



THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF BUILDING

Established 1951 Incorporated 1955
Incorporated by Royal Charter 1969

Introduction

1. On 2 April 1969, 23 Corporate Members of The Institute petitioned for the grant of a Royal Charter.
2. On the advice of the Privy Council, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second granted a Royal charter to The Australian Institute of Building on 7 October 1969.

Royal Charter

Elizabeth the Second by the grace of God of the United Kingdom, Australia and Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the faith:

To all To Whom these Presents Shall Come, greeting!

WHEREAS by the authority of the Association incorporated in Our Commonwealth of Australia and known as The Australian Institute of Building (formerly known as The Australian Institute of Builders and hereinafter referred to as 'the existing Institute') certain members of that Institute have by their humble Petition prayed that We would be pleased to grant unto the existing Institute a Charter of Incorporation:

AND WHEREAS We are minded to comply with the prayer of the said Petition:

NOW THEREFORE KNOW YE that We, by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal in that behalf and of all other powers enabling Us so to do, of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have granted and ordained and do by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors grant and ordain as follows:

The persons now members of the existing Institute, and all such persons as may hereafter become members of the Body Corporate hereby constituted shall for ever hereafter (so long as they shall continue to be such members) be one body corporate and politic by the name of 'The Australian Institute of Building' (hereinafter referred to as 'the Institute') and by the same name shall have perpetual succession and a Common Seal with power to break, alter and make anew the said Seal from time to time at their will and pleasure and by the same name and may sue and be sued in all Courts and in all manner of actions and suits and shall have power to do all other matters and things incidental or appertaining to a Body Corporate including power to take and hold personal property and power to purchase, take on lease and hold lands, tenements and hereditaments or any interest in any lands, tenements or hereditaments whatsoever within Our Commonwealth of Australia for the purposes of the Institute and power to sell, let on lease, alienate or otherwise dispose of the same or any part thereof.

The income and property of the Institute shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Institute as hereinafter defined. The Institute shall not carry on any trade or business or engage in any transaction with a view to the pecuniary gain or profit of the members thereof. No member shall have any personal claim on any property of the Institute and no part of the income or property of the

Institute shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend or bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the Institute provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officer or servant of the Institute and their dependents or prevent the payment at the discretion of the Council of the Institute of the expenses incurred by any members of the Institute in attending meetings or otherwise undertaking business of the Institute at the instance of the Council or prevent the payment of interest at a rate not exceeding five per centum per annum on money borrowed from any member of the Institute.

The objects and purposes for which the Institute is hereby constituted are to promote the study and advance the science and practice of building and of all kindred matters, arts and sciences and to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas in relation thereto and for that purpose:

- (a) To acquire the property and money of the existing Institute (including the property and moneys if any held by it as Trustee) subject to the existing trusts if any affecting the same.
- (b) To raise the character and status of the practice of building and those engaged therein.
- (c) To increase the confidence of the community in the employment of persons engaged in the employment of persons engaged in the practice of building by admitting to corporate membership of the Institute only such persons as shall have satisfied the Council of the Institute that they have an adequate knowledge of both the theory and practice of building.
- (d) To promote honourable practice, to repress malpractice and to settle disputed points of practice and to decide all questions of professional usage and etiquette affecting members of the Institute.
- (e) To collect and circulate statistics and other information relative to building in its several branches.
- (f) To provide for the delivery and holding of lectures, forums, exhibitions, public meetings, classes and conferences calculated to advance education in building whether general, professional or technical and to employ lecturers, teachers and other persons for these purposes and to pay all expenses, professional or otherwise, in connection therewith
- (g) To encourage the study of the arts and sciences of building and to improve and elevate the general and technical knowledge of persons engaged or intending to engage in the practice of building and for such purposes to test by examination or otherwise the competence of such persons and to donate on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed prizes or other awards or distinctions and grant certificates and institute and establish scholarships, grants and other benefactions and to provide for the registration by the Institute of holders of such certificates.

To institute, promote, establish or support or aid in the institution, promotion, establishment of support of any associations or institutions in any way connected with the purposes of the Institute or of chairs and lectureships (whether controlled by the Institute or not) in connection with any university, college institution of learning or otherwise and to subsidise or assist the teaching of any subjects relating to the practice of building and kindred matters, arts and sciences or tending to further the objects of the Institute or any of them.

To encourage and assist research into any matters of concern to persons engaged in the practice of building and make known the nature and merits of the results of any research which may seem capable of being used by persons engaged in the practice of building.

