# Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of TRANSPLANT AUSTRALIA LIMITED

## Held at 6.00pm Monday April 27, 2015 at the offices of Transplant Australia, Suite 304/354 Eastern Valley Way, Chatswood, NSW 2067

## 1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies include: Matthew Maddocks, Tricia Kavanagh, Jeremy Chapman, Clayton Walton, Ian Atkin

## 2. Present

Alan Amodeo, Josh Moyes, Chris Thomas, Sandra Walton, Heather Edgell, John Purdy, Barbara Lee, Antony Harding, Rosana Taylor, John Williams, Julie Edwards, Chandana Guha By telephone: Jason Ryan, Richard Allen, Jan Wall

## 3. Minutes of Previous AGM

Copies of the previous AGM were provided to the attendees. Members were given a few minutes to review the minutes.

Tony Harding noted that the minutes were missing the notice of Life Members. Chris committed to amend the minutes to Margaret Hill as a life member.

**Moved:** Heather Edgell moved to accept the minutes of the previous AGM **Second:** Josh Moyes **Motion Carried** 

## 4. Chairman's Report

Welcome again to our Annual General Meeting of Transplant Australia.

As I have detailed in the Annual Report the Board of Directors has recently completed a comprehensive process of developing a four year strategic plan to take the organisation through to the end of 2018.

I would particularly like to thank Jason Ryan, supported by Chris Thomas and Josh Moyes for the work they have done in developing this plan.

It firstly involved reviewing previous member surveys and plans and then a telephone interview with each director asking them to nominate their priorities for the organisation.

Following this we held a strategic planning day where the directors came together. I was pleased that Matty Hempstalk, Chair of our Sports Committee and Qld Chair was able to join us.

From then we were able to develop not only a strategic plan but also a management action plan with key milestones to ensure successful delivery.

The plan identifies three key initiatives to pursue over the next four years.

- Increase donor rates

As you all know there have been tremendous advances in organ donation in Australia over the past five years. However, there is still much more work to be done. Principally this is around beefing up the Australian Organ Donor Register so that Australians have confidence that their decision to become an organ donor will be honoured. Our plan is to ensure that first person authorisation becomes a reality and it becomes the community norm that we honor this decision.

This initiative will be led by Company Secretary with support from Jason Ryan, Tricia Kavanagh and Chris Thomas.

- Deliver highly valuable member services

Richard Allen, supported by Jan Wall and Matt Maddocks, will lead an initiative around increasing our member services. Part of this will be to encourage every transplant recipient on discharge to join transplant Australia and we will be talking to the States about providing a 12-month free membership for newly transplanted recipients.

Ian Atkin is also working hard to deliver an improved travel insurance program. Already we have been able to offer those travelling to Argentina for the World Transplant Games a group program.

We are also very pleased to announce tonight that Chandana Guha has joined the team as our Membership Services Manager. Chandana's daughter, Ria, has a kidney transplant and Chandana knows first-hand the traumas and difficulties families face in waiting for and adjusting to a transplant.

Chandana has provided much support work for children and their families at the Sydney Children's Hospital at Westmead and we look forward to her contribution to the implementation of the strategic plan including the development of a post-transplant health and activity plan for all recipients.

Together with Julie Edwards I don't think you could have two people more focused on improving the lives of those touched by transplantation. Julie, thank you for your ongoing commitment to Transplant Australia.

- Build an economically sustainable organisation

The final area is our most important. It is ensuring our organisation continues to thrive. This has been a consistent theme in our work over my time as Chairman and nothing has really changed – I except perhaps it has got harder to deliver the support and services we would like to deliver.

Transplant Australia is unique in terms of organisations across the world representing transplant recipients. There really is no other body that has an office, staff and a structure to represent the needs of current and future transplant recipients. We are respected for our advocacy, represent members on government committees and champion our cause at every opportunity.

The growth in our professionalism over many years has been extremely pleasing.

Our next phase of development must be matching this growth with plans to ensure the long-term financial success of Transplant Australia.

Many people raise funds for Transplant Australia and the Board believes there is an opportunity to tap further into the goodwill of the community, of business and indeed of those who owe their lives to transplantation to help Transplant Australia in its Mission. The more stable we are the more we can do.

As I indicated in my Chairman's Report this is my last year as Chairman. I am pleased that tonight the Board of Directors voted to hand the reigns over to Jason Ryan who brings a new injection of enthusiasm, corporate knowledge, a good understanding of the law, a philanthropic approach to everything he does and dare I say it, a bit of youth to the role of Chairman.

Jason will work closely with the other directors and CEO Chris Thomas to ensure the long-term health of our organisation firmly focused on what the majority of members want – this is to give more Australians the chance they have had to receive a second chance at life.

I wish Chris, the other directors, Julie, John and Chandana the best in continuing to represent this fine organisation. I am pleased I will remain on the Board and am very keen to assist in the continued financial stability of the organisation.

Motion: John Purdy moved to accept the Chairman's report. Seconded: Heather Edgell seconded. Motion Carried.

Jason Ryan thanked Alan for his work over the years and said that he was looking forward to fulfilling the goals detailed in the strategic plan.

## 5. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Eight years is a long time in a senior leadership role. And often there are times to reflect on what's been achieved and what more must be done to achieve the goals we set ourselves?

