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**END OF YEAR UPDATE**

**2015**

The end of the year provides as a fitting opportunity to share with you some of AHPA highlights in this final update for 2015. It has once again been a big year and we have achieved a lot, some of which is outlined below against our strategic priorities. In 2016 we intend to share a similar Board communique throughout the year to keep you up to date on AHPA progress against our strategic and operational priorities.

### ***A highly skilled & sustainable health promotion workforce***

In September 2015 we saw implementation of the *Population Health Congress* with our partners PHAA, AEA and AFPHM as well as local support from TAS members. Almost 1000 participants attending the Congress from around Australia and internationally. Most branches provided scholarships for members to attend this and other professional development events. The keynote speaker video presentations, have now been uploaded to the Congress website. You can find the link either, in the Home page of the website, and in the drop down menu under Program. <http://populationhealthcongress.org.au/>

'*Connecting the Dots: Tradition to Innovation, Making it Matter*'. The WA Branch has been working hard towards the 2016 Australian Health Promotion Association Conference next year. A venue, keynotes and theme have all been developed along with the Conference website. Abstract submission and registration is now open and the Association encourages you to make your way west for what is bound to be a great conference that coincides with 30 years of the Ottawa Charter. Abstracts can be submitted via the online submission form by 1 February 2016. Visit the website for full details at <http://ahpa2016.com.au/abstract-submission/>. We encourage all members to join the Conference mailing list by visiting the above website address to be kept up to date.

AHPA is supporting the *World Congress on Public Health* which will be held in Melbourne in 2017 along with PHAA, AEA, AFPHM and The Australian Women's Health Network. The Congress aims to improve public health by:

- Engaging diverse voices, ideas, vision and actions of committed professionals and citizens to strengthen and transform the global public health effort and influence decision makers
- Analysing, demonstrating, and sharing local, regional and global public health lessons particularly gender and discrimination
- Examining the effective translation of evidence based science into action
- Articulating and promoting the pivotal role of health in Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Supporting and nurturing the next generation of public health leaders
- Building on the intent of the Kolkata Declaration 2015 and Global Charter for Public Health
- Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the WFPHA and Celebrating World Health Day, 7 April 2017.

See the Congress website for more information <http://www.wcph2017.com/>

### ***Professionalisation***

We continued to progress our professionalisation agenda towards certification of health promotion practitioners. A proposal for AHPA to become a National Accreditation Organisation (NAO) through the IUHPE was approved by the AHPA Board along with a proposed NAO structure, financial model and development of the Implementation Plan. A formal application letter sent to IUHPE in December for AHPA to be recognised as the National Accreditation Organisation for Australia. This application will now be reviewed and we expected notification in 2016. Board members contributed to an abstract about workforce for the IUHPE conference to be held in Brazil in 2016. In the meantime we continue to work on the behind the scenes activities required to set up the systems required to support practitioners to become certified.



23rd National Conference  
Australian Health Promotion Association  
**Connecting the Dots**  
19-22 June 2016  
Tradition to Innovation • Making it Matter  
Rendezvous Hotel Scarborough, Western Australia



3-7 APRIL 2017  
**15th** WORLD CONGRESS  
ON PUBLIC HEALTH  
2017 MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA  
VOICES • VISION • ACTION

## Research, Evaluation and Evidence Translation

The HPJA has gone from strength to strength with a 15% increase in submissions in 2015. A number of Writing for Publication events were held including by the NT branch, the WA branch continued to host its Writing for Publication Learning Circle and the NT branch held its first journal club event.

Associate Professor James Smith and Dr Lisa Barnett joined the Editorial Team and the Association farewells Associate Professor Stacy Carter who is finishing her time with the HPJA and who has been a valuable addition to the Editorial Team for a number of years. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Stacy for her contribution and dedication to AHPA and to the HPJA.

