



BOARD MEETING WRAP

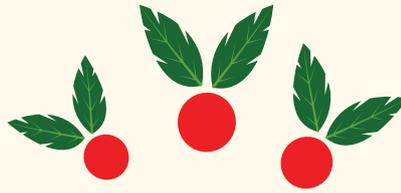
Werte!

The following topics were discussed at the last Congress Board of Director's Meeting held 28 November 2018:

- Larapinta Clinic Renovation
- Board Performance Review
- NACCHO Members Conference and AGM
- AMSANT Members Conference and AGM
- Finance Risk and Audit Subcommittee Report
 - » Risk & Compliance Report
- Research Subcommittee Report
- Clinics Subcommittee Report
- Male Health Subcommittee Report
- Governance Subcommittee Report
- CEO's Report to the Board
 - » National Primary Healthcare Network (PHN) conference
 - » National workshop on the development of a CQI framework for alcohol and other drug services
 - » Funding Model Advisory Committee Meeting
 - » Literacy for Life meeting with Ltyentye Apurte, Ampilatwatja and Utopia.

Plus AGM Wrap Up

The next Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Board meeting is on 28 February 2019



Larapinta Clinic Renovation

The Board has approved plans to expand the Larapinta Clinic. The expansion into the space next door is set to add three consultation rooms and a meeting room to the busy clinic. Larapinta Clinic has been providing care for people living in and around the Larapinta area since its opening in August 2016. We look forward to seeing and keeping you informed about the progress.

Board Performance Review

The Board has recently gone through the process of a performance review. This is something that the Congress Board has elected to undertake to ensure that its impact and the performance of individual board members is optimal and serves the organisation well.

Feedback was positive and reflective of a well-performing team; however, the directors are committed to making continued improvements to ensure engagement and connection with the community is prioritised.

NACCHO Members Conference and AGM

The NACCHO Members Conference and AGM was held in Brisbane between 30 October and 2 November 2018.

The outgoing NACCHO chair opened the conference and spoke strongly about the key role that Aboriginal community controlled health services play in improving Aboriginal health.

The conference included lots of great speakers and reports, including one on the Ochre Day conference that took place in Hobart—including discussion about the statement about domestic violence.

A Canadian surgeon gave a presentation about the commonalities between the issues faced in her country and those we experience here in Australia. Her talk inspired us to not just close the gap but to strive to go beyond it.

Attendees heard about MyHealthRecord, confidentiality and the extended opt out period. The deputy CEO of the National Disability Insurance Agency spoke about working with Aboriginal health services and acknowledged that mainstream systems haven't worked in remote Aboriginal communities. There were presentations on rheumatic heart disease and the need to address overcrowding, housing for health and a very important session on the way connection to land and culture has a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people.

NACCHO will be chaired by the current deputy chair in the interim, until a new chairperson is appointed.



AMSANT Members Conference and AGM

The AMSANT meeting and AGM was held in Darwin on 8–9 November 2018.

Congress CEO, Donna AH Chee stood down from her position as AMSANT chair, with Barbara Shaw (Anyinginyi Health) elected in her place. Donna was thanked whole-heartedly for her work as chair, and will now continue on, along with Olga Havnen (Danila Dilba CEO), as the AMSANT representatives to the NACCHO board.

A number of important matters were discussed, including a progress report on the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children; policing in remote communities; remote Aboriginal housing; and the very successful campaign on the community development program (CDP) led by AMSANT through APONT. Successful lobbying was conducted with cross bench senators and others in Canberra.

Finance Risk and Audit Subcommittee Report

The Board noted the report of the Finance, Risk and Audit Subcommittee, which met on 21 November 2018.

Risk & Compliance Report

Congress recently underwent recertification under the ISO 9001/2015 Quality Management System. This standard is important as it helps us manage quality across the organisation, including things like the way we manage risk, the policies and procedures we put in place and how we deliver consistent and quality services. We can happily report that this went well, and we were successful in our recertification.

Research Subcommittee Report

The Board noted the report of Research Subcommittee, which met on 23 November 2018.

The Congress Research Strategy 2019–2023 was presented to the Board and after review, was approved. This document outlines the goals and purpose of the Research section of Congress, informing future projects and plans for the next five years.

The Board unanimously approved Congress' participation in the National Indigenous Bowel Screening Pilot. This is important to our community because of the prevalence of this type of illness in Aboriginal people. Congress looks forward to facilitating access to self-screening through our clinics.

Clinics Subcommittee Report

The Board noted the report of the Clinics Subcommittee, which met on 23 November 2018.

The directors received an update on the Child and Youth Assessment and Treatment Service. This service is now operating with a full team that includes a team leader, two neuropsychologists and a speech pathologist, enabling diagnoses and the interventions and referrals that follow. Partnership with the Alice Springs Hospital paediatrician enables the prescription of medication when this type of intervention is required. In addition, the service (through funding from Territory Families) is working with young people at the Alice Springs Youth Detention Centre to ensure that neuropsychological diagnosis and intervention is available to them. Congress continues also to develop partnerships that work to address the social determinants precipitating these health issues, such as housing and environmental health.