Over this past eight years the Board of Directors and staff have been focused on making Transplant Australia the most 'professional' community organisation that we can be. And I am pleased to say that from the wonderful foundations set by those that came before us we have grown Transplant Australia to be a national organisation respected by the transplant profession, governments, media and the community.

We have been an integral part of an overhaul of the entire organ and tissue donation and transplantation sectors – a reform process that has delivered real dividends to those waiting for a life-saving transplant.

We continue to deliver innovative programs to promote donation and the benefits of transplantation – through activities like our CALD program, the transplant games and the community activities our members undertake on our behalf.

So what remains to be done?

As Alan has pointed out in his Chairman's Report, there is still a body of work to be undertaken to improve how Australians sign up for donation and then inform their loved ones.

The reality is when someone virtually anywhere in the world presents as a potential donor and is on a register there is a 95 per cent chance they will go on to become a donor. When they are not, that rate varies between 40 and 60 per cent.

Surely then the task is a simple one – get as many Australians to register, ensure they inform their families and then make it a community norm that we respect that decision – both from a clinical viewpoint at time of possible donation and in asking their families to honour their loved one's decision?

It is achieving this goal that tells me there is more to do in this role with Transplant Australia.

The second priority is delivering real and tangible member services to our membership and helping those struggling with a transplant to get back into life. We know too well of the power of transplantation. However, it is not a cure. There is still an enormous journey with many more hurdles to face.

In saying this I can't help but reflect on the life of Michael Campbell-Jones. One of the most beautiful guys you could ever hope to meet. He epitomised the values of someone 'making the most of life' every day. His energy, his passion, in everything he did was a testament to someone who knew the value of what he had been given – and maybe the reality that he wouldn't have it forever. It is this type of member that I think about when striving to improve our offering.

The third area from my perspective that remains a priority is the role that Transplant Australia plays on the world stage. We are an important member country of the World Transplant Games Federation and have been represented on it for many years – by Mark Cocks and Professor Daryl Wall, who men who were respected for their knowledge and insights.

I am always respectful of following in their footsteps on the Federation and have been pleased to have been the Treasurer of the Federation – a role Mark also held – for the past two years.

Many of you would know the Federation has had its challenges with staging the Transplant Games in Argentina this year and as a senior member country on the WTGF, it is important we play a role in this area to help professionalise and stabilise that organisation for the benefit of transplant recipients world-wide.

These are the three priorities which drive me in this role. I appreciate the support of the membership, of the directors, of the state chairs and of the staff in delivering against these objectives to help all Australians in need of an organ transplant.

Finally, on behalf of my fellow directors I would like to thank Alan for his leadership as Chairman over the past five years. We have faced some challenges together and he has always approached issues with a single-mindedness of what's right for the organisation and its members. We appreciate his counsel and his preparedness to travel to Canberra to advocate on behalf of our members. He leaves the place in better shape than when he arrived – and that should be the goal of all of us in our lives. What more can do we do to help our fellow mankind?

Motion: Tony Harding moved to accept the CEO's report. Second: Barbara Lee seconded. Motion Carried

## 6. Presentation of Financial Report

Josh Moyes read out the Treasurer's Report for year ended - December 31, 2014

Transplant Australia Limited Report on the Financial Results of the Company For the Year Ended 31 December 2014

This report is in respect of the Income Statement and Balance Sheet for inclusion in the company's Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2014:

- Increase in revenue is reflective of income being brought to account for the games
- Grant income ASC 70,000 also NSW govt for CALD and Vic govt for the games. Received last payment from OTA re 2011/2014 agreement and signed further funding agreement to 2016 which covers the next ATG \$466,166. also secured funding for next ATG from state govt \$350,000
- Sponsorships down \$94,000 and continue to be difficult to source
- Increase in expenses is reflective of 2014 being a games year i.e. games expenses up \$158,157
- Overall result includes office costs loss \$135,026 be careful if quoting numbers as this excludes OTA money
- Income \$511,547
- Costs \$646,573
- Assets majority in cash \$713,394/ non state money \$606,499
- Liabilities include deferred income \$350,000 relating to NSW money for 2016 ATG
- Provisions relating to employees' annual leave and long service leave \$74,701

Motion: Heather Edgell moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Seconded: Barbara Lee Motion Carried

## 7. Confirmation/Appointment of Directors

The follow Directors were nominated for appointment: Tricia Kavanagh, Richard Allen, Josh Moyes

Motion: Tony Harding moved to approve re-appointments of the nominated Board Directors.Second: Heather Edgell seconded the motion.Motion Carried.

## 8. Re-appointment of Auditor

Josh Moyes formally welcomed Doug Wood, from Foster Raffan, as observer and thanked him for his involvement.

Foster Raffan have confirmed their willingness to continue as the auditors for 2015, providing an in-kind donation for their auditor fees.

**Moved:** Moved by John Purdy to re-appoint Foster Raffan to be auditor for the coming year. **Seconded:** Sandra Walton seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.** 

## 9. General Business

Josh Moyes and Chris Thomas responded to the submitted questions.

## **10. Special Announcement**

The CEO, Chris Thomas, announced that Richard Hayes, from Queensland, had been nominated and accepted by the Board as a new Life Member.

## **11. Minutes Silence**

The group was silent for a minute in remembrance of Organ and Tissue Donors and Recipients.

#### 12. Closure

The Annual General Meeting closed at 7.45pm.