



Update: April 2012

Dear Colleagues,

The Hypnotherapy Council of Australia (HCA) National Board is continuing to build the foundations of the National Peak Body. The members of the National Board would like to thank all those who continue to offer their input for the benefit of the hypnotherapy profession as a whole, so that we can grow a Peak Body that will last the test of time, and enhance our credibility.

The current important step before us is to establish a set of Minimum Standards of Education for the profession. Some educational organisations will teach more than this minimum, and some associations will expect more too, but 'minimum standards' is about establishing an acceptable starting point for newcomers to the profession, while preserving the diversity of the methodologies. To make HCA policy, or to make changes to the HCA Constitution, it requires HCA Members to vote with an 85% acceptance of the weighted voting for it to be passed.

To this end, there is a Special General Meeting (SGM) on 13 May where all HCA Members Entities will vote on a proposed policy for that starting point, and we also take that opportunity to clarify some points of the Constitution. The Constitutional clarifications are just that, clarifications, and not changes to the intention of the Constitution, but corrections that need to be made to complete the amendments made on the fly at the national meeting in Sydney July 2010.

The details of the SGM have now been circulated to each delegate and the relevant personnel of the all HCA Member Entities. If you are a delegate or listed relevant personnel of a HCA Member Entity, and have not received this information in an email dated 28/3/2012 from HCA (containing the agenda and relevant SGM documents), then please contact the HCA Board **immediately** by phone on 07 55358462 or via secretary@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com.

As the SGM is an electronic meeting, it is not possible for people to 'just turn up' on the day, but rather it requires planning of a very different nature, so we need to know in advance who is attending in person, and who is organising a proxy vote for their organisation. Could you please email the secretary@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com with your attendance intentions by 30th April so we can organise the technical side of the meeting. Thank you.

On another matter, the National Board would also like to welcome back Antoine Matarasso to a seat on the National Board, as Antoine has now resumed his role as President of the Australian Hypnotherapists Association.

The Education Advisory Body Subcommittee is awaiting the feedback from the members to establish its next steps. The Ethics Subcommittee is currently working on documents for a Code of Conduct, and the Finance Subcommittee is looking for options to finance the HCA from sources other than membership fees.

The HCA website is our interface with the public, and we ask for submissions from the profession for the category of "public downloads". This is not intended as a marketing exercise for organisations, but is there to help educate the public about hypnotherapy. However, we will acknowledge the source of any material that is accepted to the site. So to all of those who have previously offered to help the HCA when needed, this is an opportunity to do so, and we look forward to your submissions.

Arrangements for the first Annual General Meeting of the HCA are underway. It is expected that this will be a face-to-face meeting in Melbourne in August 2012. Once we confirm the dates and venue, all HCA Members will be informed, and are invited to send their delegates along. At that AGM, the positions of Vice President and Secretary will be up for election according to the terms of the Constitution, and thereafter, those positions will be 2 yearly as are all Board positions. There may also be non-office

bearing positions available on the board. However, all HCA Members are reminded that each Member Entity can only have one representative on the National Board. Further details can be found in the HCA Constitution in section 20. Existing delegates on the National Board may stand for re-election. More details on this will be advised in later updates.

Discussions have continued with the ANHR Board regarding the transfer of the register to management by the HCA. These discussions have enabled the National Board to put appropriate plans in place to work towards being able to take on the register in the future.

As usual, the National Board will continue to circulate the minutes of each National Board meeting to the relevant personnel of the HCA Member Entities. If you would like to contact the National Board about these or other matters, please feel free to do so via secretary@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com or president@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com.

Regards,
Margaret Kelly
President
Hypnotherapy Council of Australia

The HCA Mission:

'The Hypnotherapy Council of Australia (HCA) is the national peak body for Clinical Hypnotherapy in Australia. The HCA provides a cohesive identity for the diversity of hypnotherapy methodologies and promotes their professional and ethical practice for the benefit of the community.'