



Dear Colleagues,

The Hypnotherapy Council of Australia's (HCA) National Board met for the first time in 2012 on the 16th January. This meeting has stimulated the momentum for the year, and we are looking forward to a productive one! Thank you to all those member entities that have sent messages of appreciation for the work the National Board and its subcommittees are doing. Building an association from the ground up is more challenging than running an established one, especially with the level of collaboration that we are encouraging. Your ongoing feedback and support is appreciated.

The Government has responded to our recent contact to introduce the existence HCA. The feedback has been positive and encouraging at both State and Federal levels. While a couple of HCA delegates have expressed concern however, that HCA was getting ahead of itself by contacting Government, and may have been misrepresenting itself as fully functional, let me allay those concerns: The introduction made it very clear that the HCA is in the development stage and still being established. However, the need for such an introduction was urgent, prompted by the fact that there are discussions in Government departments at the moment that may affect our profession. As the Peak Body for the profession now, HCA needs to be informed of those issues so that it can both disseminate the information where necessary to the members, and also respond where necessary to issues line with HCA's role. The Government has acknowledged both the existence of HCA, and its stage of development, with the assurance that HCA is now to be to be kept informed of relevant issues.

The HCA membership annual fee process is now complete, and only full financial members are now listed on the HCA website (www.hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com). Once you have linked your member entity to the HCA website, please email us at webmaster@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com so we can add you to the Links page, and make a reciprocal link back to your association's home page. This linkage adds to the ranking of both websites, and makes your organisation's contact details easily accessible by the public as they visit the HCA site. Only HCA member organisations have permission to use the HCA logo and claim HCA membership.

The Finance Subcommittee will be considering funding options for HCA as they meet this year. There have been several ideas proposed by our members to seek outside funding that will be discussed and considered for feasibility and appropriateness. The Education Advisory Body Subcommittee and the Ethics Subcommittee continue to work on appropriate recommendations. The National Board is appreciative of the time and energy that the members of all subcommittees give to the development of the HCA foundational processes. As is required by the Constitution, a recommendation from any of the subcommittees goes to the National Board for discussion and consideration. Before any policy can be implemented, it must be passed by the National Board, and then put to the HCA Member entities for voting. The guidelines for this process are in the HCA Constitution. The same approval process applies to any proposed change to the HCA Constitution itself.

Although the end of the financial year is still some months away, the National Board is looking ahead to the First AGM. At the moment, a meeting around August is being considered. Once firmer plans are in place, all HCA member entities will be given plenty of notice via their delegates and relevant personnel of the details. Advice on this meeting, its location, date, and agenda will be released as they come to hand in the next few months. So please make sure you keep the HCA's Secretary apprised of any change in contact details.

If there is a need for the HCA Members to vote on a proposed policy before the AGM, then a Special General Meeting will be called. In this instance, the intention would be to hold the meeting electronically, saving member's delegates both time and travel costs.

New information is being added to the HCA website each month, presenting the information with public viewing in mind. Thank you to those who have given us feedback so far.

In the spirit of continued transparency and fairness, the National Board will continue to circulate the minutes of each monthly 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 Margaret at 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.'