

Board Communique - 2017

The Wounds Australia Board held a face to face meeting in Brisbane on Saturday 11 February 2017. Items from the meeting of interest to report include:

International Wound Practice and Research Conference

The Board received an update from the International Wound Practice and Research (IWPR) Conference Committee. It was with much regret that the Conference Committee advised Wounds Australia that the IWPR conference would be deferred to a future date. The Committee explained that more preparation and development of the International Wound Practice and Research Alliance is needed to ensure a successful conference. Wounds Australia will continue to support the IWPR Alliance and hopes to partner with the Alliance to hold the inaugural IWPR Conference in the future.

Wound Innovation and Management CRC

Wounds Australia invited the CEO of the Wound Innovation and Management CRC to provide an update on the CRC's activities and achievements. The Board also discussed strengthening the collaborative relationship between Wounds Australia and the CRC to advocate and support improved wound care in Australia.

Strategic Planning

The Board held a strategic planning session. The strategic plan was reviewed and some further amendments made. The final plan will be released in the near future. The discussion also identified priority action areas. A one year action plan and a five year action plan will be developed outlining how Wounds Australia will deliver on the strategic plan.

Financial updates

At the February meeting, the Board approved the Finance and Audit Committee Charter. The Finance and Audit Committee will play a critical role in the governance of Wounds Australia. As well as ensuring the Board receives timely and accurate financial reporting, the Committee will:

- Provide strategic direction on significant corporate issues including major internal and external review activities.

- Monitor the corporate performance of Wounds Australia through the use of a business planning framework, resource allocation, resource management review, and performance monitoring and measurement against budget.
- Ensure efficient corporate governance through monitoring the efficiency and effectiveness of Wounds Australia management controls, accounting systems and report on achievements against performance indicators.
- Establish and maintain a framework for management accountability within the Wounds Australia to clearly define responsibilities, powers and accountabilities of managers and staff.

The Board also reviewed the financial reports for Wounds Australia to 31 December 2016. The Wounds Australia National Conference 2016 made a very healthy surplus, in a testament to the excellent work of the conference committee.

National Office establishment

The Executive Officer provided the Board with a report on the progress establishing the National Office. During February all membership and financial administration will be moved to the National Office. There will be some downtime for the membership database, but operations will be up and running from early March. This will be a very busy time for Wounds Australia National Office and members will be kept informed through regular e-blasts.

Reports from branches, portfolios and projects

The Board reviewed reports from a number of Wounds Australia branches, portfolios and project groups. The Board acknowledged the significant amount of work undertaken by these groups for Wounds Australia.

Helen McGregor
Chair – Wounds Australia Board

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