



Draft Update to the Profession – March 2014

Dear Colleagues

The National Board of the Hypnotherapy Council of Australia (HCA) met again on Weds 19 March 2014.

### **2014 AGM/SGM**

Unlike many AGM meeting days, the HCA AGM is a split meeting that covers a great deal more than just elections and the nitty gritty of running the organisation. We have divided the meeting day into 2 sections for ease of reporting to Victoria Consumer Affairs, and to allow valuable in-house discussions to occur more freely.

The first part of the meeting day is classified an Annual General Meeting where the practicalities of the HCA for the last year are explained to member entities' delegates, and any questions answered. Elections are held for the bi-annually rotated positions – and then we get into what the day is really all about :)

The second part of the day, and we believe the most valuable part, is classified as a Special General Meeting where matters which affect the profession as a whole can be aired between the delegates, and issues that pertain to the ongoing function of HCA can be freely discussed. Any policy ready for voting can also be dealt with.

The Board was most impressed with the very frank discussions held last year. Those discussions have resulted in the drafting of new policies to close a loophole, and these are currently being formulated by the Ethics Subcommittee. The other issues that were raised will be further discussed as is timely to do so. For those not familiar with our processes, once a subcommittee makes their recommendation to the National Board, the Board needs to vote on it. If it is accepted by the Board, then the draft policy is put out to the member entities for voting according to the Constitution's voting system. Any policy or change to the constitution requires an 85% agreement of weighted voting before it can be passed.

Some important issues have already been foreshadowed for this year's meeting, and input from our delegates will be invaluable, not only in setting directions for the future of our profession, but especially in dealing with issues that affect our entities and their practitioners day to day that require a broader than normal view.

We strongly recommend that all HCA member entities send at least one delegate to the meeting. We cannot emphasise just how important this will be. After the meeting, discussions have in the past continued more informally between delegates over dinner during the evening with further benefits.

Topics have already been floated for potential discussion at this year's meeting, and the Board will finalise those soon. If you have an issue that you feel warrants such discussion, please submit it to the HCA secretary ASAP, so the discussion list can be finalised. Only issues that are on the agenda may be discussed. This gives delegates the opportunity to consider their points of view in conjunction with their organisation before the meeting.

The yearly meetings are rotated between the Eastern States, allowing the delegates from one State easier access every third year. This year the meeting is being held in Brisbane, and we look forward to the Queensland delegates making the most of this more convenient opportunity for 'in person' participation.

The 2014 AGM/SGM will be held at the Grand Chancellor Hotel, Brisbane on Saturday 30 August 2014, and as has been our custom, will be followed by a dinner. Delegates' partners are also welcome to join us for dinner. Please put this date into your diary.

Grand Chancellor Hotel accommodation is available at reduced rates for delegates, so please be sure to mention that you are attending the HCA meeting when you book.

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 [president@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com](mailto:president@hypnotherapycouncilofaustralia.com).

Regards,  
Margaret Kelly  
*President*

*Hypnotherapy Council of Australia Inc.*  
*Vic A0056527E ARBN 154841086*

**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.'*