

# **Gazette 1001-03**

**From the Secretary, NVG Inc, January – March 2010**

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## **Preface**

This is the first gazette for 2010. The last time a gazette was posted to National representatives, was in November 2009. Christmas is traditionally a quiet period, with little activity or news to pass along, but now, many of you will be preparing to attend the biennial Easter gathering at Armidale. A formal NVG Inc meeting has not been arranged to coincide with the event, but I am hoping to meet with some of you over that weekend.

## **The AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of NVG Inc is held each year to accept the reports of the executive officers, and to elect new officers. This year, I am unable to tell you when the AGM will be held, as this is dependent upon the completion of the financial report. Not all Branches have submitted their details to the national Treasurer, so that report is delayed until they do. This is an unfortunate situation, and I am hoping to have it rectified shortly.

## **Financial Reporting**

As mentioned in the November gazette, financial reporting by NVG Inc, to the incorporations' regulator, is an annual requirement. This is necessary to prove our non profit status, so that the association can continue to be registered.

To create the NVG Inc financial statement, each Branch that has been delegated authority to act on the Inc's behalf, is required to submit an annual financial report. These are combined, to create a picture of the entire profit and loss, of the association, for each financial year. If one Branch does not meet its responsibilities in this regard, the financial statement cannot be completed. When that occurs, NVG Inc cannot meet its responsibilities to the regulator.

NVG Inc is required to submit a financial statement, following the 30<sup>th</sup> of June each year. If it is unable to do so within a few months of this date, it applies for permission to file a late report, which attracts a fine. If the incorporated association continues to default on its financial statement, the regulator investigates. If we do not have a very good reason for defaulting, the regulator can proceed to de register the association.

## **Branch Responsibilities**

The constitution is pretty clear about what Branches must do to gain, and retain, a charter within NVG Inc.

- Section 14 says they must be able to cope with financial reporting
- Section 16, in the first sentence, says that Branches will render a timely financial record to NVG Inc

A Branch that has not completed its financial report in 8 months, has not indicated that it is having difficulties completing the report, or has not sought assistance to complete the report, is in breach of the constitution. Due to the dependent nature of our association, a failure by one Branch in this key area, jeopardizes the future of the whole. If NVG Inc does not receive a financial statement from each Branch, it is not capable of producing a financial statement for the whole association. This means that NVG Inc will not meet the requirements of its incorporation.

## **The Secretary, NVG Inc**

The Secretary's responsibility is to ensure that the association runs well. The Secretary contacts Branch representatives when issues arise, and seeks ways to resolve them. If the Branch is unable or unwilling, to fulfill its obligations, it becomes a liability, and the Secretary must do what is necessary to preserve the rest of the association, and its members. The constitution is clear on what should happen in such a situation.

- Section 17 says that a Branch that chooses to disobey decisions of the committee, or to jeopardize the good name of NVG Inc, can have its charter cancelled, by a vote of the membership

By removing a liability, the incorporated association, and those Branches who meet their responsibilities, can survive.

## **General information**

- a reminder to all Branches, that to be a sponsored and gazetted NVG Inc event, covered by liability insurance, your event must be entered into the calendar on the NVG Inc web page. Each Branch has a member, usually the National rep, who has been nominated and given rights to add this information. Please contact me if your Branch needs to change this nomination.
- The restricted forum area was created in 2008, as a result of one delegate not receiving important email advice. The intention is to have a centralised location, where Branch Reps can go, to see the current issues, and influence the way the NVG deals with them. The area is restricted from the public at large, to allow development of ideas and policy without public scrutiny. Some issues may be resolved there, others may ultimately go to a vote. Check the site periodically for information on these issues.

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