



PalliativeCare
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

from meeting of 25 May 2021

FROM THE PRESIDENT

● NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE WEEK

The third in our series of toolkits was launched on 26 May by the Minister for Health, Ms Rachel Stephens-Smith. Entitled Cultural Approaches to Death and Dying, the toolkit is designed for carers working with people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds who have a life limiting illness. It is not intended to give the reader all the answers, but rather to shed light on different cultures and cultural practices and how these may affect care at end of life. It is a starting point for carers and a referral source.

His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley and Mrs Linda Hurley hosted a function at Government House on 24 May attended by Palliative Care Australia, Palliative Care NSW and Palliative Care ACT. Guests included staff, volunteers and some clients of PC ACT. It was a most successful evening and a great privilege to receive such high-level support.

The public information display at the Hyperdome was well received and my thanks go to all those staff and volunteers who manned the stall during the week. It is so important to get the palliative care message out. I am constantly surprised when people tell me that they think palliative care is only for the last few days or weeks of life.

● CONSTITUTION REVIEW

Mr Vlad Aleksandric, our newly co-opted Board Member, provided a revised Constitution for discussion. The Board is considering the transfer of PC ACT to a company limited by guarantee. As mentioned in last month's Outcomes, under our present Constitution, we can only provide palliative care services to clients in those NSW areas that are close to Canberra e.g. Queanbeyan if the Queanbeyan resident is being treated by a medical practitioner based in the ACT. Extensive debate took place around a range of issues and the Board is now seeking legal advice.

● COST OF LINES SERVICE

A basic analysis showing the breakdown of each line of service has been completed. Fifty per cent of cost is utilised at Clare Holland House, 28% goes on home-based care, 12% on life stories, 8% on Residential Aged Care and 2% on Leo's Place. Following a review of our current programs and a review of the Constitution, a more in-depth analysis will take place.

FUNDRAISING DINNER

It is only 19 weeks to the dinner and already the Board is working hard sourcing prizes for the Butterfly Bags and the auctions. This year's event will be held at QT (the former Lakeside Hotel) on Saturday 9 October 2021. It is two years since our last full-scale event, owing to COVID restrictions and we are keen to make this a rip-roaring success. Please save the date and watch out for further information.

OTHER FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

WINE TASTING

A very successful wine tasting was held on 21 April at Farrah's Wines to launch the winter wine selection. We plan to hold a further function before Christmas to launch the Spring/Summer range. Again, keep a watch out on the website for further information.

MOVIES

We are hopeful that the next James Bond movie, No Time To Die, will be released in late September. We are awaiting confirmation from Palace Cinema but have tentatively booked the cinema for opening night i.e. 30 September. Pop the date in your diaries and we will provide an update once confirmation is received.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Palliative Care ACT will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 28 June 2021 at the Tom Elvin Centre.

Louise Mayo AM
President

