



Building Designers  
Association Victoria

# BDAV AGM 2013

Minutes of of the 31st Annual General Meeting  
of The Building Designers Association of Victoria  
held on Monday, 7 October 2013  
at the Victorian Arts Centre, Melbourne

## CHAIRMAN:

Michael O'Sullivan, BDAV President

## ATTENDANCE:

140 Members, as per Attendance Register  
Kate Bell, BDAV; Giselle Grynbaum, BDAV  
John Shaw, Victorian Building Authority

**Apologies:** As per Apologies Register

## 1. OPENING

In declaring the meeting open at 6.10 pm, the Chairman, welcomed all in attendance, especially Life Members and Fellows of the Association who were present. He also acknowledged the BDAV's sponsors, and introduced the members of the BDAV's Committee of Management who were present.

## 2. SPONSOR PRESENTATION

Mr David Horasio from James Hardie Australia spoke about their new ARChitectural™ Invibe™ panel and ARChitectural™ Inraw™ panel, which are pre-finished panels coated using advanced and durable ChromaShield™ technology. Inraw™ is suitable for internal wall use only, and Invibe™ is suitable for a vast range of commercial interior wall and ceiling applications in both wet and dry areas. Members can request further information, and samples, at James Hardie's Accel website, at [www.accel.com.au](http://www.accel.com.au).

## 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, held on 9 October 2012, which had been made available to the members on the membership register at that time, were confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

**Moved:** Salvatore Campagna

**Seconded:** Michael Salpietro

## 4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr Michael O'Sullivan presented the President's annual report. (transcript attached).

## 5. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Ms Dominique Hunter, presented the Treasurer's annual report (transcript attached).

## 6. CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The meeting was advised that the following

members, listed in this report, had satisfied the requirements of the BDAV's voluntary Professional Development Program, namely, having achieved a minimum of 15 CPD points in the preceding 12 months. Certificates were issued to those members who were present.

Chris Adams  
Kane Airey  
Malal Athauda  
James Barrigan  
Terry Bellamy  
Haydn Birkett  
Diane Bodley  
Ryan Boyes  
Ande Bunbury  
Craig Cantwell  
Marie Carrel  
Luke Chamberlain  
Raymond Clissold  
Dennis Cooke  
Jaciént Cuda  
Michael Dawson  
Lisa DeFazio  
Dante Di Donato  
Andrew Donohue  
Matthew Duignan  
Denis Ellis  
Johnson Fok  
Helen Geddes  
Jason Gloz  
Birgit Gosetti  
Shu Guo  
Craig Harris  
William Harrison  
Brendan Hoban  
Kevin Hogan  
Andrew Hooper  
Li Huan  
Dominique Hunter  
Tony Imber  
Anthony Jones  
Maha Kada  
Mary Karavasil  
Stephen Kelly  
Ricardo La Mattina  
Greg Lawrence  
Chris Little  
Gavin Mahoney  
Pauline Mappourides  
Enrico Marrone  
Fabio Mazzei  
Alastair McDonald  
Brent McKnight  
Elin Melgaard  
Michael Mettes  
Stela Mircea  
Jennifer Munro

Tim Adams  
Steven Arnheim  
Robin Barber  
Carl Barton  
Helen Bernard  
Romney Bishop  
Darren Bowman  
Darren Brown  
Shane Butler  
Mabel Carbonetti  
Diane Carter  
Stephen Clifford  
Peter Condos  
Daniel Cramer  
Tracey Curran  
Wayne Dawson  
Surinder Dhariwal  
Sam Dolev  
Peter Dowling  
Brendon Egan  
Jonathan Finkelstein  
Ken Foo  
Michael Giesen  
Wayne Gorman  
Fiona Gregory  
Mick Hanley  
Glendra Harrison  
Geoffrey Hoare  
Roy Hodgson  
Paul Hogan  
Ingrid Hornung  
Chris Hube  
Robert Iacono  
Grace Jing Lu  
Mark Jordan  
John Karavasil  
Suzanne Keenan  
Hauke Kratzat  
Kue Sum Lai  
Lisa Lee  
Philip Logan  
Raffaele Mammone  
Susan Marriott  
Sven Maxa  
John McCarthy  
Christine McKenzie  
Jessica McMillan  
Leanne Menegazzo  
Michael Michielin  
Donna Monaghan  
Kevin Murphy

