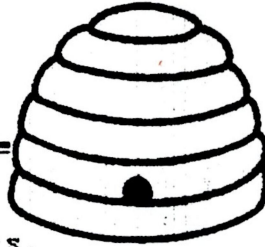


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26th April 1993

To: NBA Executive Members.Subject: Future Developments - NBA Structure.

I have noted from the Executive minutes of the March 1993 meeting that it is intended that this coming meeting should include a 1 day planning meeting, devoted to:

- a. A review of the 1992 plan;
- b. consideration of the future options of the NBA.

As I have not seen copy of the 1992 plan, it is not possible to comment on any aspects of this. It is assumed however that such a plan does exist hence your intention to review it now. With respect to "future options of the NBA" I would like to make some comments.

In 1988 I submitted a paper to the then planning meeting at Flock House, entitled "A Restructuring of the NBA Administration". This report was received with some indifference at that stage, and I submitted a further "review" paper for the 1989 Planning Meeting which was attended by invited representatives of many of the industry interest groups at the time.

Copies of these reports are available if required for your information. Many of the recommendations included have been implemented, with the exception of a restructuring of the NBA administration system. I had suggested the introduction of a "two-tiered" structure, including a four person administrative Executive elected under a ward voting system and a Beekeeping Industry Council (BIC) consisting of representatives of the recognised sub-groups in the industry.

I believe that the need for such a restructuring is rapidly becoming critical now. The present electoral system based upon nominal Branch membership and national election is no longer satisfying the representative needs of, and progressive movements in the industry.

The political and social environment in which the NBA presently operates is vastly changed from that of even a decade ago. Our requirements for administration have changed also, but the decision-making processes are not meeting these changes adequately. I am particularly concerned that the formal Industry Planning process that moved our Association from a reactive to a pro-active stance has been largely allowed to lapse over the past year or so.

Because of the need to recover this pro-active position, I would urge Executive to consider convening an Industry "Summit" meeting as soon as possible, involving representatives of the diverse industry sub-groups now in existence, to discuss and take decisive action on the specifics of our future structure.

With the impending demise of the Hive Levy Act at the end of 1995, and subsequent threat to the very existence of the NBA as an organisation, I consider this course of action to be imperative rather than optional.

I would be willing to prepare an updated discussion document as background and a basis for debate at such a meeting if required by Executive. I would suggest that representation at such a meeting should encompass the following groups:

- NBA Executive (representing Branches & Secretariat)
- MAF Quality Management - Apicultural Advisory Section
- Bee Disease Control Committee
- NBA Marketing Committee
- Telford Beekeeping Education Unit
- Apicultural Research Advisory Committee
- Honey Packers Association
- Honey Exporters Organisation
- NZ Queen Bee Producers Association
- Comb Honey Association
- Honeydew Producers Association
- NZ Honey Producers Co-Operative
- Honey Industry Trustees.
- Pollination Associations.

It is highly likely that some invitees would represent more than one of the above groups at such a meeting.

I would request that you give this submission your serious consideration, in the sincere light of which it is made.

Yours sincerely,



Allen McCaw