

MDA Inc. – Report Card

Annual General Meeting

Barham NSW

22nd September 2006

Past, Present and Future

- **PAST:** 63 years of continuum & gathered history (needs to be regularly “dusted off” & communicated)

Present

Pros:

- ✓ Lifting MDA media profile;
- ✓ Engagement of mid & northern NSW & Southern Qld;
- ✓ Assisting to promote the Darling initiative;
- ✓ MDBC-CAC Two (2) specific positions;
- ✓ Living Murray Initiative – CRG (1 position)

Cons.....

- Falling into Deficit (Projects & Commonwealth);
 - Generational change;
 - Promoting the view – not ultra Green or Water centric as an organisation;
 - Corowa – seek increase in Governmental partner \$ support to MDA
- Example of MDA Latent power – (Snowy Hydro float)**

Future.....

IMMEDIATE – 2006-2007

- Dubbo office establishment – Mid NSW & SW Qld;
- Funding – Membership
 - Corporate support (without any diminution in Objective & apolitical MDA stance);
- Motion of socio-economic niche for the MDA;
- Strengthen Local Gov't (Basin) connection to the Commonwealth;
- Preparation for new reduced Board -07/08 – Regional Chairs

Mid & Longer term.....

- Secure funding for sponsored MDA Research Officer;
- Engage & develop the interface between Local Govt & CMA's;
- Foster historical Council connections, embrace generational change, engage & induct future Councillor candidates based on Youth Forum Model ;
- Expand and enhance the Youth Forum activity;
- Expand MDA memberships.

ADOPT A NEW FUNDING APPROACH

- All MDA staff to be chargeable to min 40-60% on Project funds in order to retain MDA viability;
- Attract more Corporate sponsorship;
- Membership
 - Past: No increase (a fatal strategy),
 - Present: CPI-say 3% (No ability to increase services or catch up backlog, eg Market rate for executive salaries etc),

Future:

- From 07/08 for at least 5-6 consecutive years following to increase annually by 10% PA – provided that the inflation factor continues at 3-4% in order to lift MDA Membership capitation fees to a new more sustainable plane.

Comments please???

Finally.....

Thanks for the privilege, opportunity and
journey as MDA Inc National president –

Onwards & Upwards,

Brian J Grogan

(22/9/06)