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Ali Mustapha  
Zol Nagy  
John Nates  
Paul Nijenhuis  
Dennis O'Dwyer  
Kathryn O'Sullivan  
Kelly Paas  
Jason Pasqual  
Kerryn Peronace  
Heather Pfaff Cunsolo  
Diane Poolton  
Ryan Pridham  
Thomas Reisacher  
Allen Roberts  
Robert Rowland  
Michael Salpietro  
Ricardo Santos  
Peter Serpell  
Peter Shaw  
Brian Sheppard  
Jeremy Spencer  
Mark Sproule  
James Stapleton  
Wendy Stratton  
Trevor Terrett  
Chee Kwok Tiong  
Tracey Toohey  
Mark Watson  
Jacqueline Wilson  
Chad Young

Kerri Myles  
Esaien Naidoo  
Hayley Nicholson  
Briony O'Brien  
Steven Orr  
Michael O'Sullivan  
Denise Panozzo  
Kirsten Peck  
Dragana Petrovic  
Stefan Pocza  
Kathleen Poppeliers  
Cameron Reid  
Graeme Rigg  
Stephanie Ross  
Lucas Ryle  
Sherif Samuel  
Richard Sapwell  
Fadi Shafik  
Daniel Sheehan  
Kristine Sommerfeld  
Michael Spencer  
Alex Stamatopoulos  
Belinda Stewart  
Thomas Taylor  
Samuel Thomson  
P a m e l a T o a n  
Vince Wardill  
Dean Williams  
Leigh Wilson  
Edward Zajc

installed for a two-year term at the 2012 AGM; however, the President advised that Mr Paul Hassall had recently stepped down from the Committee due to time constraints. Mr Sven Maxa had recently filled the casual vacancy created by Mr Hassall's departure, and will fill that vacancy until the 2014 AGM, when elections are next due.

## 10. DESIGNER PROFILE

The Chairman then invited Mr Ian Wilson, of Wilson iD, the winner of the 2013 BDAV Building Design of the Year, to present a profile on his winning project, 'Rose of South Yarra', which had won eight awards in the BDAV's 2013 Building Design Awards.

## 11. GUEST SPEAKER

The Chairman then invited Mr John Shaw from the Victorian Building Authority to address the gathering. Mr Shaw replaced Mr Dennis Hogan for the presentation, as Mr Hogan, who had been the scheduled speaker, was unwell that day. He spoke about the Livable Housing Guidelines developed by Livable Housing Australia (LHA), a not-for-profit entity championing the nationally agreed Guidelines which have been created to assist the community to understand, promote and deliver livable designed homes for all persons. BDAV has recently affiliated with LHA as a Core Supporter, which was favourably acknowledged by Mr Shaw.

## 12. CLOSE OF FORMALITIES

The Chairman then thanked everybody for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed at 7.40 pm, inviting everybody to partake of refreshments at the venue.

## 8. BUILDING PRACTITIONERS BOARD

Mr David Cooke, the Draftsperson representative on the Building Practitioners Board representative, presented a brief report about BPB activities. (Transcript attached).

## 9. COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

There were no elections required the Committee of Management, who had been



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# BDAV AGM 2013 – PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's hard to believe the first year of my two-year Presidency has been completed. It's been a very busy year, and great to see the initiatives of my predecessors continue to unfold.

The support of the membership has allowed the BDAV to grow year on year, and to sit proudly among the key stakeholders in the industry.

We also acknowledge the support of our sponsors, with whom we have established very solid relationships, which we value.

It is especially gratifying to see the BDAV achieve political recognition, and we acknowledge the efforts of our Lobbyists, FPL Advisory, for facilitating access to the key people within the public and private sectors. Over the past twelve months, through our lobbying program on behalf of the membership, we have increased the profile and opportunities for building designers.

We have also achieved the following fundamental policy positions:

- Planning Policy – supports and continues to strive for effective reform of the Victorian planning system that reduces delays and inefficiencies and maintains Melbourne and Victoria's place as a liveable society;
- Sustainable Design – supports making positive contributions to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and delivering a more sustainable future;
- Education and Training – supports a strong training and accreditation regime for our members, both prior to achieving their relevant qualifications and ongoing Continuing Professional Development to ensure that the standards of building design in Victoria continually strive to be improved.

