Steve Burns

23/12/13

Dear Trunk,

Thank you for your recent response to my request for support funding to attend the Dave Jacke permaculture teacher training in Tennessee next year. You have proposed $500 in exchange for 5 days training, subject to any reduction in days which might result from your finalising your policy on such matters.

**Please consider this letter as my acceptance of this arrangement.**

***Introduction to Permaculture course proposal***

I suggest that 2.5 of the above days be used in the following way:

* Introduction to Permaculture (run Friday evening Feb 21, Sat 22nd 9 – 5 and Sun 23rd, 9-5)

This event would be promoted at the SLF stall, as well as through existing Melbourne-based groups. I suggest we charge $80 per head and split the profits 50/50 between us. This is a way of increasing my fundraising to above $500 (which doesn’t go far in covering my projected trip costs) and a way of Trunk refreshing the Clarkson Fund. It also allows PCV to capitalise on any enthusiasm at SLF: people attending an Intro weekend are much more likely to then get involved with a local group.

I can run the whole weekend, but would need to have the following arranged:

* Venue (pref data projector, kitchen facilities, good parking and easy non-working hrs access)
* At least one permaculture garden available to be toured on Saturday afternoon
* ‘Client’ green fields site to be visited on Sunday morning by students, who would then develop a design for that site

Any PCV members who want to be involved in the delivery and learn the Intro format BPG have developed would be very welcome to attend, preferably for as much of the course as they could manage. It would be great if a free venue close to public transport could be found, and possibly one nearer the inner city would be better than one further out.

I believe running an Intro to Permaculture like this could be a really good win-win for us both, and hope you agree. Please let me know what you think.

Warm regards and Merry Christmas!

Steve

*p.s. When you are considering your policy, I would like to suggest that $100 per day is a significant underpayment. BPG have been paying presenters $50 per hour since 2009, so being offered a quarter of that in 2014 doesn’t send a message that my time is of very much value. Spread across an 8 hour day, $100 is well under the minimum pay rate, and I wonder if this is the message you are intending to send? In the interests of fostering a viable green economy and of promoting permaculture training as a plausible industry, I recommend that our policy set future arrangements at a level which gives better respect to the professionalism and commitment of those receiving support.*