The final edition of the HPJA for 2015 is a special issue on Ethics in Health Promotion. The special issue was edited by Prof Annette Braunack-Mayer from the University of Adelaide and A/Prof Stacy Carter from the University of Sydney. The edition should be arriving in your inboxes and mailboxes soon. The issue has been organised around five main themes:

1. Health promotion ethics: the big picture
2. Ethical oversight for health promotion research and evaluation
3. The ethics of promoting health in the clinic
4. Teaching and tools for practitioners
5. Ethical dimensions of working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Congratulations to Billie Giles-Corti, Gus Macaulay, Nick Middleton, Bryan Boruff, Fiona Bull, Iain Butterworth, Hannah Badland, Suzanne Mavoia, Rebecca Roberts and Hayley Christian, winners of the **Ray James Award** for 2015.



Members of the Australian Health Promotion Association are invited to apply for the

**Ray James Memorial Award**

Presented for excellence and innovation in health promotion research published in the journal each year

**Health Promotion Journal of Australia**

## Communications

The Communications Working Group met regularly in 2015 with a focus on three major areas:

1. The upgrade of the AHPA website - a new and more interactive AHPA website will be launched in early 2016! Watch this space. Thanks to all the Branches that have reviewed their content. We are really keen to get photos and graphics, stories and case studies for inclusion, so if you have anything let us know (and soon please)!!
2. Supporting the increased use of Twitter by AHPA. Branches have taken turns to lead the tweeting for a month at a time. In response we now have 1658 followers and regular tweeting each week. Early in 2016 we will evaluate progress and identify the next steps to build our social media profile, including facebook and linkedin which are used by some branches. To find AHPA on Twitter, search @AHPA\_AU and follow for daily updates, tweets and re-tweets on all things related to Health and Health Promotion!
3. A new membership brochure has been developed and will be ready for use in 2016. This will allow a consistent approach whilst also providing space for local branch information. We hope you like it. A membership infographic has also been developed by the SA Branch.

## Other Professional Development, Networking + Capacity Building

AHPA has been working towards more harmonised professional development and capacity building. This has occurred via the provision of scholarships to all branches for the national conferences; progress towards a national mentoring program; and work towards a number of national webinars.

-The SA Branch hosted a *Twitter for Health promotion* education session along with networking pre-Twitter event.

-The NSW Branch partnered with the WA Branch to organise a *Writing the Winning Abstract* webinar - attended by more than 50 participants. The recording of the session can be found here: <http://ahpa2016.com.au/abstract-submission/>.

-AHPA SA hosted a session at the *Australian and New Zealand Association for Leisure Studies* conference and signed an AHPA SA: ANZALS MOU.

-The WA Branch continued to provide its *AHPA Healthway Graduate and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarships Program*, awarding four scholarships for 2016.

-Awards were given in WA, QLD, SA and Victoria including President's awards, Student awards, Primary Health Care Practitioner award, Mentoring, and Leadership awards.

-The Vic Branch held its successful Public Health Careers Event in partnership with PHAA, AEA and AFPHM.

-The Vic Branch continued its foray in to social media using facebook and linkedin. SA also developed a facebook page.



**MEMBERS BENEFITS**

JOIN US: [HEALTHPROMOTION.ORG.AU/MEMBERSHIP](http://HEALTHPROMOTION.ORG.AU/MEMBERSHIP)

- Networking**
  - Network with peers and industry experts via our social networking events.
  - Join our members only Facebook page for online networking with other members and communication with the branch committee.
- Professional Development**
  - Access the latest job vacancies, volunteering and professional development opportunities.
  - Discounted member rates for members' workshops, conferences and other AHPA and affiliated events.
  - Access to AHPA's official publication the Health Promotion Journal of Australia.
- Scholarship Program**
  - Professional Development Scholarships: four awarded annually (up to \$500 each).
  - National Conference Scholarships: two awarded to attend the Austral AHPA National Conference (up to \$1000 each).
  - State Population Health Conference Student Scholarships: four awarded to student members annually.
- Advocacy and Representation**
  - Be part of a national network with common goals, exchange ideas, information and experiences.
  - Be represented in industry dealings with government agencies and community organisations.
  - Nominate for branch and national executive positions.

