

CANOEING VICTORIA INC; PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD.
TUESDAY 20TH MARCH, 2012.

Firstly, I apologize for my extensive absence of reporting in writing to the Board for our monthly meetings; my work interests seem to consume more and more of my time with the result that I seem never to be 'right on top' of projects outside my office.

What has been happening since my last written report? Actually, much has been happening and my verbal reports, those which contain anything of immediate relevance or importance, are recorded in the published Minutes of Meeting for all to peruse.

That being said, the CV Executive and staff have been working diligently over the last couple of months to ensure the growth and financial stability of our organization;

1. Sharon (Swobodas); one of our co-EO's, is involved with the Slalom Discipline by chairing the committee and recently involved in the murray marathon development, governance and education development.
2. Andrea (Boothroyd) our other co-EO has been focused on organizing the delivery of our sprint racing events, managing our Indigenous programs, drafting our grant funding applications and supporting canoe polo to seek permanent outdoor field facilities. (Whilst Andrea is the principal organizer of the sprint events, it is acknowledged by all that she would not be able to physically organize or conduct the events without the active involvement of many experienced CV members and a host of volunteers; thank you to all who assisted – or participated as contestants - for giving of your time and experience to make the Sprint events over the current season so successful).
3. Since my last report, CV have conducted two (2) 'Come and Try' days – with the active and greatly appreciated assistance of a number of our instructors and (all) staff - out at the Westerfold Park facility - and it is pleasing to note that on each occasion we have had over one hundred visitors actively participate and, seemingly, enjoy an introductory paddle under the instruction and watchful gaze of our on-water instructors – thank you to all who were involved in making these events so successful.
4. The objective sought to be achieved by these 'come and try' days is that we encourage people to adopt canoeing or kayaking as their preferred sport and to encourage, and provide assistance, to our member clubs to conduct similar events. I am informed that following on from our success, some clubs are already planning similar events and have approached CV for advice or tips on what might be improved and how to conduct the event.
5. As required by the Constitution of CV, CV are required to conduct an annual Strategic Forum and the one for the current year has been loosely scheduled for the 28th April 2012. Please make of a note of the date in your diaries and encourage members in general, and club delegates in particular, to attend and provide input and feedback. As you will appreciate, the Executive strive to ensure that the organization offers value-for-money and relevance to our members and our member clubs. To achieve that we need constructive input from

our members. You are the members and in order to satisfy your perceived needs we need your constructive input, so please attend the event and contribute your knowledge to the development of relevant strategic objectives.

Much more can be written about the efforts of our CV Executive – and staff – to expand our membership and to provide administrative, financial and physical support to our member clubs but, to achieve even that which we do now, requires ever greater resources. External funding is only sought but only in areas where CV the program KPIs are in-line with the CV strategic objectives (and we need the members to confirm those strategic objectives at the coming Strategic Forum so please endeavour to attend and offer your constructive input).

Speaking of funding and the related topic of ‘discretionary’ income available for CV internal development and expansion, the issue of State contributions to Australian Canoeing is not as yet fully resolved. The stated aim of AC was that a new funding model be put in place by the end of Jan, 2012, but to date, the model has not been agreed between the States. It was intended that for the current year, up until the date that the new model was implemented, that our level of contribution to AC was to be on the same terms as for the 2010/2011 year - \$40,000 plus a portion of any surplus over \$5,000 (which itself is an adjusted figure after allowing for funds raised internally etc). I personally see that there is still quite a bit of work to be done on designing a model acceptable to all the States and I personally, am not aware of what further developments have occurred since the first draft of the model was released to quite negative, critical assessment.

On financial matters, CV are happy to announce that we are seemingly on track – unless unforeseen events intervene - to achieve our budgeted (positive) result for 2011/2012.

Two other matters require brief mention; first, the Board of CV are happy to announce that Catherine Gardner-Gaskin is considering joining the Board.

Not only is Catherine a great organizer but she has a wealth of Board and marketing experience but also,

- Catherine organized the inaugural Eildon Challenge for CV,
- is something of a ‘marketing’ guru,
- is the owner (along with her partner Jim) of Electric Water company making and marketing kayak spraydecks,
- is currently employed by Scouting Australia as their marketing executive.

Clearly Catherine’s skills and enthusiasm will be of great benefit to CV and we not only welcome her to the Board but thank her in advance for what we all anticipate will be her enlightened input to our staged and managed development.

I continue to enjoy the role of the president and hopefully, have contributed something of value to the organization. It has been a challenge at times but does have its rewards which

are basically my personal satisfaction - due of course to the input and efforts of many and only incidentally due in any way to my personal efforts – the organization has achieved a reduction in financial stress and some modest growth in membership.

Thank you to all and hopefully I will see you on the water – again hopefully - riding my ‘wash’ as I paddle on to bigger and greater things!

Keep well.

Gary Flanigan
President of CV.