To establish, form and maintain libraries, museums and laboratories devoted to the arts and sciences and practice of building.

- To communicate to members information on all matters affecting the practice of building and to print, publish, issue and circulate such papers, periodicals, books, circulars, leaflets and other literary undertakings as may seem conducive to any of the objects of the Institute.
- To encourage the discovery of and investigate the nature and merits of processes and inventions which may seem capable of being used by persons engaged in the practice of building.
- To amalgamate or combine or confer or act temporarily or otherwise in conjunction with any other body or bodies, institute or institutes having objects similar to those of the Institute and which shall prohibit the distribution of their income and property among their members to an extent at least as great as it imposed on the Institute under or by virtue of Article 2 hereof, and to enter into any contracts or arrangements with such bodies or institutes whether they are at present existing or not and whether they are operating within Our Commonwealth of Australia or elsewhere.
- To appeal for, accept and receive any property, endowment, legacy, bequest, gift or loan for any purpose within the objects of the Institute, and to act as trustees and managers thereof.
- To invest the moneys and funds of the Institute not immediately required in any one or more of the following investments:
- upon first mortgages of freehold property in any part of Our Commonwealth of Australia;
 - in the purchase of or advances upon public municipal or Government securities of Our Commonwealth of Australia or of any States thereof;
 - in the purchase or acquisition of equities of redemption or any other outstanding interest in respect of any property the subject of a security held by the Institute under which default has been made;
 - on deposit with any bank carrying on business in Our Commonwealth of Australia;
 - in advance upon the security of city, municipal, shire, borough or other rates, tolls or dues which may be authorised to be raised or charged by or under the authority of any Act of Our Commonwealth of Australia or any State therein;
 - in the purchase of or advances upon any bonds, debentures, mortgages or other security of any city, municipality, shire or other public body, corporation or company secured upon any undertaking or work or upon rates, tolls, dues or revenues, derivable or obtainable thereout; and to vary any such investments from time to time for any other or others of the kind described and to sell any real property so purchased for money or for valuable consideration and invest the proceeds of the sale, and also to leave money for any period at current account deposit or on call with any bank.
- (h) To borrow or raise money for the purposes of the Institute on such terms and on such security as maybe thought fit.
 - (i) To purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property and any rights or privileges which the Institute may think necessary or convenient for the promotion of its objects, and to construct, maintain and alter any buildings or erections necessary or convenient for the work of the Institute.
 - (j) To sell, let, mortgage or dispose of all or any of the property or assets of the Institute as may be thought expedient with a view to the promotion of its objects.

- (k) To do all such other things as the Institute may think incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.
2. Unless and until the By-laws of the Institute shall otherwise provide there shall be eight grades of members of the Institute termed respectively Honorary Members, Fellows, Retired Fellows, Associates, Retired Associates, Licentiates, Students and Affiliates. Fellows and Associates shall be known as Corporate Members. The membership of the Institute shall consist of:
 - (a) the persons who at the date hereof are members of the existing Institute, and such members shall be deemed to have entered the Institute as members of the same grade as that to which they belonged in the existing Institute;
 - (b) all persons from time to time elected or transferred to any grade of membership in accordance with the By-laws of the Institute.
 3. The qualifications, methods and terms of admission, privileges and obligations of members, including liability to expulsion, removal of name from the register of the Institute or suspension and conditions of resignation from membership shall be such as the By-laws of the Institute shall direct. The Council of the Institute alone shall have power to decide conclusively whether any person proposed for or seeking admission to any grade of membership of the Institute has fulfilled such conditions as are applicable to his case.
 4. Unless and until the By-laws of the Institute shall provide for a change in such designations a Fellow or Retired Fellow of the Institute may use after his name the abbreviated designation 'F.A.I.B.', an Associate or Retired Associate the abbreviated designation 'A.A.I.B.', and a Licentiate the abbreviated designation 'L.A.I.B.'; provided that a Licentiate may not designate his grade in any manner after the thirty-first day of December One thousand nine hundred and seventy-one.
 5. There shall be a Council of the Institute (hereinafter called 'the Council') which shall be the governing body of the Institute.
 6. The Council shall consist of such members of the Institute holding such qualifications and to be elected or nominated in such manner and to hold office for such periods and on such terms as to re-election or re-nomination and otherwise as may be prescribed by the By-laws of the Institute. Members of the Council shall not be paid or receive any remuneration or fees for acting as such and no member of the Council shall be appointed to any salaried office of the Institute or any office of the Institute paid by fee.
 7. The first council shall consist of the persons who were members of the Council of the existing Institute immediately before the date of this Our Charter and such persons shall hold office until the due election and coming into office of their successors in accordance with the By-laws of the Institute. The first chief administrative officer of the Institute shall be the existing Executive Director of the existing Institute.
 8. The Council shall have the sole control, management and superintendence of the property, income, affairs and concerns of the Institute and may appoint officers as shall in its discretion be deemed necessary and, if not contrary to or inconsistent with provisions of this Our charter or any By-laws made hereunder or the Laws and Statutes of Our Commonwealth of Australia or any State or Territory thereof, may do all such acts as may appear to it to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of carrying into effect the objects of the Institute.
 9. The Council may so far as it deems expedient delegate any of its powers to Committees, including the Committees of the Chapters for the time being of the Institute and also the Committees appointed to deal with special matters of business, provided that any such powers and authorities may be cancelled, varied or altered by the Council from time to time.
 10. For the purpose of carrying out the objects of the Institute more effectually, of stimulating interest and of securing effective representation on the Council, the Council may constitute Chapters consisting of such members as may be resident in any territory as defined from time to

