
HCA Update to the Hypnotherapy Profession – September 2016

Dear Colleagues,

On 13th August 2016, the 5th Annual General Meeting of the Hypnotherapy Council of Australia was held at the Grand Chancellor Hotel in Brisbane. Annual reports were tabled at the meeting and the following delegates were appointed to board positions for a two year term:

- Vice President: Antoine Matarasso (AHA)
- Secretary: Belinda Hulstrom (AACHP)
- Committee Members: Lyndall Briggs (ASCH)
- William Bullock (PCHA)

All other board positions remain the same until the 2017 annual general meeting.

A gift was presented to retiring Board Member Joane Goulding in recognition of her dedicated service to the HCA and her contribution over many years to the hypnotherapy profession in Australia.

The board welcomes our new members and on behalf of our members thanks the outgoing members for their contribution over the past two years,

The delegates also passed the following resolutions unanimously:

[HCA National Register \(formerly the ANHR\)](#)

The meeting recognised that despite the best efforts of the Council, the HCA National Register is currently not attaining its desired outcome of becoming a representative national register for clinical hypnotherapists. After discussion it was acknowledged that the major associations were not at this time supportive of the concept of a unified national register. It was further acknowledged that a significant amount of time and resources have been devoted to the register over the past few years and that without the support of the associations this is now untenable.

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The delegates resolved to shelve the concept of a unified national register until such time as the majority of member entities support its re-formation. The Council will maintain the domain names currently operated and these will be pointed to the Hypnotherapy Council's website. **I would ask that associations advise their members that as from 1st October 2016 the HCA / ANHR register will no longer be operating until further notice.** Links to all HCA member association practitioner registers are now listed on the redesigned HCA website. In this way HCA will continue to assist the public in locating qualified clinical hypnotherapists and in doing so support both individual therapists and associations.

I would further like to acknowledge the work, time and dedication that board members have put into the HCA / ANHR over the past 2 years. Many have worked tirelessly to get the register operating and to communicate with therapists throughout the country. We owe them a debt of gratitude and I am sure that when the project is developed in the future their work will be instrumental in making it a success.

[HCA Membership Fees](#)

Member Association delegates unanimously agreed to increase the HCA annual fees to \$500.00 per annum. Member Educational Organisation fees will remain at \$150.00 for 2016 but will be subject to review at a later date. This additional income will compensate in some measure for the loss of fees from the register.

[Future Direction](#)

The HCA board believes that this year's annual general meeting will be pivotal to the future development of the council. The member entities represented unanimously agreed that there was a continuing need for a peak body for hypnotherapy and that HCA should continue to represent all stakeholders as that peak body.

The outcome of the AGM and a strategy meeting held in April will guide the future direction of HCA. The future initiatives to be explored include:

- The development of further standards such as minimum requirements for conducting Skype or Internet consultations
- The possible development of a National Training Package for Hypnotherapy
- The development of a professional practice model for the profession
- The development of a code of conduct for social media
- The development of a quarterly newsletter for hypnotherapists to raise the profile of HCA
- The development of a logo for therapists use

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- The development of a PR strategy for the profession

The board will continue to keep members apprised of developments as these goals and strategies are further developed.

It is with sadness that I advise you of the passing of one of our members, Marilyn Newman after a short illness. Marilyn was a founding member of HCA and worked tirelessly to further our profession in Australia. Past and present students of Hypnotherapy Training Australia will remember the passion and energy she brought to her work. The thoughts of the entire board are with Marilyn's family and colleagues at this time.

Warm regards

Antoine Matarasso

Vice President HCA

on behalf of the HCA National Board

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