

An Update on the Present Status of the PNG Institute of Cartographers
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"The PNGIC has come a long way since its inception in 1985 and has very little to look back to with any pride. To a greater respect it has not made any significant forward progress with any confidence and in fact, as dramatic as it may sound and to its detriment, the PNGIC was allowed to wander and was probably converging to a point of self-destruction".

Fortunately, our renewed efforts this year have halted this trend and I believe we are in the process of reversing it and moving forward. This effort was brought about by our desire to succeed as evidenced by this year's large number of registered members and more importantly their willingness to participate compared to previous years.

Our performance this year has been exceptional and the facts and figures presented here confirm this. The PNGIC at this time is committed to generating a conducive environment to secure any achievements that are advantageous and profitable for our registered members, the Institute and the mapping profession as a whole.

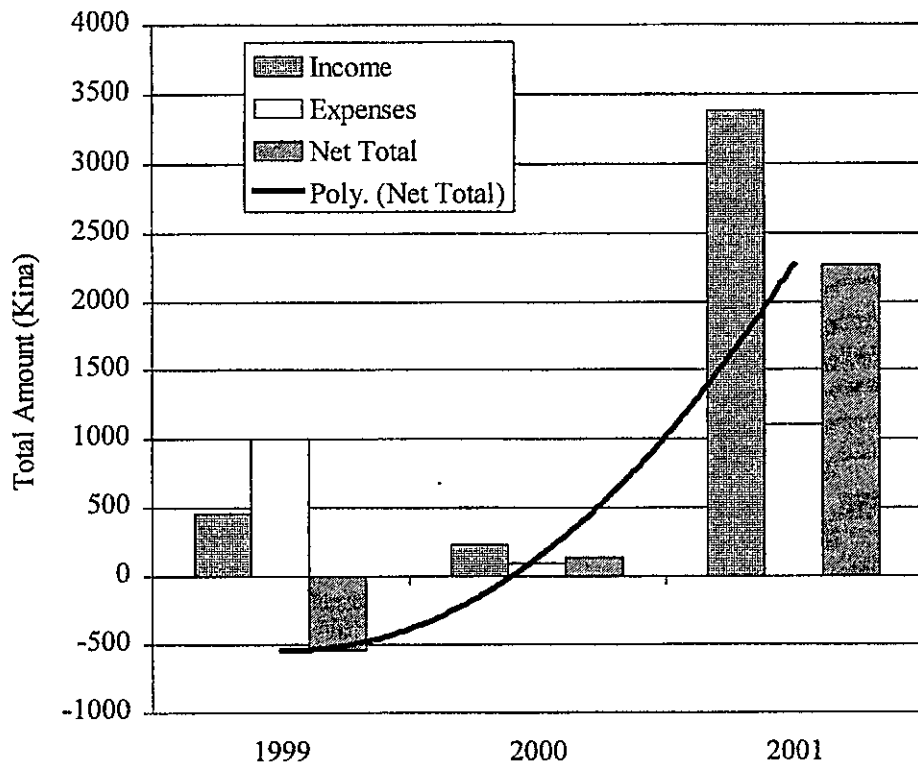
Definition:

Cartography is the Art and Science of map making. It is one of the oldest profession in the history of mankind. In the old days many people believed that the world was flat, that, if reach the horizon, you would definitely fall down from the edge of the earth. Christopher Columbus proved that myth wrong, when he sailed from Spain across the Atlantic to discover the new world called America. His ship did not fall from the earth's surface. The earth is in fact spherical in shape and so the word global was derived from that.

The different branches of earth sciences like Geography, Mathematics, Surveying and Cartography had all contributed to the development of maps that we use today.