Although a lot of work has been done in all of the above areas, some of our achievements worth noting including the follow:

While the BDAV supports water sensitive urban design, there were practical considerations that had not been addressed when Stonnington introduced proposed amendments in 2009, and Moonee Valley in late 2012. The BDAV presented the practical concerns to the Panel Hearing and, while the final report is a relatively strong recommendation for adoption, the extent of change from the first exhibited draft and the final recommended by the Panel is significant, including increased exemptions and exact details of application requirements and expected conditions.

BDAV has been involved in the mammoth task of the re-accreditation of the Advanced Diploma of Building Design (Architectural). Your Association representatives and other industry personnel have been involved in workshops, meetings and review of units over the last six months, with the finishing touches now being put on the final application for submission to the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority. A huge thank you to all those within industry who have contributed to this process, and we look forward to a successful outcome from the Authority in the coming months.

Our role as an Assessor Accrediting Organisation continues to evolve, placing us at the forefront of sustainable design and energy rating.

However, BDAV biggest achievement from this sustained lobbying activity is recognition from Government that the BDAV, and in turn building designers, play an integral role in Victoria's building industry. This has been rewarded with the BDAV being invited to nominate a person for appointment to the Building Advisory Council. This Council is a senior industry-based advisory group that advises the Minister for Planning on the administration of the Building Act 1993 and Building Regulations 2006; on the impact of the building regulatory system; on issues relating to the building permit levy; and any other matter referred by the Minister. The Council provides advice across a range of policy and regulatory issues. Nominations have been forwarded to the Government and we look forward to hearing of the Minister's appointment.

In our Industry Liaison program, most recently, we have taken out a Core Supporter sponsorship with Livable Housing Australia, in recognition of their commitment to create more comfortable, versatile and easier-to-access homes for everybody, every day, at all stages of life. Dennis Hogan from the Victorian Building Authority will speak to you later this evening about the Livable Housing Guidelines that this Authority has established.

Also, following considerable work over the past nine months, together with the Building Designers Association of Queensland, we have established the National Alliance of Building Designers. Whilst all state and territory Building Designers Associations were invited to be part of this Alliance, regrettably, the other states/territories have chosen not to come on board at this time; however, dialogue will continue with them.

The instigation of this Alliance is a landmark achievement for the building design profession, with more than 2500 members across Australia having united to form a peak representative body for building designers. The Alliance will lead relevant discussions for the profession and the wider building industry, and aims to improve the professionalism and recognition of building designers nationwide. It will formalise education programs, share expertise and pursue continuous development.

One of the first priorities for the new Alliance will be to advocate Federal and State Governments to formally recognise building design as a profession. The Alliance will announce a series of policy points in the coming months as the foundation for its discussions with Federal and State Governments.

Despite the instigation of the Alliance, Members are reminded that both BDAV and BDAQ will continue to provide services autonomously to their respective members under their own structures; however the NABD will allow for BDAV to have a greater impact on national issues which affect building design professionals.

Our annual Awards program continues to be our flagship activity, profiling the skills of our members to the broader community. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those Members who entered this year's competition, and again congratulate all the winners. I would like to encourage more Members to participate next year, to show the broad depth of skills our Members offer.



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Our 10-Star Challenge, equally, profiles the skills of those Members who have embraced Sustainable Design, and again, we appreciate the time and effort of those who participate in this annual program. This year, we engaged media identity, James O'Loughlin, as the Ambassador of the 10-Star Challenge, and we were well rewarded with an excellent calibre of individual who is almost as passionate about sustainable design as many of our Members when he has articulated the merits of this program. James also did an excellent job at MC'ing our Annual Dinner this year, and we received lots of positive feedback about his involvement.

We engaged new media advisors last year, with Porter Novelli, who have done a great job in facilitating access to appropriate media for us, and the profiles of our Awards and 10-Star Challenge that they initiated continue to be featured in the media.

