the proposed bridge.

Mr Smith responded:

- He agreed that the LUG could be consulted about the bridge, and suggested he take the minutes of the LUG meeting to discuss with the relevant bodies responsible for the Immigration Bridge proposal.

Members agreed.

ACTION: Mr Smith to take a copy of the Minutes of the Lake Users Group to the next meeting regarding the Immigration Bridge, to discuss the LUG's concerns for the proposal.

IMMIGRATION BRIDGE DESIGN BRIEF

PREPARED BY THE LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN LAKE USERS' GROUP

Following discussion by the Lake Users Group on the proposed Immigration Bridge it was agreed that the Group should develop a 'design brief' detailing features and constraints that the NCA would use to inform the bridge design to minimize adverse impacts of the bridge on all lake users.

The bridge is proposed to span Lake Burley Griffin between the area of Lennox Gardens adjacent to Flynn Place, and Acton Peninsular, aligned with King Edward Terrace. It is to be designed to take pedestrian and cycle traffic. Concern has been expressed by Group members at the lack of consultation on the proposal. The Canberra yacht Club has specifically expressed concern at the:

- physical risk to lake users presented by the many pylons shown in indicative illustrations of the bridge,
- reduction of the area of the lake that can safely be used for sailing in all weather,
- impact the bridge will have on the quality of wind at the Eastern end of West Lake, by disturbing the airflow and further reducing the area of the lake useable for fair competitive sailing,
- constriction on safe manoeuvrability in a primary area of safe shelter for yachts when the typical NW frontal winds become dangerous, and
- difficulty created for sailors and particularly sailing school classes to sail safely to and from West Basin and Central Basin for sailing events and training.

Taking all Lake Users concerns into account, the Group proposes that should such a bridge be built, that its design should meet the following criteria:

- 12 metres minimum clearance height of the bridge over the lake, from the normal water level,
- as few as practicable pylons in the lake, with
- 70 metres minimum span between pylons,
- minimal vertical profile and design features to minimize the effect of the bridge on the wind, and
- a soft collar to be installed on all pylons from 1 metre below to 1 metre above the normal water level.
- designed to Austroads Part 14, Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice, Bicycles" and also the local Roads ACT Standard "DS13".

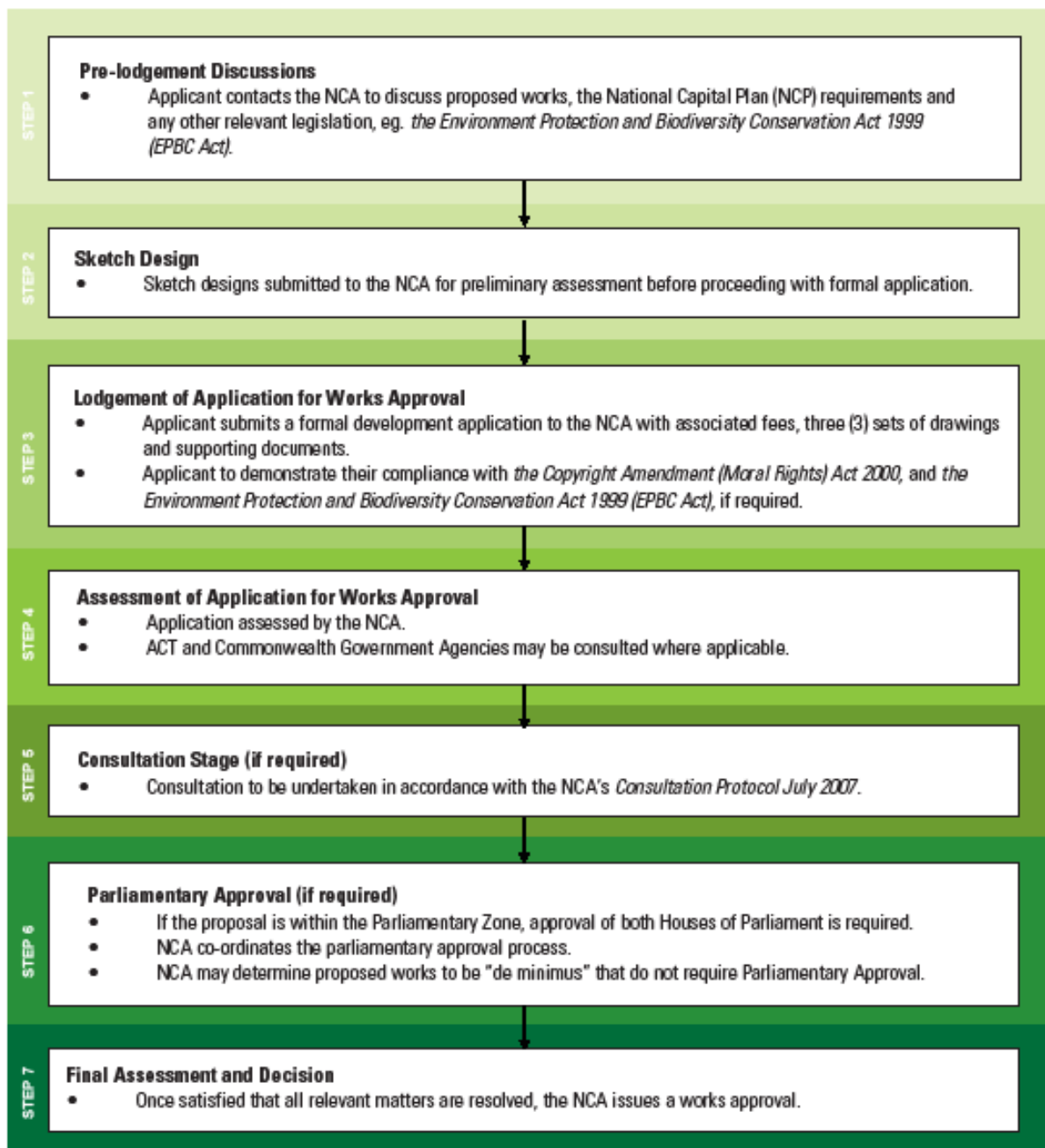
THE LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN LAKE USERS' GROUP

7th March 2007

Works Approval: Process Flow Chart

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988:

Section 12 of the Act requires that no work shall be performed in a Designated Area unless the proposal to perform the works has been submitted to the National Capital Authority (NCA) together with such plans and specifications as are required by the NCA.



Planning Appeals

The Act makes no provision for appeals against the decisions of the NCA. Parliament has instead provided that, in terms of the planning responsibilities of the NCA, the final say should rest with Parliament itself.

With respect to the NCA's powers to approve or disallow certain planning and development proposals (the usual area where appeals against the decisions of planning authorities apply), there is no provision for any special appeals process relating to the merits or otherwise of those planning and development proposals. There is the opportunity for recourse under the Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977 to determine if a decision of the Authority is correctly made, or to normal common law processes.