

Regulatory Burdens: Business and Consumer Services
Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

**Draft Research Report: Annual Review of Regulatory Burdens on Business –
*Business and Consumer Services***

The Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACA) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Productivity Commission's *Draft Research Report: Annual Review of Regulatory Burdens on Business – Business and Consumer Services* June 2010.

AACA is the national body established by the state and territory architects registration boards to facilitate and co-ordinate national standards for architects in Australia, and to establish and maintain mutual recognition agreements with overseas authorities.

Following on from the Productivity Commission's *Review of Legislation Regulating the Architectural Profession 2000*, AACA has worked with the state and territory registration boards to achieve national harmony in the standards required for registration as an architect in Australia. As acknowledged in the Draft Research Report there is now national consistency in the standards for initial registration across Australia. National consistency in the requirements for renewal of registration remains high on the agenda for AACA and the registration boards. While there is currently not a national register of architects, it should be noted that a national listing of architects is maintained by the registration boards on the AACA website.

The Draft Research Report has specifically sought input in relation to Continued Professional Development (CPD) requirements for architects. AACA has collaborated with the Australian Institute of Architects (AIA) to establish a national framework on CPD. The framework has been endorsed by both bodies, and implemented by the AIA and two of the state registration boards; the requirements for CPD are consistently applied by these three bodies. Other boards are currently

working to implement CPD, again in a manner consistent with the national framework established by AACA and the AIA. It is recognised that there is a logical argument for consistent requirements for CPD to be adopted nationally. It is hoped that, with the assistance and good-will of state and territory governments, this will be achieved in the not-too-distant future.

I would be happy to supply further information on any of the above issues, or meet with you to discuss this submission if needed.

Chris Harding
Registrar
28 July 2010