Our Marketing campaign continued this year, with 3AW, and we also trialed a community radio sponsorship with The Pulse 94.7FM, which covers Geelong and surrounding regions. We also exhibited at Grand Designs Live Melbourne last year, and are participating in this event again this year. These activities promote the skills of all our Members.

I would especially like to thank those Members who have given up their time and contribute their knowledge to be on our various sub-committees. The sub-committees have their finger on the pulse, and are the driving force when it comes

to enabling us to keep our Members informed. I particularly thank those Members on our Committee of Management who drive the policy directions for the Association, and who give up their own time, voluntarily, to serve our Association. Recently Paul Hassall stood down from the Committee due to time constraints, and Sven Maxa has filled the casual vacancy created by Paul's departure, and we look forward to his input and contribution.

The last year has been tough in the building industry; however it's fantastic to see our members continuing their commitment to our Association, and to produce such high quality work.

Equally, it is exciting for us to see our Members' skills recognised in external Awards programs, with, most recently Maxa Design having won an award in the Timber Design Awards; four of our Members shortlisted in the BPN Sustainability Awards; and two of our Members shortlisted in the Melbourne Design Awards. This is further testimony of the recognition of the Members in the marketplace.

A special thanks to our hardworking joint CEO's Giselle Grynbaum and Kate Bell who, along with our Committee of Management, get together each year to plan key objectives for our Association. My thanks, too, to Chris Radford at the BDAV's office, for her solid support to the BDAV.

We have a great team working to look after our Members' interests, and we are gratified to see our membership continue to support our activities.

Thank you.

**Michael O'Sullivan**  
*BDAV President*



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# BDAV AGM 2013 – FINANCIAL REPORT

First, I would like to acknowledge and thank our sponsors, whose support we value. Our Diamond Sponsor – BlueScope Steel – plus our other sponsors : Architectural Window Systems, James Hardie Australia, Kingspan Insulation, WoodSolutions, bankmecu, CSR, Tait Timber & Hardware, and Rylock contribute to our healthy financial position. Our sponsors feel the pressures of financial constraints the same as we do, so it is tremendous that they continue to see a mutual benefit in sponsoring our Association; so if and when you are specifying products, we urge you to please consider our sponsors where you can.

Our membership has remained stable over the past year, and we now have almost 1,850 members, which continues to give us a very solid membership base. We also continue to be the largest of any BDA around the nation and, indeed, we continue to have more members than the rest of the nation, collectively.

This year we increased our membership fees slightly due to ever-increasing costs; however, the increase was just over 2%. Our membership fees are low compared to those charged by other comparative industry bodies, yet we provide more services and benefits than a lot of other related industry organisations.

We have also retained our Loyalty Discount on membership subscriptions, recognising long-serving members who have been with us for ten or more continuous years, which recognises their continued loyalty to us. This program will continue.

Our activities as an accrediting body for Thermal Performance Assessors and Home Sustainability Assessors have continued to evolve; however, we again have not increased the annual accreditation fees this year, despite the associated increased costs in providing this service. We view this as another dimension for our membership, and an area that re-enforces to our designer members the opportunities of including energy efficient and sustainability elements in your designs.

Our seminar and webinar fees have also been retained at the same rate as the past two years; again, despite increased supplier costs, as we endeavour to keep CPD affordable for our Members. Again, our seminar fees are low compared with those charged by other industry bodies. We have been pleased to see solid participation in our CPD activities this year, although take-up for our workshop program – which we introduced this year – was disappointing. This tends to indicate that our Members are time-poor and cannot, generally, commit to longer than a couple of hours of CPD at any one time. The workshops will be reviewed for next year, as we can only sustain those activities that receive the support of the membership.

The Loyalty Program we introduced several years ago for our CPD events also continues. This enables you to get your fourth CPD seminar free, if you attend three of our metropolitan BDAV CPD seminars which incur a charge.

And, of course, our commitment to our Student Members has continued, with free attendance by Student Members at our metropolitan seminars and regional meetings, in recognition of our ongoing investment in the future of our profession.

This year we again ran our Student Grant program, offering our Student Members an opportunity to be eligible for five grants, each of \$2,000 to help defray the cost of their studies. We received some very impressive submissions from some of our Student Members, and we again congratulate the winners. This is a program which will continue.

