

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of TRANSPLANT AUSTRALIA LIMITED

Held at 6.30pm Monday May 16, 2016 at the John Greenway Seminar Room,
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Missenden Road, Camperdown, NSW, 2050

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies include: Alan Amodeo

2. Present

Jason Ryan, Josh Moyes, Chris Thomas, Jan Wall, Jeremy Chapman, Richard Allen, Tricia Kavanagh, Matthew Maddocks, Heather Edgell, John Purdy, Barbara Lee, Antony Harding, Julie Edwards, Chandana Guha, Ian Atkin

3. Minutes of Previous AGM

Copies of the minutes of the previous AGM had been posted on the company's website and further copies were available to the attendees.

Moved: Tony Harding moved to accept the minutes of the previous AGM

Second: Richard Allen

Motion Carried

4. Chairman's Report

Welcome again to our Annual General Meeting of Transplant Australia.

At the heart of Transplant Australia is our membership, a diverse group of Australians brought together through a unique experience and circumstance of requiring a life-saving transplant.

We are also privileged to have amongst our ranks the families of the donors who made it happen, the living donors who provided a rare gift, the carers and the healthcare professionals.

The reality of a transplant brings about profound changes in a person's life. Many people waiting for a transplant, or those post-transplant, look to Transplant Australia for advice and guidance, networking and social opportunities. For many, it has become a home away from home and that is certainly the strength of our organisation.

The good news is that if you look across the world, Transplant Australia is the leading community-based membership and advocacy organisation out there. Many of our responsibilities overseas are taken up by single organ-focused organisations such as a kidney foundation, while recipients often don't have a voice to government on important matters.

Yet like many other areas of health, there are a divergent range of views and organisations in Australia all essentially trying to achieve the same goal – giving more Australians access to the gift of life.

Our Board has a firm belief that our strength lies in our membership. As Chairman it is pleasing to see that we have the stepping stones in place to grow Transplant Australia and better represent the needs of our members.

The community survey, detailed further in the CEO's Report, makes fascinating reading and it is vital that we deeply understand our members' needs; that we listen, and then enhance the services we provide.

At the office we have amongst our small staff a donor family member, a living donor and a carer of a kidney recipient. It is great to see that Matty Hempstalk took up our offer of the position of National Membership and Sports Administrator at the start of this year.

Matty is uniquely qualified to help further grow our membership services having spent 6 years as the National Support Manager at Kidney Health Australia.

As a recipient, he has also led a new way of thinking about membership in Queensland. The support services they provide at the grassroots are a model for all our states and territories.

Providing valuable member services will continue to be a priority as identified in our strategic plan. Already the new travel insurance program has been received enthusiastically by the members while our 'living with a transplant' program, developed by Chandana Guha, comes online this year.

Reaching out and building bridges with other organisations in the donation and transplant space is also a must if we are to achieve continued focus on improving our system of donation in Australia.

As a Board we recognise that we need to enhance some of our skills and encourage new and passionate people to consider helping, especially in the areas of membership, government influence and fundraising. We have a specific working group helping in the area of fundraising and diversifying our income streams.

A more collective voice to government will deliver greater outcomes and our Board is focused on improving those relationships with organisations with similar interests so we can work together to make collective change.

Over the past eight or nine years there has been a tremendous increase in donation rates in this country. To think that in 2016 there were 503 donors compared to just 198 donors in 2007 is staggering.

Across all clinical areas, the DonateLife network, headed by the Organ & Tissue Authority, has made significant improvements. Yet the one area that still needs further change and improvement is the consent rate. The overall consent rate has moved just a few percentage points in this time.

The key must be increasing the numbers on the Australian Organ Donor Register. Only one in two families provide consent when their loved one has not registered. This increases to 90 per cent when the loved one has decided to leave a legacy of organ and tissue donation by registering on the AODR.

The collective change we are looking for is to join ranks with other organisations that believe in a simplified and easy-to-access register. We need to convince governments that the next round of improvements in donation lies in helping our diverse communities in Australia make the decision to become a donor prior to that most difficult environment of an intensive care unit. Knowledge of a loved one's decision makes the lives of those families at the most difficult time just that much easier.

Motion: John Purdy moved to accept the Chairman's report.

Seconded: Heather Edgell seconded.

Motion Carried.

5. Chief Executive Officer's Report

The year 2016 was a record year for organ and tissue donation. A total of 503 Australians became organ donors.

Even more impressive is the fact that these donations translated into 1,448 Australian receiving the gift of life. It was just 10 years ago when the annual average number of recipients was around the 600 mark.

Of course this exponential growth brings with it challenges. Transplant units and their staff are run off their feet with no traditional downtime to recover. On one hand it is nice problem to have but the people caring for our recipients in turn need care.

