



**AUSTRALIAN  
PEACEKEEPING  
MEMORIAL  
PROJECT**

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ABN: 56 102 846 791 Inc into the ACT

August 2009

Mr Denis Percy,  
President  
United Nations Police Association of Australia  
147 Bradfield St  
Lindfield NSW 2070

I am writing to brief you on the progress of the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial Project. As a strong supporter and APMP Friend of Peacekeeping, the UNPAA will be keen to know what steps are to be taken to ensure that we achieve the outcome of a national memorial to our peacekeepers

As you are aware, many elements of the Project have progressed well. Over the last three years we have established a solid structure based on a hard working volunteer committee and supporters. We have established an informative website, engaged many significant Australian identities and achieved several of our original objectives. We have been allocated a prominent Memorial site on ANZAC Parade by the Canberra National Memorials Committee. We have consolidated wide spread bipartisan support from Federal Parliament and strong moral support from past and present Peacekeepers and ex service organizations across Australia. Importantly this includes current members from the ADF, AFP, the RSL, the APPVA, the UNPAA and the UNAA. Our Memorial design competition has been successfully completed and an outstanding design concept was announced last December. By September 2009 we will have a fully developed and costed design for the Peacekeeping Memorial and working drawings for its construction.

To complete the APMP it had been estimated that we now need to raise approximately \$M 4. Due to a number of reasons, not the least of which is the impact of the global financial crisis, we have not yet raised sufficient funds to commence the all important construction phase of the project. At present we would need to raise a large sum of money within the next 6 months to feel comfortable in progressing into the construction phase according to our original schedule. The committee has assessed this as unlikely in the current economic environment, so we recently convened a special meeting in Canberra to review the way ahead.

I am pleased to report as the Chairman that the APMP Committee and Patrons have reaffirmed that the APMP must continue with its aim to construct a high quality national Memorial on the allocated site on ANZAC Parade to commemorate Australian Peacekeeping, *Past, Present and Future*. We acknowledge that given the changed environment that we need

PATRON-IN-CHIEF

Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce, AC Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

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● Geraldine Doogue, AO

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to refocus and revitalize the Project, particularly our publicity and fund raising campaigns with a more realistic target completion date of 14 September 2012. (This date will be the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Australian Peacekeeping.) Whilst the delay is regretted, it is felt that the quality and the significance can not be compromised in the short term given the importance of the memorial not only today but to those many Australian peacekeepers who will come in the future.

We have also agreed to develop the APMP on a national structure based on the present constitution as a non profit organisation incorporated in the ACT. Our national office would be in Canberra but we plan to develop a number of active regionally focused support groups particularly in Sydney, Brisbane, Townsville, Darwin and possibly even in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne and Hobart where we know interest in the project exists. We hope to ramp up the fund raising activity through the establishment of a pro bono office and the hiring of a paid office manager in Canberra. We also intend to refocus our publicity campaign to be aimed a broader range of contemporary stakeholders in the Australian community, but in particular to address our past, present and future peacekeepers. We will be approaching some prominent Australians to act as ambassadors to the APMP.

We also plan to develop a new APMP Capital fundraising campaign to seek donations from a wide range of sources. Our revised target date allows us three financial years for our fundraising campaign and we feel this will be an achievable objective.

I look forward to continued support of the APMP by the UNPAA. Without this vital contribution our task will be made that much more difficult. We are determined that the service and sacrifice of Australian peacekeepers be appropriately recognised by this Memorial and feel reinvigorated to achieve this outcome. We would encourage you to consider how the UNPAA may be able to further support our revised campaign. I am happy to discuss all possibilities of support to the APMP with you. Please feel free to contact me on 0408 029 295 or at [Chairman@peacekeepingmemorial.org.au](mailto:Chairman@peacekeepingmemorial.org.au) .

Yours sincerely,

Major General (Retired) Tim Ford, AO  
Chairman

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<sup>i</sup> *Past, Present and Future* is the theme of the Australian Peacekeeping Memorial to stress that the memorial is to recognise not only service and sacrifice in missions that have ended, but those that are currently underway and those that may be undertaken in the future. This is unique amongst Australian memorials