



**PalliativeCare**  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

# ACT BOARD OUTCOMES

## from meeting of 28 February 2022

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### STAFFING

The year has got off to a very busy start with activity on a number of fronts.

Sadly, our CEO is currently unwell and is on sick leave until 11 March. I am sure you join the Board and staff in wishing Tracy a speedy recovery. In the meantime, Julie Elliott will act in the position.

A draft of the review on the viability of Leo's Place, as a non-clinical respite centre, has been received and I am pleased to report that the data collection is strong and supports our bid for ongoing funding. The three key messages in the report are that:

- Leo's Place is a lifeline for patients and their carers
- It provides a welcome break from the serious issues people are dealing with, and
- It is an active and supportive hub for carers.

#### LEO'S PLACE

The lack of an ensuite for each bedroom was a known shortfall at the beginning of the proof of concept and is something we will address in the purpose-built facility.

#### FUTURE FUNDING

PC ACT's current funding agreement expires on 30 June 2022. For some months now, PC ACT has been in discussion with the ACT Government, and we are currently working towards a five-year Deed of Grant arrangement which would recognise PC ACT as a peak body. Negotiations on the content of the agreement will commence in March with the intention of finalising it by the end of April. This is still a work in progress, and we will keep you informed of developments.

#### MARKETING & PROMOTIONS SUPPORT

The Board has decided to appoint Content Grasshopper to provide marketing, communications and promotions support. Services will include strategy advice and implementation, digital media (ie social media, email and websites), graphic design (ie toolkits, the annual report, fundraising flyers and promotional pamphlets) and other projects such as development of videos or online training. This appointment will be reviewed at the end of the financial year.

#### QUEANBEYAN PROJECT

Many of you will know that for some months PC ACT has been providing support to Southern NSW Health and the QPRC in their efforts to establish a Queanbeyan Region Palliative Care Volunteer Service. I am pleased to report that NSW Health has secured funding to run the Queanbeyan service and action is in hand to recruit a Volunteer Coordinator. We will continue to provide 'in-kind' support during the transition period.

#### NATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE WEEK

Planning is in hand for NPCW which will run from 22-28 May. PC ACT will be launching the next in our series of toolkits. Development



## MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW

is progressing well, with a Ph.D candidate from the University of Canberra working on the next resource, to be focussed on the LGBTQI+ community. We are hoping that the Minister will launch the toolkit. We will also be partnering with Palliative Care Australia to 'light up Canberra' as a promotional activity during NPCW.

The Treasurer presented his mid-year Budget Review. I am pleased to report that we are continuing to track well financially. Funding for Leo's Place has been confirmed in the ACT Government Budget to the end of the current financial year and discussions are in place for future funding.

At this stage we are looking at a forecast surplus greater than originally envisaged, largely due to reduced spending during COVID, a reduction in staffing costs and higher than expected donations plus increased profit from the implementation of the new investment strategy.

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS

**Dinner:** We have been fortunate in being able to reschedule our fundraising dinner at QT – so we are going for third time lucky!!! It will now be held on Saturday 25 June, and we have been advised that there is capacity to seat 550 people. As we were unable to hold the dinner last year owing to COVID, we are going all out for this to be a bonanza event. Please contact PC ACT office on 6255 5771 if you would like to attend.

**Movie Night:** We have booked Sunday 29 May for a showing of Top Gun: Maverick. Please pop the date in your diary and we will be in touch closer about tickets to the event.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Palliative Care will be held at 6.00 pm on Monday 21 March 2022 at the Tom Elvin Centre.

Dr. Louise Mayo AM  
President