Over the past 10 years Transplant Australia has conducted a number of member surveys and they provide a great reality check to help an organisation to pause and reflect on what it is doing right and what can be improved?

Earlier this year our new National Membership and Sports Administrator, Matty Hempstalk, conducted a community survey to gauge what members want from their Transplant Australia?

Many of the themes from members in this latest survey have been reflected before and it is clear members are looking for greater support from their organisation.

'I would be keen to be part of a face-to-face or online recipient support group to meet and share stories with people who really understand my situation.'

'Mental health because after long term illness at times it is difficult to deal with what is happening and to learn how to cope with new abilities and limitations, also a helpline for support services.'

'I would like to see families of recipients receiving more information about the whole process, including potential health problems post-transplant.'

And,

'As a long term recipient, I feel people like myself would be a great asset for promotion of longevity and also to speak to new recipients about how wonderful life can be.'

As our donor rate continues to improve, and more and more Australians receive a transplant, I wonder whether there is in fact a correlation between recipients feeling out in the wilderness and the fact that our wonderful transplant units have less and less time to spend with their patients?

Matty and I have had many conversations about these issues over the years and I was always impressed with his dedication to kidney patients through Kidney Health Australia. It seemed not a weekend would go by that he wasn't flying somewhere to run a support group meeting.

Everyone at Transplant Australia is thrilled to have him as part of the team. We have recently adopted a new membership strategy and this will address many of the issues outlined by members in the survey. Some of them will require funding, such as a 1800 helpline but developing support chapters in local areas and a mentoring program are low-cost items that will have a big impact.

Over the next few pages we have expanded our year in Review section so that all members have a better appreciation of what this organisation achieves each year.

And yes, the staging of the Transplant Games, feature in these pages. The recent survey once again showed that while the transplant games are not for every member, there is a wide consensus that the games are important in demonstrating the living proof that transplantation works.

It is 10 years since I joined this wonderful charity. It is an ideal opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved and what more needs to be done. Our advocacy work and help in raising the overall numbers of donors in that period would I hope receive a very positive mark. Increasing donation rates is undoubtedly the great outcome for which we can strive.

Maintenance and growth of the transplant games and ensuring they remain relevant to governments has also produced great results.

However the support of recipients through their journey remains unfinished business.

To help achieve that we have an ideal organisation that is represented by many hundreds of people who have given great service and time over many years. Transplant Australia has emerged as a broad 'church' representing recipients, paying respect to donors and living donors, and providing a support network for all of those touched by transplantation.

As we enter this next phase of support, I would like to thank all those who have made Transplant Australia what it is today. Our directors, those who have served in state committee roles, those who have worked on transplant games committees in all the various host cities, the staff who have worked tirelessly, the life members, some of whom are no longer with us, and most importantly, the everyday members who make up this organisation. Thanks for your support.

Motion: Tony Harding moved to accept the CEO's report.

Second: Barbara Lee seconded.

Motion Carried

6. Presentation of Financial Report

Ian Atkin presented the Finance Report for year ended – December 31, 2015

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 2015:

- Deficit \$62,036
- Income \$774,235
- Costs \$836,271
- Decrease in revenue is reflective of it being a World Games Year
- Grant income – ASC 70,000 also some income brought to account from OTA re world games participation and NSW govt re work undertaken to date in relation to the Western Syd games. In relation to OTA current agreement ends June 2016 and we are in the process of finalising the next agreement which will cover the period to 6/18 and will be for a similar amount i.e. circa \$455,000. During the year CEO was able to negotiate a three year sponsorship agreement with Astellas which will see TA receive \$250,000 over three years being \$50,000 in FY 2015 then \$100,000 for the two years after that. In addition a \$60,000 sponsorship was negotiated with Novartis part of which will assist towards the funding of the quality of life program.
- Decrease in expenses is reflective of 2015 not being a games year
- Assets – majority in cash \$511,316/ non state money \$382,201
- Liabilities include deferred income \$250,000 relating to NSW money for 2016 ATG
- Provisions relating to employees' annual leave and long service leave \$82,958

Motion: Tricia Kavanagh moved to accept the Treasurer's report.

Seconded: Jeremy Chapman

Motion Carried

7. Confirmation/Appointment of Directors

The follow Directors were nominated for appointment:

Alan Amodeo, Jeremy Chapman, Matthew Maddocks, Chris Thomas, Jan Wall, Jason Ryan

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

Ian Atkin 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 2016, providing an in-kind donation for part of their auditor fees.

Moved: Moved by John Purdy to re-appoint Foster Raffan to be auditor for the coming year.

Seconded: Jeremy Chapman seconded the motion.

Motion Carried.

9. General Business

Ian Atkin and Chris Thomas responded to the submitted questions.

10. Minutes Silence

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

11. Closure

The Annual General Meeting closed at 7.30pm.