

Community Advisory Council communiqué

November 2023

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) met virtually on Thursday 30 November 2023. This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the meeting.

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

Matters that were considered and discussed by Council members included:

- diversity of statutory appointees in the National Scheme
- the disparate voice project meeting update
- legislative amendments update
- noted the CAC members' reports – feedback from projects and committees
- noted the announcement of new Ahpra Board appointments
- draft consultation - Limited registration standards review

Diversity of statutory appointees in the National Scheme

Members noted a presentation on the diversity within the Scheme outlining the plan, the current composition, current distribution, proposed improvements, and the next steps.

The disparate voice project meeting update

Members noted an update from the Chair advising that she had a meeting with Martin Fletcher earlier that day. It was agreed at the meeting that the CAC would initiate a mapping or scoping of community voices within Ahpra and the National Boards. It was proposed that the CAC host a community member formative discussion and to invite all other community members to discuss connectedness, is there interest and are there any gaps between the community members? The project is about having a consensus of community expectations.

Legislative amendments update

Members noted the changes that included cultural safety and racism in the National Law in 2022, a landmark Tribunal hearing resulted in an ACT doctor being prohibited from providing any health service and cannot apply for registration for 12 months because of making discriminatory comments and behaving in an offensive manner.

Please advise the Community Advisory Council if you have any emerging topics for discussion for their upcoming meetings.

The next meeting of the Community Advisory Council is confirmed for 7 and 8 March 2024 face to face in Melbourne.

Patricia Hall

Chair