

ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

from meeting of 12 March 2021

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our normal Board Meeting scheduled for 22 February was delayed owing to illness and was instead combined with the Strategic Planning Meeting which had been planned for 12 March 2021. As a result, we covered a lot of ground in this meeting and the highlights are as follows:

STRATEGIC PLAN

We took a Reflect, Review and Refresh methodology in developing the new Strategic Plan. We started by reviewing the 2017-2020 Plan and it was agreed that much of the current content was still relevant. We then looked at the areas of focus for 2021-2024 and the Board has agreed some initial areas. These areas will be discussed with the Palcare ACT staff this week at a team meeting. Post this meeting we expect that a draft of the new Plan will be considered at the next Board Meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Representatives from Morgan's Financial Services addressed the Board on PC ACT's current investment strategy. Given the very low interest rates currently being paid on cash deposits ie 0.75%, Morgan's advised that the organisation might be better placed to move some of its cash into other investments eg shares or bonds. Morgan's agreed to provide a revised investment strategy, and this will be considered at the next Board Meeting.

A mid-year report of finances was also discussed, and I am pleased to tell you that we remain in a solid financial position. This is particularly important as we still have to build the permanent respite centre.

LEO'S PLACE

I am delighted to tell you that Leo's Place is humming along nicely. We have had quite a number of daytime clients as well as some overnight visitors. Feedback has been wonderful. There continues to be a strong focus on getting the word out to referral pathways. We did have an issue around controlled medications and considerable work has gone into obtaining legal advice and minimising any possible risks. I am grateful to my Board colleagues and our CEO for their advice and responsiveness on this issue.

STAFFING

Ruth Kinlyside has commenced as a part-time program coordinator working Wednesday to Friday, enabling a crossover with Liz Rhodes on Thursdays. Ruth is covering the management of Clare Holland House, volunteer interviews and will be involved in training of new volunteers. Isaac Frawley has also joined us as a trainee for six months. Isaac is supporting Dave Burnet on the multiplicity of tasks that he is responsible for including the fundraising portal, the volunteer information portal etc. If you come across Ruth or Isaac please welcome them to Palliative Care.

FUNDRAISING DINNER

The QT (formerly the Lakeside Hotel) has been booked for our next fundraising dinner to be held on Saturday 9 October 2021. Planning is already underway but please pop the date in your diary and watch out for more information.

TOOLKITS

The toolkit on cultural approaches to death and dying is progressing well and the Board agreed that the next toolkit should cover the provision of palliative care to LGBTQI+ patients. The Board agreed that the Margaret Cordon Scholarship should support the development of this document.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Palliative Care will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 22 March 2021 at the Tom Elvin Centre. Dr Agar, Chair of Palliative Care Australia will join the meeting.

Louise Mayo AM President

