Chris King

Statement in support of candidacy for President of FIP

FIP is essential to World Philately. It is a forum for national philatelic organisations to collectively promote philately and stamp collecting worldwide. Its objectives are:

- To promote stamp collecting and philately
- To maintain friendly relations and friendship among all peoples
- To establish and maintain close relations with the philatelic trade and postal administrations
 - To promote philatelic exhibitions by granting Patronage and Auspices

Ask yourself, does the FIP achieve these objectives?

I am a successful exhibitor and juror in postal history, and I would hope to contribute to this important discipline.

However, the administration of the FIP organisation must be improved, and this would be my priority. I have made this clear in my letters to Federations this year – on Jury Matters, Finance, Communications, and many other points.

I have been involved in public and voluntary service, and have served on many boards and committees, often as secretary or chairman. These have ranged from public planning meetings (100 plus agenda items every three weeks), various public meetings of up to several hundred people, small committee meetings in private, and larger committees of up to twenty people or more. I am used to working with other people in a cooperative, open, and supportive way to achieve agreed objectives.

I have been responsible with others for managing significant budgets and projects, in both the public and private sectors. I have managed teams ranging from small to large, and I am confident when speaking in public.

Our Federation must work better with its constituent parts, with its members, and with philately in the wider world. I believe that my varied career has prepared me for this challenge.

- As national federations we have a responsibility to make sure that *OUR* international federation is working for us and our members.
- As voters at the Congress of our international federation, we must be sure that we are acting in the best interests of *OUR* federation.
- Don't ask who do I know? Ask what needs to be done?
- Ask what is best for the Federation? Not, what is best for me?
- Ask how can WE help philately to move forward together?

Voting for a candidate who has no published programme, is no way to make progress. Some would think that it is negligent. Congress is responsible for more than \$US 2m which belongs to all of us as member federations. It needs to be used wisely, and for the good of all of our partners in the philatelic world.