Financial Results:

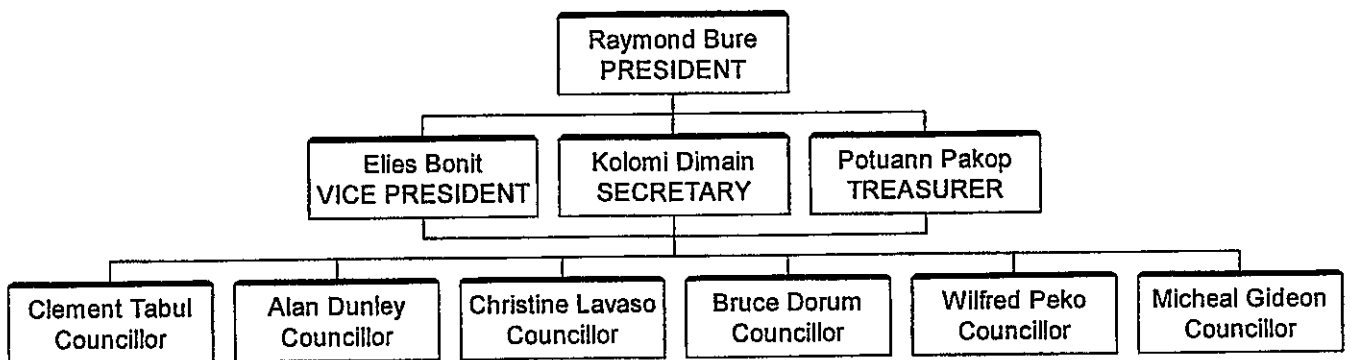
The bank balance in the ten months to November 2001 amounting close to K2000 in cash with the bulk of this income coming from the subscription fees and fundraising activities. For the record, there are no fixed assets. The net income for the same period was over K2000 and this is a mammoth increase from last year with the total expenditure hovering above K1000.



Graphical illustration of the Income & Expenditure Account

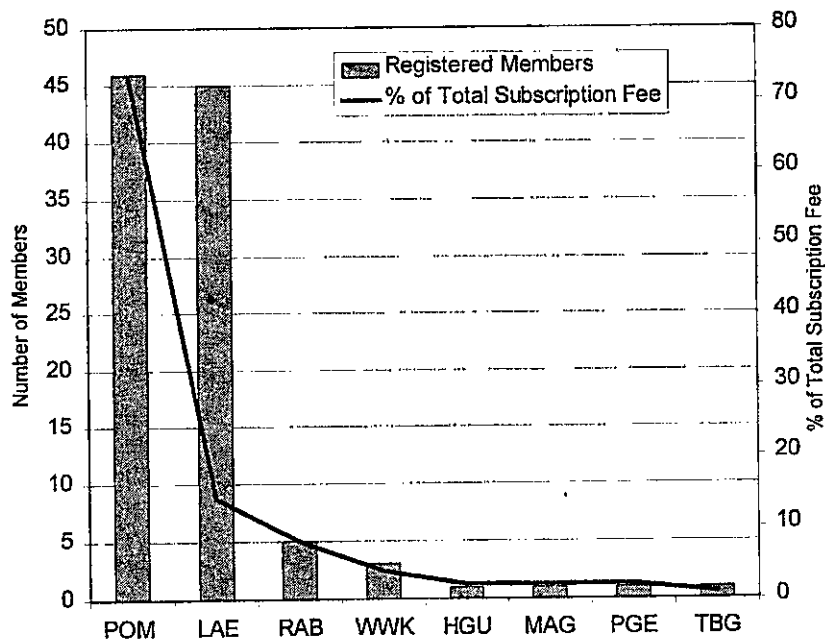
New Council 2001-2002:

Since the elections in March 2001, the council has sat for seven meetings on a monthly basis illustrating this council's resolve in placing great importance on getting the job done despite having to alternate between jobs time and again. We have taken an unprecedented step of being proactive and receptive to the issues affecting our members and our profession. This can be observed with some of the measures the council has undertaken like for instance, setting up various working committees, organising fundraising drives, developing the members register and organising this year's inaugural annual general meeting.



Membership:

During the fundraising luncheon at the Lamana Restaurant in August, I mentioned there were 86 registered members at the time. At the time of printing this report the number has risen to 103 registered members with a total of



Distribution of Registered Members for 2001

K2790.00 received as subscription fees compared to last year of which there were only 5 members.

This in itself is a record for us and it demonstrates our members' interests and determination to be a part of our new challenge and also indicates their confidence in the council. We also have for the first time welcomed draftspersons from other disciplines to join the PNGIC. We are also on a drive to establish and secure contact with other educational institutions having students become members.

