

— NEW CE POLICY —

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

AT ITS AUGUST 1984 meeting the LAA General Council decided to change the way in which Association funds are deployed at national level for continuing education activities.

General Council decided not to reappoint a Continuing Education Officer after the resignation of the Association's CE Officer in July 1984. Instead, it was decided to set aside funds for a national program based on the identification of priority areas by branches and a call for tenders.

The concept of continuing education as a *service* to members was endorsed. The LAA is keen to involve as many members as possible in continuing education activities.

Clusters of activities

The words 'continuing education activities' have been used in preference to 'short courses'. This reflects the notion of greater flexibility in the nature of CE opportunities. A CE provider may wish to develop a cluster of activities, including say, a number of targeted short courses and briefings at different levels to meet a range of identified needs in a given area.

Potential tenderers

Tenders could come from divisions of the LAA, schools of library and information studies, for-profit organisations such as management consultants and training organisations or individuals, cost recovery organisations or associations or combinations of any of these groups.

Geographic factors

Tenderers may choose to quote for an activity or activities in one geographic area only or in some combination of areas selected from the priorities listed. Tenders which include quotes for taking activities to less populous areas or for packaging of activities to members at a distance from larger centres will be favourably considered. Where an activity has a high initial development cost, the Association may seek to have that activity made available in a number of locations.

In order to ensure that some courses are available in 1985, the Association's preferred timeframe for the identification of priority areas from members and the calling of tenders

has been considerably reduced. Branch Councils have been asked to identify the areas in which they wish tenders to be called. It is expected that this information will be conveyed to potential tenderers by the end of September 1984. The closing date for submission of tenders is November 30 1984.

In parallel with this, *expressions of interest are now being sought* by October 26 from organisations, groups and individuals who may wish to tender for funds to develop and implement continuing education activities on the Association's behalf in 1985.

Features of the recommended model

The revised model of operation suggested recognises that while the CE program and approach developed by the Association to date may have been the most appropriate at the time, it is now time to try a different approach to the development and organisation of courses. By recommending a more decentralised but coordinated approach it is felt that Association members may receive better 'value for money' in the future than if the previous arrangements were to be continued.

General Councillors and Branch Presidents received a copy of the Continuing Education Review report as part of the papers for the August 1984 General Council. All divisions and potential tenderers have been sent a letter inviting expressions of interest in tendering for association courses and a copy of the *Guidelines for Tenders*. Anyone wishing to receive a copy of these *Guidelines* should contact the LAA Head Office (02) 692 9233.

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About COHO

The NSW Council of Heritage Organizations (COHO) was formed in 1978 as a non-formal committee of New South Wales organisations concerned with various aspects of Australia's heritage.

The basic objective of COHO is to provide a forum for discussion of like-minded organisations and also to play a co-ordinating role between the groups concerned. It is intended that COHO reduce duplication of effort, help in the development of policies on important issues, and assist heritage organisations in their efforts to influence Government.

The following organisations are currently represented on COHO:

- Art Museums Association of Australia
- Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists
- Australian Association for Maritime History
- Australian Society of Archivists
- Australian Society of Historical Archaeology
- Engineering Heritage Committee, The Institution of Engineers, Australia (Sydney Division)
- Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material
- Library Association of Australia (NSW Branch)
- Museums Association of Australia Inc. (NSW Branch)
- National Trust of Australia (NSW)
- Regional Art Galleries Association of NSW
- Royal Australian Historical Society
- Royal Society of NSW
- Society of Australian Genealogists

In addition, two organisations with a key interest in the natural heritage have recently been invited to join COHO. It is estimated that COHO will represent approximately 100,000 Australians in 1984.

Currently COHO is involved with the conservation of the Old Government House relics in Bridge Street, photography in museums and historic houses, the need of repositories for the documentation of archaeological surveys, and the need for open access to pre-1900 birth, death and marriage records in Victoria.

For further information, contact — Mr Nick Vine Hall, Chairman of COHO Society of Australian Genealogists, Richmond Villa, 120 Kent St., Sydney. 27 3953, or Dr Glenn Hunt, Secretary of COHO, The Australian Museum, College Street, Sydney. 339 8265.

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