**Australian HEALTH PROMOTION Association**  
South Australian Branch

## ***Effective advocacy for health promotion issues***

The Association has, via the Board, branches, members and partners, participated in a range of advocacy activities throughout 2015. These have included:

- Attendance at Senate Economics References Committee - Inquiry into personal choice and community impacts
- Participation in National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions - National Targeted Consultation – Perth
- Participation in stakeholder consultation for Post Implementation Review of Tobacco Plain Packaging
- Submission to Senate Economics References Committee - Inquiry into personal choice and community impacts
- Submission to Senate Standing Committee on Health to Inquiry into Chronic Disease Prevention & Management
- Submission to Consultation for Australian National Diabetes Strategy 2016-2020
- Media statement regarding the Lancet Commission on Health and Climate 2015
- Media statement - Post Budget 2015
- Letter to Minister for Trade and Investment regarding investment chapter of the TPPA along with various advocacy activities
- Letter to Minister for Health asking Vic Government to reconsider withdrawing funding from the Centre for Alcohol and Policy Research
- Letter to Minister for Health regarding Healthy Together Victoria with Vic Branch
- Signatory to response to Australian Association of Advertising Agencies call for submissions on their document about gambling
- Signatory to letter to First Ministers to urgently develop and agree on a fully funded National Mental Health Agreement
- Signatory to a Chronic Disease Preventive Action for Australia: Statement of Commitment
- Signatory to Open Letter to Parliamentarians on Emissions Reduction Targets
- Submission to Review of the Commercial Television Industry Code of Practice
- Signatory to letter to Commonwealth Government regarding dental programs
- Signatory to letter regarding health and wellbeing of Aboriginal peoples and communities
- Supported AHPA Qld response to Qld Health Promotion Commission Inquiry
- Participation in range of activities related to the People's Climate March and to Climate and Health
- Development of "Healthy Voting" advocacy across a number of branches (particularly QLD & Vic) in lead up to state elections

## ***Strong & responsive professional organisation***

The annual board face to face meeting with was held in November in Brisbane. There was robust and productive discussion on key issues and opportunities for AHPA for the next year. Our attention was focused on progressing the regulatory model for the health promotion workforce, reflecting on business model options and membership along with forward planning for advocacy for the coming year which is an opportunity for members to become more involved in the work of AHPA. We have also identified a range of governance activities for 2016 including completion of a governance timeline and planner, a range of new policies and risk register for association activities.

## ***Operations and Change to Membership Fees***

As you know, AHPA operates as a very lean organisation. We receive no government funding for our central functions, relying in the main on volunteers to operationalise our strategic vision. Some of you may be aware that the Commonwealth recently released a call for applications for Department of Health, Health Peak and Advisory Bodies Programme funding. We submitted an application for activities including our conference, scholarships, other professional development, website and a range of policy activities, however were unsuccessful on this occasion. This means that our membership continues to be extremely important in order for us to undertake our work.

In 2015 a review of the AHPA Membership Fees for individual and corporate members was undertaken. A desktop review of other similar associations was completed, together with an examination of fees income, membership numbers and profiles 2011-2015. A paper was presented to the AHPA Board and a Special AGM called in September to amend the constitution regarding the fee structure and payment schedule.

## **LOCK IN 2015 PRICES**

In 2016 the fee structure will be updated and the fees for individuals slightly increased (after a number of years without any increases). We will also offer a discount on buying a two year individual membership. **In 2016, as a one off special offer to celebrate 30 years of the Ottawa Charter we will be offering an Individual membership at a special rate of "two years at the 2015 price, locking in \$380 for 2 years".**

## **Thankyou**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board for their tireless work in steering AHPA. Without this team of enthusiastic, dedicated people, we would not have an association to represent the voice of health promotion-so to you all, my heartfelt gratitude.

My thanks go as well to our Board committees, Branch committees, HPJA Editorial team and Editorial Board, the staff at NFPAS, to our funders and partners and to our committed members.

We look forward to seeing what the year ahead holds and to working with you to achieve our vision of leadership in health promotion.

Gemma Crawford  
President

Australian Health  
Promotion  
Association