time in accordance with the By-laws for the time being. The Chapters shall be the first Chapters of the Institute. The Council shall have the power to establish other Chapters and from time to time to alter the areas and boundaries of any Chapter and to amalgamate or subdivide any Chapter and to alter the powers and obligations of the Chapters or any of them and of the Committees managing any Chapter.

11. The meetings of the Institute shall be of such classes and shall be held for such purposes as may from time to time be prescribed by the By-laws of the Institute and the rights of the several grades of members of the Institute at such meetings shall except as herein otherwise provided be such or subject to such restrictions as may be prescribed by the By-laws of the Institute.
12. A majority of not less than three-fourths of the Corporate Members present in person or by proxy and voting at a General Meeting of the Institute specifically called for the purpose of which due notice has been given shall have power from time to time to make such By-laws as shall seem requisite and convenient for the regulation, government and advantage of the Institute, its members and property and for the furtherance of its objects and purposes and from time to time to revoke or amend any By-laws previously made but so that the same be not repugnant to this Our Charter or the Laws of Our Commonwealth of Australia or any State or Territory thereof; provided that no such By-law, revocation or amendment shall take effect until approved by His Excellency Our Governor-General of Our Commonwealth of Australia or the Administrator for the time being of the Government of Our Commonwealth of Australia. The Institute shall cause all such By-laws, when so approved, to be printed and published, together with the formal approval, in the official Gazette of Our Commonwealth of Australia.
13. The first By-laws to be made under this Our charter shall be made by the Corporate Members of the Institute within the period of twelve months from the date hereof unless His Excellency Our Governor-General of Our Commonwealth of Australia or the Administrator for the time being of the Government of Our Commonwealth of Australia shall see fit to extend such period.
14. Pending the making and approval of the By-laws to be made under this Our Charter but no longer, the Articles of Association of the existing Institute and the By-laws thereof shall, in so far as they are inconsistent with the provisions of this Our Charter, be the By-laws of the Institute and shall have effect as though the Institute, its office-bearers and members had therein been referred to throughout in lieu of the existing Institute, its office-bearers and members.
15. The Institute may by Resolution passed by a majority of not less than three-fourths of such Corporate members as vote in person or by proxy, at a meeting of the Institute specially convened for that purpose, held not less than one month nor more than four months after the first meeting amend or add to this Our Charter and such amendment or addition shall when approved by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council become effectual so that this Our Charter and such amendment or addition shall thenceforth continue to operate as if it had originally been granted and made accordingly. Not less than twenty-one days' notice of both the meetings referred to in this Article shall be given in the manner provided by the By-laws for the giving of notice.
16. And We do hereby for Us, Our Heirs and Successors grant and declare that these Our Letters or the enrolment or exemplifications thereof shall be in all things valid and effectual according to the true intent and meaning of the same and shall be taken, construed and adjudged in all Our Courts or elsewhere in the most favourable and beneficial sense and for the best advantage of the Institute any mis-recital, non-recital, omission, defect, imperfection, matter or thing whatsoever notwithstanding.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the Seventh day of October in the Eighteenth year of Our reign.

BY WARRANT under the Queen's Sign Manual.