I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and safe New Year and take this opportunity to update you on ICA activities for 2016 from my perspective.

For me the highlight of 2016 was attending the conference which forms the official end of the COST-action on Crime Prevention through Urban Design, Planning and Management which was held on November 24-26 2016 in Athens, Greece. In total 26 EU countries participated and several case studies and manuals/booklets were presented. In all six ICA Directors managed to be at the conference, including Paul van Soomeren (Netherlands), Bo Grönlund (Denmark), Tinus Kruger (South Africa), Barry Davidson (Canada), Tim Pascoe (UK) and myself (Australia).

The 2016 Regional Asia/Pacific ICA Forum was held in partnership with the NSW Local Government Community Safety and Crime Prevention Network in Wollongong Australia in August. The conference was also attended by several representatives from the Korea CPTED Association and Korea National Police.

In South America, our Vice Chair Macarena Rau Vargas reports that an evaluation model has been developed with a university to assess CPTED projects. The new president of Argentina supports CPTED and a new ICA "branch" has been established in Mexico. She has also been working on CPTED in France.

I am really keen to establish a relationship with the Safe Communities Foundation, an area within the World Health Organisation. Laurie Gabites (ICA Regional Director, New Zealand) indicates that the Pan Pacific Safe Community Network supports this relationship.

We are truly an international organisation. In 2017, a conference will be held in Delhi, India, to introduce and propagate the concepts of 'security through design' and is meant to address an audience of professionals including security, designers, architects, urban designers etc. The ICA has been approached to help introduce the subject of CPTED in India. It may also be a good opportunity to forge alliances between the ICA and the Indian security organizations.

As you would be aware, the White Paper on Homelessness that was developed following discussions at the International CPTED Conference in 2015 has been finalised and made available on the ICA Website. Following the November Board meeting, Jennica Collette has kindly agreed to do the research and write the guidebook for CPTED Practitioners when dealing with Homelessness situations. This will be completed with Greg Saville's assistance.

I am finalizing the ICA By-Laws and Regulations, which may be incorporated in one document, and will submit the document/s to the Board at the meeting in August 2017 for ratification.

We currently have a small committee revisiting the ICA Certification process, especially regarding promotion and marketing for the ICA and possibly simplifying the description of the process.

Additionally, the committee is looking at a third level in the process, the Certification of CPTED courses. We feel there should be some way of approving a course curriculum, or at least what basics must be included to be considered an ICA approved course.

Other projects that our Directors are involved in include the implementation of ICA Awards and a proposal for CPTED in Schools to be presented to the Board.

Finally, and most importantly, the 2017 International ICA Conference will be August 6-8, 2017 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. This year's theme is currently being developed and will include international speakers from all areas of the CPTED realm. Your Board is working hard to bring the world's best together for you to meet and learn from as you work within your communities. We will have important program announcements available as we put the line-up together and a call for presenters will be sent out in the very near future. Start thinking now about bringing your experience to the world through this important conference.

Kind regards, Tony.

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