

FROM THE CHAIR



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Lyndon Stevenson, Chair - ACTA

The ACTA Board has been very busy and productive of the last few months, meeting regularly to work on a range of issues on behalf of providers across the country.

ACTA WEBSITE

To ensure that ACTA continues its approach to ensuring our members are informed and engaged on a wide range of issues, the ACTA Board has undertaken to re-develop its website with current information, developments and contact details.

Although yet to be fully completed, the website can be found at:

www.communitytransportaustralia.org.au

We welcome your feedback.



FROM THE BOARD

During the May 2018 meeting Bethany Simmonds resigned as Chair of the ACTA Board but will continue on the Board in her capacity as Director. Appreciation is extended to Bethany for her time as Chair over the course of eighteen months.

Lyndon Stevenson was appointed to the role of interim Chair, until the Annual General meeting, November 2018. Lyndon will continue leading the ACTA Board forward; building on formed relationships with government and peak bodies, and cementing ACTA as a solid and sustainable voice for community transport providers across the nation.

A key strategy of the Board will be to increase our communication to all members with regular updates and sharing of key papers as they occur.

FAREWELL TO HELEN and DAMIEN

This month sadly ACTA received the resignation of Helen Hunter, and saw the departure of Damian Reeve in July.

Both Helen and Damien, representatives of the VCTA/Tas. and CTO respectively, were integral members of the ACTA Board; through their combined passion, focus and commitment.

We wish Helen and Damien all the very best as they move on to other things.



ACTA BOARD MEMBERS

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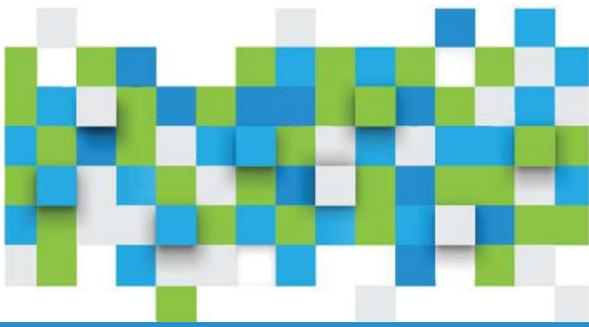
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ACTA – is the peak body for community transport organisations in Australia.

NDIS

ACTA recently made a submission to the Parliamentary Joint Standing Committee regarding the NDIS. The paper drew attention to:

- Issues regarding transition for participants, the associated need for additional education for all stakeholders, and the extreme anxiety for participants and carers as a result of this gap.
- Issues relating to failing market pricing, added with little to no confidence about future sustainability or rather supply, was highlighted from a service provider perspective.

The ACTA NDIS sub-committee await a meeting with the Joint Standing Committee to discuss in detail the key shortcomings and associated recommendations for change and improvement.

The submission can be found at:

www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/National_Disability_Insurance_Scheme/General_NDIS/Submissions

NEW DIRECTOR

The Board welcomes Robert Lake as a Director on the ACTA Board. Robert commenced as a Board member/Director in July this year.

Robert's directorship completes the NSW membership requirement after the resignation of Damian Reeves.

We are delighted to have Robert join the team". Robert comes to ACTA with a range of skills and experiences that will greatly assist the Board.

AGED CARE TRANSPORT

ACTA acknowledges the Federal government for the extension of block funding until 2020. This has not only provided participants with some assurance, in the short term, but has also allowed ACTA to focus its attention to the looming challenges for the sector.

The extension provides time to properly consult with providers, clients and the government to fully understand the practical consequences if any move away from the current block funding model.

Once the consultation phase is complete it is the intention of ACTA to develop a 'discussion paper' specific to aged care transport.'

WIN FOR NDIS TRANSPORT

Congratulations to the NSW peak body, the CTO, for its success in gaining a \$3,000,000 funding boost.

The CTO, through its representation has played a vital role in securing a funding shortfall for participants and providers alike via a new fare subsidy.

Costed at an average of \$10 per trip, the NSW government intends to give NDIS registered community transport providers a subsidy allocation which will be passed on the NDIS participants until June 2020.

We look forward to further detail on this announcement.

2018 ACTA MEETINGS

ACTA's final meeting will be held Tuesday 13 November 2018, in Hobart.

The Annual General Meeting will also be held on the 13 November 2018, and conclude the ACTA meeting schedule for 2018.

REMEMBER:

If you are a community transport provider, and would like your voice heard on community transport issues at a state and national level, then contact your state peak body for community transport and become a member today.

CALENDAR

CTO 2018 National Issues Conference - 8 & 9 October 2018 -Canberra

ACTA Meetings - 13 November 2018, Hobart

The Hon. Ken Wyatt AM, MP

The ACTA Board secured a meeting with the Hon. Ken Wyatt AM, MP, Minister for Aged Care and Indigenous Health in May this year. The meeting provided a wonderful opportunity for the Board to talk with the Minister on a range of national and state issues including:

- Future funding models and associated risk relating to CDC (individual participant funding)
- Predicted growth in demand, and sustainability of service supply, particularly thin and or regional markets.
- Equitable state funding

"The time, engagement and most critically Minister Wyatt's depth of passion and understanding of the issues was first class".