

Ref: 7.1.6

10 July 2008



Mutual Recognition Review
Productivity Commission
LB2 Collins Street East
MELBOURNE VIC 8003

Dear Sir or Madam

REVIEW OF MUTUAL RECOGNITION SCHEMES

The Architects Board of WA (Board) administers the *Architects Act 2004* in Western Australia. The objects of the Act are:

- (a) to ensure that only properly qualified and competent persons are identified as architects or as persons who practise architecture and to regulate the practice of architecture by those persons; and
- (b) to establish, maintain and promote suitable standards of knowledge and skills among architects,

for the purpose of protecting the consumers of architectural and related services in Western Australia.

The Board maintains a register of architects, and in order for a person to be entered onto the Register they must have:

- (a) an approved Australian or overseas academic qualification in architecture; or, where no formal academic qualifications in architecture have been obtained, success in the AACA competency based process known as the National Program of Assessment;
- (b) a period of practical experience; and
- (c) successfully completed the Architectural Practice Examination.

Architects that are already registered in other states or territories are registered in Western Australia under the Mutual Recognition Agreement. This process has been operating very smoothly primarily as a result of generally uniform registration requirements across Australia.

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The Board has not received any applications for registration under the Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition Arrangement, so it is not in a position to comment on this arrangement other than to say that the Board supports this arrangement in principle as common standards apply for the accreditation of courses and registration in New Zealand.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicole Kerr', with a stylized, flowing script.

Nicole Kerr
Registrar