



PalliativeCare
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

from meeting of 20 February 2017

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In the interests of information sharing and greater transparency, the Board will be providing a summary of the key issues and actions discussed at its monthly Board Meetings. By way of background, the Board normally meets on the fourth Monday evening of each month, except December. Adjustments are made to this date to accommodate public holidays or the commitments of Board Members.

The first meeting for 2017 was held on 20 February and issues for discussion included strategic planning, sponsorships and fundraising, as well as the financial health of the organisation. These are outlined in more detail below. I hope you find this informative.

STRATEGIC PLANNING DAY

This planning day has been set for Saturday 25 March. In preparation the Board and the CEO are reviewing the 2016-2017 Plan, assessing what has been achieved, what still needs to be achieved and what is perhaps no longer an issue.

The Board has also decided to review its governance structures on the planning day to ensure the way in which we provide leadership and direction.

We will also be looking at measures to increase the diversity of our volunteer base. It was noted that dying and death traditions of other cultures differ from ours and it is important that we have a greater awareness of this so that we can better support people from other cultures to die in a way that recognises and embraces their traditions. This issue will also be discussed at the planning day.

It is intended to publish the Strategic Plan on the website once it is completed.

SPONSORSHIPS & FUNDRAISING

The John James Foundation has financially supported PC ACT under a "Partnerships in Practice" arrangement to engage an experienced professional to work with the Board, key stakeholders and the private sector to develop a sustainability plan. It is recognised that government funding is finite and that as a Board we have a responsibility to ensure that we remain financially sustainable into the future.

To that end in November 2016 we engaged the services of Karen Shaw as a Sponsorship and Fundraising Manager. It is intended that she will work with the private sector and other key players in developing our sustainability plan.

Fundraising activities already in the pipeline include:

- The next movie night at Palace Cinema on 27 April. The movie to be shown is *Going In Style*.
- High Tea at The Lodge on 20 May
- The Power of Music Concert at the Canberra Southern Cross Club on 3 June
- The Annual Fundraising dinner at the Canberra Southern Cross Club on 14 October (date TBC)

FINANCIAL REPORTS

The financial health of the organisation is a primary concern and is reported upon at every monthly meeting. As at the end of December the organisation is tracking well against budget with no significant outstanding accounts for payment. This has meant we can fund the training of new volunteers. Currently 55 are on the waiting list and training has already occurred on 18, 19 and 21 February with a further tranche scheduled for 5, 6 and 8 March.

OTHER ISSUES OF INTEREST

Presentations on the work of Palliative Care have been given to the Masonic Lodge Group, and the ACT Ambulance service with further presentations lined up for the Buddhists and the Quakers in March. We currently have over 200 volunteers registered with our organisation.

We received \$3,500 from the Dragons Abreast group and \$4,000 from the Woden Valley Youth Choirs Carols by Candlelight.

Louise Mayo
President

NEXT MEETING

Monday 27 March 2017