The Committee of Management also introduced a Special Award this year – the Brian Morison Award for the Most Promising Student – for which Student Member, Thomas Bird, was the inaugural winner, and received \$4,000 from the BDAV towards the costs of his future studies. We take this opportunity to thank those TAFEs who supported this, and our Student Awards program this year, which also received some impressive entries.

Our other big-ticket expenditure items this year were, again, our marketing activities, our annual Building Design Awards, and our 10-Star Challenge, especially given we engaged media personality, James O’Loughlin, as the Ambassador for our 10-Star Challenge. As Michael said in his speech, James was an excellent choice and a sound investment as Ambassador, particularly given his passion for sustainable design.

The mileage from these activities benefits all building designers, as does the public display of entries at Federation Square, and our annual Winning Design magazine. Again, we view these as good investments in promoting the skills of our members, and for the benefit and longevity of our profession.

We also continue to use outsourced consultants, especially in our lobbying and public relations activities, given our lean head-office team. These consultants, too, have proved to be sound investments, as the calibre of the people we have outsourced is excellent.

Our other major expenditure item has been reviewing and commissioning the redevelopment of our website. This is our major communications tool, and the new site should be launched early next year.

As a result of all these activities – and our solid membership base – the BDAV recorded a profit of \$189,795 at 30th June 2013 after providing for income tax. This is a modest increase of \$15,745 compared to last year, which reflects that, despite increased costs, and reduced interest rates, our financial strategies are sound.

All this, again, is a testament to the Association’s prudent financial management, and the strong support we receive from our Executive team in overseeing the administration.

The accounts have again been audited by the audit division of Hayes Knight (formerly called Clements Dunne & Bell), and the accounts have been found to be in good order.

The financial report is available to be viewed at the BDAV’s office by any member, upon request.

I would like to again thank the Committee of Management, and our Joint Executive Officers for their support and assistance to me over the past year as your Treasurer.

Thank you.

**Dominique Hunter**  
BDAV Treasurer



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# BDAV AGM 2013 – BPB REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

## Overview

I am David Cooke, and I am a Board Member of the Building Practitioners Board, nominated by the BDAV. I am 2 years into a 3 year term on the Board. Along with my main Board duties, part of my Board role includes sitting on the Registration Sub-Committee, of which I am Deputy Chair, and the Inquiry Sub-Committee, as well as assisting with the assessment of Draftsperson Registration applications. These activities usually total about 1-1½ days per week.

## Activity

204 Drafting applications have been processed this year for the period September 2012-September 2013.

Currently there are approx. 25,000 registered practitioners, 2,300 of whom are Drafting practitioners, 2000 of these DP-AD. This number of practitioners has remained static for most of the last 12 months. Drafting practitioner numbers are not altering annually for the last 3 years.

## Legislative Changes

Major legislative change has occurred, driven by State Government's reform policy, with the abolition of the Building Commission and the creation of the VBA.

The VBA differs in many ways to the previous Building Commission, but primarily its organisational structure is run in a corporate model by a Board of Directors and a CEO.

As a result of legislative change, the Building Practitioners Board will cease after 30 June 2014. Most of its functions – registration and discipline of practitioners – will be transferred to the VBA thereafter.

Other changes have seen the phasing out of the Building Appeals Board. One of the functions of the BAB was to review Registration appeals. This function is now undertaken by a new appeals review list at VCAT. The first hearings of Registration Appeals by VCAT have now occurred. The main change being that VCAT hearings are more legally formal in nature, and the presentation of the appeal case requires a more detailed preparation and presentation of the argument.

## BPB Work Underway

At present the BPB are working with the VBA to assist in the transition of some of its functions to the VBA. This is an opportunity to review and refine some of the registration practices, protocols and criteria. One idea being considered is the introduction of log books for aspiring practitioners to complete over time, to validate their experience and to gather comments on their abilities by Practitioner Referees.

The registration pre-requisite requirements for qualification and experience in all categories is being reviewed to assess their relevance in today's professional world.

## In Conclusion

I thank the BDAV for the opportunity to represent our profession and to foster the interests of the BDAV and draftspersons generally.

## David Cooke

*Draftsperson Representative  
Building Practitioners Board*



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