



**PalliativeCare**  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

# ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

## from meeting of 26 March 2018

### STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Board held a Strategic Planning session on 20 March 2018 at which Dr Liz Callaghan, CEO of Palliative Care Australia addressed the group. At that meeting, the Board also determined the priorities for 2018-2019. Further information on Dr Callaghan's input and our priorities will be provided in the next edition of The Guardian.

### SUBMISSIONS TO GOVERNMENT

A very comprehensive submission was made to the ACT Government's Select Committee on End of Life choices. Our paper spoke of the need to make the end of life journey a good one and how early intervention with palliative care could assist in achieving that goal. It also cautioned against euthanasia becoming a "simple solution" option and how this could so easily lead to a slippery slope whereby it might become the first option. Our paper emphasised the need to support medical professionals with knowledge.

### DIVERSITY STRATEGY

The Board has been busy building on the current **PC ACT Policy: Cultural Security for Clients** by developing a Diversity Strategy. There are four key elements to the strategy: Research and Data Collection; Training; Community Engagement; and Provision of Information. The task ahead now is to develop a plan on how each of these elements can be integrated in our service delivery so that our staff and volunteer network are well equipped to deal with people from a broad range of cultural and religious backgrounds.

### DONOR SUPPORT

I am pleased to advise that, as part of its corporate responsibilities program, Suncorp ACT will donate \$20,000 per year for the next two years to support PC ACT's Life Stories program. In addition, we will be able to call on the 50 ACT Suncorp staff to support short term palliative care activities.

### FUNDRAISING

One of our wonderful volunteers, Mr Brendan Moran, will be raising money for PC ACT by riding his pushbike from the source of the Murray River to the ocean, a journey of 1600 klms. He sets off on Tuesday 3 April from the Tom Elvin Centre. Brendan will post his progress through PC ACT's Facebook page. Donations in support of Brendan's efforts can be made through the PC ACT website.

### MOVIE NIGHT

The Board selected The Bookshop as its next movie event. Starring Emily Mortimer, Patricia Clarkson and Bill Nighy, it tells the story of a woman in a small town in 1959 England who decides, against polite but ruthless opposition, to open a bookshop, a decision which becomes a political minefield. The movie will be held in the afternoon of Sunday 27 May at Palace Cinema. Tickets are \$35.00 and include the movie, a drink, light refreshments, an ice cream and popcorn – great value for money,



## **BAGS, BEAUTY, AND BLING**

so be sure to save the date. Our sponsor for this event is the Canberra Branch of Ray White Real Estate.

Another wonderful fundraising event on the horizon is our Bags, Beauty and Bling weekend. Essentially, we will have lots of pre-loved handbags for sale, including “celebrity” bags from high profile people. Scheduled for 15 and 16 June, we will kick off on the Friday night with an auction of the high value bags at a bubbles and nibbles event while Saturday will be an open day to purchase the bags. There will also be stalls offering beauty products and jewellery. So stay tuned for more information.

## **FINANCIAL POSITION**

The organisation continues to be in a strong financial position. Morgans’ Financial Services has recently provided some professional advice on achieving an improved return on our investments. I will also cover this in more detail in the next edition of The Guardian.

## **NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD**

The next meeting of the Palliative Care Board will take place at 6.00 pm on Monday 23 April 2018.

Louise Mayo  
President

