

SUBMISSION 29.3

27 Dane Street
KARABAR NSW 2620

16 April 2008

Members of the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories

NATIONAL CARILLON AT CANBERRA

Dear Members of the Carillon Committee,

I am most concerned to learn of proposed and very substantial funding cuts to the operation of the National Carillon in Canberra.

As someone who worked most of my career in the John Gorton building, the carillon was an essential part of the central Canberra environment. It was gratifying to become aware of its increasing use, as growing numbers of carillonists developed their skills. My wife and I were privileged to help with the logistics of public recitals in 2007 and 2008, one of which was repeated at the Sydney University War Memorial Carillon last March. It was clear to us both in these cases and from other recitals we have attended how greatly members of the public value the carillon and its music, and how dedicated Canberra's carillon players are.

It is not too much to say that live as distinct from mechanical carillon music over the lake in the middle of the day or the evening is part of Canberra's soul (sometimes alleged to be absent). Both locals and tourists alike have been able to appreciate it.

It simply does not make sense to have such an instrument with international and Australian heritage associations, and not have in place an organizational and funding framework to enable it to be both respected and enjoyed. If the present arrangements create uncertainty as to whether adequate funds will be available, they need to be changed, and I gather clear overseas precedents exist. I hope you will consider seriously a more focussed statutory home for the carillon, which will do justice to its status and its significance to Canberrans and the nation.

In the mean time, funding needs to be maintained at a level which will allow the carillon to effectively continue its key role within the Parliamentary Triangle. I certainly hope you will make the necessary funding adjustments: so much has been achieved over recent years and the cuts which I gather are in prospect put most of it at risk.

Yours faithfully,

G A McCubbin

Wilson, Frances (REPS)

From: Rob and Lyn Fuller [fulfam@aapt.net.au]
Sent: Friday, 18 April 2008 7:50 AM
To: Committee, NCET (REPS)
Subject: Inquiry into the role of the National Capital authority/Carillon

Please find as an attachment a further letter of support in relation to the National Carillon from:

Mr. Geoff McCubbin
27 Dane Street,
KARABAR. N.S.W. 2620

This letter has only just arrived., but not in time to attach to the submission from the Canberra Carillonists to the inquiry into the role of the National Capital Authority. I hope it can still be included as evidence before the Committee. Again, it reinforces the very special nature of the National Carillon and its importance to Canberra and Australia .

Yours sincerely
Lyn Fuller

Regards

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