Funding:

There were two fundraising activities organised this year and they have been solely for the purpose of funding our annual general meeting and it is anticipated that this will be expanded to other activities next year to generally enhance our cash flow.

Committees:

Each of the three committees (Constitutional Review, Code of Ethics, Name & Logo Change) were tasked to come up with determinations to enable the PNGIC to have in place foundations with which to enable it to be in a position to control and govern from. This was done and by now most of you should have draft copies of them except from the Name & Logo Change committee that they would disclose during the AGM for deliberation. The works of these committees are by no means completed yet and will continue on into the new-year.

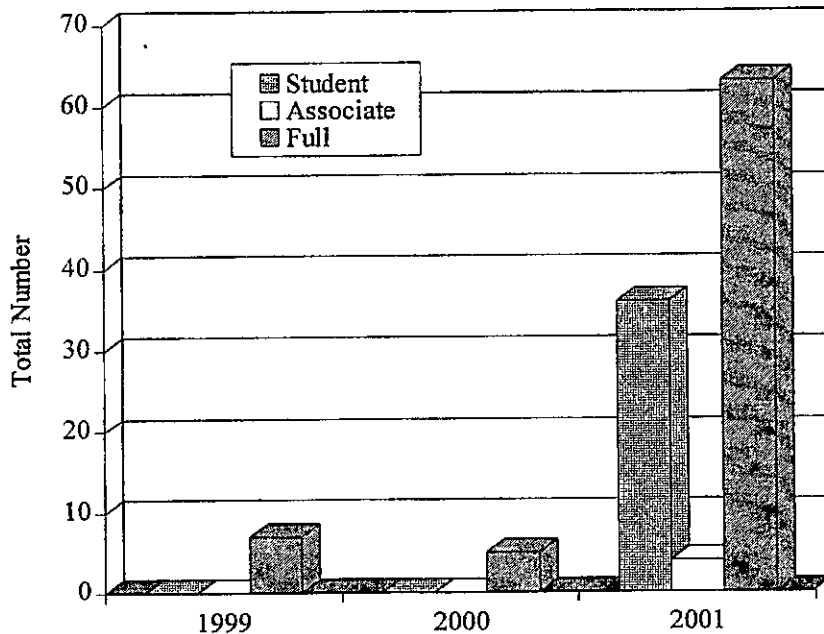
Newsletter:

The council experimented on publishing a newsletter in October this year and copies were distributed to most members. During this AGM, a group made up of registered members would be appointed to coordinate articles for the newsletter perhaps biannually or on a quarterly basis. This group, I believe, is important because they would ensure regular communications are provided to all persons and organisations concerned. We also have to decide on an accepted name and logo for the newsletter that I suppose will be first order of the day for the unit.

Looking Ahead:

In the immediate future, one of our goals would be to prepare the PNGIC, with its new name, logo, members register, code of ethics and constitution, to be in a position to be incorporated with the Investment Promotion Authority. This priority is one of those steps I believe is necessary to realise the goal of being financially self-sustaining. With this in place and with established strategies and sound management, the PNGIC would be in a much better position to not only solicit funding from corporate organisations but importantly we hope to invest as well.

We could also earn a certain proportion of funds from training institutions with the participation of each of our members.



History of Registered Members since 1999

History:

Brian Walsh and others like Clement Tabul initiated the inception of the PNGIC in 1985 to serve the interests of Cartographers and Survey Draftspersons that time. Since then not a lot of people, especially the 'natives to the profession' knew of its existence over those 15 odd years as not a lot happened then because of various reasons or circumstances. I'm afraid to say I was one of those so-called 'natives'. In August 1989, the PNGIC got recognised by the Department of Personnel Management.

During July last year (some 11 years later), there was a joint conference held in Lae to which the PNGIC was a co-host. I think Clement Tabul summed it up perfectly then when he said, "the PNGIC was hijacked into co-hosting that conference" because the Institute, during that time, existed in name only. I believe that was when most of us learnt of the PNGIC's staggered and punctuated existence. I also believe that last year's joint conference was the catalyst for PNGIC's resurgence this year. Those of us who participated pledged to resuscitate the PNGIC and from then a Working Committee was appointed.