



**Australian
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The Professional Adviser
Outback Museum of Australia (OMOA) Competition
Professor Karine Dupre

Hi Karina,

Thank you again for contacting the Australian Institute of Architects (The Institute) seeking endorsement for the Murweh Shire international architectural competition for the design of a new museum, the Outback Museum of Australia (OMOA). It is a fantastic initiative, and I congratulate you and the team on the project.

Although I again apologise that your earlier attempts towards engagement with The Institute were unfulfilled, after a swift review of the competition document myself, it's evident that, as Queensland Chapter President of The Institute, I'm not able to endorse the competition today - which I understand is your hopeful launch date. The simple reason is that my research has revealed that only the Chief Executive Office (or nominee) can undertake such an endorsement.

However, my review over the past few days has also uncovered several stumbling blocks to endorsement, including some fundamental issues with the timing of the judging and final construction tender documentation preparation (to be completed by March 1, 2023), the sovereign right of the jury not to award Stage 2 or commission the winning architectural team, and potentially (subject to further research) with the quantum and/or breakdown of the fee/honorarium/prize.

As I strongly believe that industry support, endorsement of The Institute, and international respect for the competition are all in the strong interest of the client/sponsor, Murweh Shire, and its community constituents, and Griffith University, my recommendation is that we plan a workshop at the earliest possible opportunity with the goal of negotiating the endorsement of The Institute. I believe such a workshop, which the Queensland Government Architect, Leah Lang FRAIA (a member of the jury) is agreeable to attending, will be of tremendous value to the project outcome and in proportion to the impact of any potential delay.

I regret that this news is not the outcome you were hoping for, and I understand that you may not be able to accept this offer of collaboration on behalf of your stakeholders.

None the less, it is my strong desire that we are afforded the opportunity of working together with you and the wider team on this important cultural design initiative.

Please reach out and give me a call when it is convenient.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy Degenhart', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Amy Degenhart LFRAIA

Queensland Chapter President Australian Institute of Architects
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