

Community Advisory Council communiqué

December 2022

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) met face to face in the Ahpra Melbourne office on Tuesday 6 December 2022. This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the meeting.

The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the lands on which the meeting was being held and paid respect to their Elders, past and present.

CEO update

Members noted the CEO report highlighting:

- the current issues with the health workforce and the large focus all governments are experiencing in the healthcare aged care systems
- the Business Transformation Program work that is to replace the current Pivotal management system to the Salesforce platform; the initiative will include improved online registration and notifications experiences, with forms and updates able to be completed online with the first stage to be rolled out on 3 July 2023
- attendance at the Senate Community Affairs Committee Estimates Hearing on Thursday 10 November 2022 and members focus on:
 - the continued view of some senators that Ahpra are constraining practitioners on their views about vaccinations
 - Cosmetic Surgery, the protection of the title 'surgeon' and the area of practice endorsements and changes all being made to improve patient safety
 - discussion about governance of the National Scheme
- CEO attendance at the WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Workforce Regulation on 24 October 2022, Martin met with representatives from other WHO Collaborating Centers in the Western Pacific Region to catch up on work of different centers in support of building human resources for health.

Other business

Other matters that were considered and discussed by Council members included:

- the context and development of the National Scheme Workforce Strategy, including alignment with the National Cabinet submission and our contributions to the National Health Workforce Taskforce
- an update on the progress of the implementation of the Cosmetic Surgery Review recommendations
- a presentation and update from Jayde Fuller National Director on the work of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy Unit and an introduction to Kevin Yow Yeh the new Senior Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Notifications Officer, who is leading the work associated with Culturally Safe Notifications processes for both notifiers and registered practitioners
- the suggested amendments to the two new community member attributes comprising the paramount principles under the National Law. That is, community safety and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples cultural safety
- the CAC submission to the Medical Board of Australia cosmetic surgery consultation
- a presentation on the Business Transformation Program and what the system will deliver over time

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- an update provided by the National Health Practitioner Ombudsman including her current review of Ahpra's vexatious notifications framework including the scope and framework
- a joint presentation to the Health Consumer Queensland annual forum on the Queensland co-regulatory system by Patricia Hall Chair CAC, Heather Edwards State Manager Queensland, and Lynne Coulson Barr Queensland Health Ombudsman
- Noting the Reputational Insights 2021 summary report.

The next meeting of the Community Advisory Council is confirmed for 9 February 2023, via Microsoft Teams.

Patricia Hall

Chair
Community Advisory Council