**June 2003**

**WELCOME!**

Welcome to the first edition of Bizconst News, the BC newsletter. Its aim is to provide BC members with a regular summary of current news and views, ranging from BC-specific matters to wider ICANN issues and beyond. As well as being sent directly to your in-box, the newsletters will be archived on the BC web site for easy reference. As editor, I will ask for member input shortly before each issue is put together. In the meantime, any ideas of how you would like to see this newsletter develop will be gratefully received. Just mail the secretariat via the direct link at the bottom of this newsletter.

Finally, if you have problems receiving html-formatted mails, please request a plain text version from me. Happy reading!

Gary

**WEB SITE UPDATES**

With so much going on at ICANN, often seemingly at the same time, it’s easy to lose sight of what a particular issue is about. A new section on the BC web site provides short summaries, enabling you to participate more easily in issues and share them with your colleagues. Called ‘Issues Made Easy’, it offers a step-by-step outline of each issue, its history and its current developments. A handy guide for newcomers to the BC or those old hands who need one-stop refreshment! Feedback on the usefulness of these summaries is welcome.

We’ve also discovered some lost documents which have been added to the archive pages. So if you want to know what was discussed in Santiago 1999, go take a look!

**INTERACTING WITH LEADERSHIP**

Recently, Paul Twomey, new President and CEO of ICANN, visited Washington, D.C. Several members of the BC organized a cross- sector reception. Members of the BC who participated included Marilyn Cade, Ron Andruff, Sarah Deutsch, David Young, Troy Dow, Ed An, David Fares, Allen Miller, Mike Roberts, and Sebastien Bachollet.

Over 75 guests, including US Congressional staff, representatives of the Department of Commerce, and Department of State and Federal Communications Commission, joined the 11-member host committee in welcoming Paul. International guests included the European Commission and representatives from three embassies.

In his comments, Paul recognized the BC’s leadership in organizing this event and noted his interest in similar opportunities in other regions.

**WHOIS**

ICANN’s hot topic at the moment, and one of particular interest and concern to business and commercial users. Marilyn Cade is currently part of an organising committee to conduct some open calls for broad input from all interests. It is essential that the voice of business users is heard and Marilyn is keen to hear from individuals or companies with their own story to tell. The next open call is Friday 6 June (check the mailing-list notice for time and dial-in details).

**NEW gTLDs**

The GNSO Council is likely to adopt recommendations on new gTLDS at the Montreal meeting. The recommendations call for a demand-driven expansion but subject to objectives such as increasing competition and avoiding user confusion. The recommendations suggest a formal policy process looking at relevant criteria for applicant registries.

A BC call for all new names to be sponsored (such as dot aero) was supported by the other commercial user constituencies but not by the supplier constituencies or the non-commercials.

**EVALUATION OF NEW gTLDs**

BC member Sebastien Bachollet has accepted a 6-month contract with ICANN to oversee the evolution of the “proof of concept” round of gTLDs. Evaluation is currently underway and we look forward to Sebastien’s report.

**AT-LARGE**

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) invites BC members to use its web site and forum to comment on issues such as WHOIS, new gTLDs and WIPO.ALAC web site
[http://alac.icann.org](http://alac.icann.org/)

**ALAC forum**

<http://forum.icann.org/alac-forum>

**MONTREAL**

ICANN meetings will take place in Montreal 22-26 June. ICANN will follow its usual calendar of events, with the addition of two half days of WHOIS Workshops. As has been our practice, we are joining with other commercial user oriented constituencies in a cross constituency meeting. Invitees to that meeting include the ALAC, board members, President/CEO of ICANN, and Nominating Committee appointees to the Board. The agenda for the BC meeting and dial-in details for remote participation will be posted to the mailing list in due course.

**BC MEMBERS’ CALL**

A reminder that there will be a pre-Montreal BC members’ call on Monday 9 June at UTC 19.00. Dial-in details and local timings have been sent by e-mail. Mark the call in your diaries now and participate in this important opportunity to discuss Montreal agenda items with your elected reps.

**BC CHARTER REVISION**

The consultation period for the BC charter revision is now closed. The vote to adopt the revised charter is now in operation and closes at midnight on Tuesday 10 June in your time zone.

Many thanks to the BC members who contributed to this discussion.

**ICANN NEWS**

President and CEO Paul Twomey, has announced important changes to the organisational structure of ICANN. The changes can be seen at the ICANN web site:[www.icann.org/general/staff-organization-plan-22may03.htm](http://www.icann.org/general/staff-organization-plan-22may03.htm)

Paul Twomey has also announced that Louis Touton, Vice-President, Secretary, and General Counsel of ICANN, is leaving his post at the end of June.

Louis has been an invaluable contributor to ICANN’s growth and stability. He has attended several BC meetings, and has always maintained an open door to the commercial user concern. His leadership and contributions will be missed and the BC wishes him well and success in his next endeavours.

**NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

The Nominating Committee, which met 2-4 June, includes two BC representatives, Grant Forsyth and Mike Roberts. The committee will select 8 board members, and 3 representatives to the GNSO Policy Council. The new Board members are expected to be seated at the close of the Montreal meeting.

BC members will want to take note of these significant changes, and be prepared to build new relationships and dialogue with the incoming board members.

**DOT EU**

The European Commission has decided to designate EURID – the European Registry for Internet Domains as the Registry for dot EU (.eu) .eu is intended to become the distinctive pan-European identification of web sites and e-mail addresses, comparable to .org or .com.

For further information, see the Commission’s web site:

<http://europa.eu.int/information_society/topics/telecoms/internet/eu_domain/index_en.htm>

**WIPO**

After a period of consultation and discussion, the BC has adopted a position on the recommendations made by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) regarding proposals for dispute resolution for international organisations and country names.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES**

**WHOIS open forum call – 6 June**

**BC members’ call – 9 June**

**ICANN meetings Montreal – 22-26 June**