



Dear Colleagues,

It is now just five months since the Hypnotherapy Council of Australia's (HCA) National Board was elected to continue the structural and functional development of the HCA, and we are making steady progress. I am pleased to be able to say that we are proceeding as quickly as practical to get HCA on its feet, and are optimistic with the level of collaboration that is taking place within the profession. We are also always heartened by the positive responses and support we get from our members.

The finalisation of the HCA membership process by the payment of the first annual fee is now almost complete. Thank you to all those members who paid their annual membership fee in a timely fashion. When your entity's membership process has been completed, your membership certificates will be snail mailed to the registered addresses as per the information you provided on your application form. Next year the National Board will send individual invoices to each entity to make the process easier, and this will coincide with our financial year at the end of June.

In addition, a copy of the HCA logo will be emailed to members for use on the member entity's website. When the logo is used, please ensure that your webmaster hyperlinks it to the HCA home page at [www.hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com](http://www.hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com). Please then email us at [webmaster@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com](mailto:webmaster@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com) so we can make a reciprocal link from the HCA Links page back to your organisation's site. 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 on their websites and claim HCA membership.

The National Board is now in the process of officially contacting Government departments to advise them of HCA's emerging existence as the National Peak Body for the profession in Australia, so that in the future, HCA can respond to relevant issues that are being considered by Government. This is being done with respect for all the good work that has been done previously by other organisations in connection with legislation and regulations. This advice to Government in no way restricts any individual organisation from making its own submissions on issues, but rather, it enhances the position of the hypnotherapy profession as a credible and proactive profession.

The Education Advisory Body (EAB), a subcommittee of the HCA, has been considering the matter of minimum standards for education and training. We emphasise here that it is minimum standards being considered; it is always acceptable to exceed this standard, and some will. However, it gives an acceptable starting point; this will ease any Government concerns about our growing profession, and gives greater public confidence that our practitioners start at a standard that the profession believes is reasonable. The EAB have forwarded their initial draft of recommendations of minimum standards to the National Board, and those recommendations are currently being considered. The National Board thanks the delegates on this subcommittee for their dedication and time in discussing this important issue.

For effectiveness of contact, from within and outside of our profession, new HCA email addresses have been established. To contact the National Board on any matter, just go to the contact page on the HCA website, and it will indicate how to contact us for the different enquires. Of course, you may still contact any member of the National Board directly.

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. If you have suggestions for the content of the website, please send an email to the webmaster so that your ideas may be considered.

As we develop the structures and processes we need now, the National Board is also looking to the future and the situations for which we may need to prepare. As such, and in the interest of continuity of the Peak Body's growing information and skill base, the National Board has recognised a need to cross skill its Board members so that when there are changes in the National Board membership, the functionality of the association will remain stable. In line with this, independent and permanent secure storage methods for the HCA records are also being considered. Furthermore, additional methods of externally supporting HCA budgetary needs for the future have been suggested to the Board and will be considered by the Finance subcommittee.

With the festive season approaching and many organisations winding down for the year, your National Board members will continue to meet in December and January. However, instead of sending out an Update to the Profession in December, the relevant information will be included in the January edition.

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](mailto:secretary@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com) or Margaret at [president@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com](mailto:president@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com).

The members of the HCA National Board wish you all the very best for the Festive Season, and continued Success in 2012.

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.'*