PODIATRISTS REGISTRATION BOARD *of* VICTORIA

16 JUN 2003

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29 May 2003

Ms Sarah Box
Senior Research Economist
Productivity Commission PO
Box 80
Belconnen ACT 2616

Dear Sarah,

I refer to my letter of 28 April 2003 in relation to the Boards preliminary comments.

Following the Boards attendance at the recent biennial joint meeting the Board would like to make the following comments:

- The issue in relation to differing academic standards between states is still of concern to the Board;
- The issue in relation to Trans Tasman has been rectified and is no longer a concern of the Board.

The Board would also like to raise the following additional issue of inconsistency between acts. As an example in South Australia podiatrists have the power to prescribe certain Schedule 4 drugs however, this authority varies in other acts thus limiting the capacity of a podiatrist's practice. Also in New Zealand podiatrists are able to undertake radiological examinations which cannot be undertaken in Australia.

The Board is of the view that these inconsistencies lead to varying standards that are not consistent with a national approach.

Yours faithfully,



Mark Strickland
Registrar