Male Health Subcommittee Report

The Board noted the report of the Male Health Subcommittee, which met on 23 November 2018.

Ingkintja is looking forward to three male GP registrars commencing at the clinic next year, which will be a great boost to services and will enable more men to access health checks and other important treatment and referrals at the male only site.

Minor works will be conducted at the site next year as well, with the addition of a wheelchair ramp to improve access to the service for all and to comply with disability accessibility standards.

Governance Subcommittee Report

The Board noted the report of the Governance subcommittee, which met on 13 November 2018.

Leanne Milligan has been reappointed to her role as Independent Director—Finance, which is due to expire early next year. Leanne's commitment and contribution to Congress was noted, and her continuation in the role is welcomed and appreciated.

CEO's Report to the Board

The Congress Board noted the CEO's Report which included an update on the following key matters:

Congress Medical Director presents at National Primary Healthcare Network (PHN) conference

Congress Medical Director, Dr Sam Heard was asked to give a keynote presentation at the PHN national conference on the way that Congress is dealing with the syphilis outbreak. The presentation outlined the impressive work that Congress is doing in the screening and treatment of STIs, especially amongst women who are pregnant. This excellent work—along with the work of other services in the Territory—has prevented any foetal deaths as a result of syphilis form occurring in the NT, which is sadly not the case in Far north Queensland. Federal Minister for Aboriginal Health, the Hon. Ken Wyatt also presented at the event, and expressed how impressed he is with what Congress has achieved in this area.

National workshop on the development of a CQI framework for alcohol and other drug services 31 October (Sydney)

Congress Chief Medical Officer Public Health, Dr John Boffa was asked to attend this meeting on behalf of AMSANT. It was the first meeting in a process that will lead to the establishment of the first ever national CQI framework for alcohol and other drug services, which will be followed with at least two opportunities for public consultation on draft versions of the framework.

A major focus of the meeting was in establishing exactly what the best practice service model is, the key workforce requirement and the type of performance indicators that would indicate quality care and outcomes. The Congress and AMSANT



THE CONGRESS BOARD
WOULD LIKE TO WISH
ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

*A very happy
and safe
Christmas and
New Year*

We look forward to 2019 as another
progressive year in improving
the health and wellbeing
of the people in our community



Top right:
Takudzwa and his mum Egifa

Right:
Santa with Cruz, Takudzwa,
Ruby, Amon and Kyrone

Photos taken with permission at the
recent Congress Ampe Kenhe Apmere
Childcare Centre Christmas party



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Featured artwork: Gwen Gillen, *Land & River*,
My Home Place acrylic on linen, 300 x 905 mm,
2016 Courtesy Tangentyere Artists

service model was advocated for. Key features of this are the three streams of care approach, along with absolute recognition of integration of alcohol and other drug treatment as part of primary health care and not only as stand-alone, dedicated services.

Funding Model Advisory Committee Meeting

NACCHO is taking a strong stance about the development of the funding model for Aboriginal community controlled health services (ACCHS), threatening to withdraw from the process unless the government agrees to a number of items, including that CPI and population growth funding increases are passed along, and that all services are offered five-year funding agreements.

The ALP has made it clear that if they are elected next, the current funding model will be scrapped, and that they will work in partnership with the sector to develop a genuine needs-based model and system for funding ACCHS.

Literacy for Life meeting with Ltyentye Apurte, Ampilatwatja and Utopia

Congress CEO, Donna Ah Chee was asked to facilitate an initial meeting with Aboriginal leaders from the health services at Ltyentye Apurte, Ampilatwatja and Utopia. The meeting went extremely well with all communities very keen to participate in the project. Initial finding for the program will be directed to Ltyentye Apurte, with evaluation of this being used to support the rollout to Ampilatwatja and Utopia.

AGM Wrap Up

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 29 November 2018 and well attended by members with a quorum achieved. The Chairperson, William Tilmouth and CEO, Donna Ah Chee gave inspiring speeches on the achievements of Congress and the Board over the last financial year (2017–18).

Resolutions passed by the members at the AGM included the acceptance of the

Congress Annual Report 2017–2018, including finance, auditor's and director's reports. A new external auditor, BDO was approved by the members and appointed. Mark Anders of RSM Australia, the outgoing auditor reflected on the significant improvements he had observed at Congress over the last five years.

Current directors, William Tilmouth and Sheralee Taylor were re-appointed for three years with Joseph Hayes re-appointed for one year. Michael Liddle was welcomed as a new director and appointed for three years. Congratulations to these directors on their appointments.

Continuing member directors are Graham Dowling, Marion Swift and independent directors—Leanne Milligan and Dr Peter O'Mara.

Congress members also passed a special resolution accepting amendments to the Rule Book. Other director benefits, including a new maximum director's fee cap following an independent review of director fees carried out during 2018, were approved.

The new Strategic Plan 2019–2023 was presented to the members and accepted.

The Board thanked all members for attending the AGM and looks forward to continuing the great successes Congress has achieved to date.

Proof of Aboriginality applications

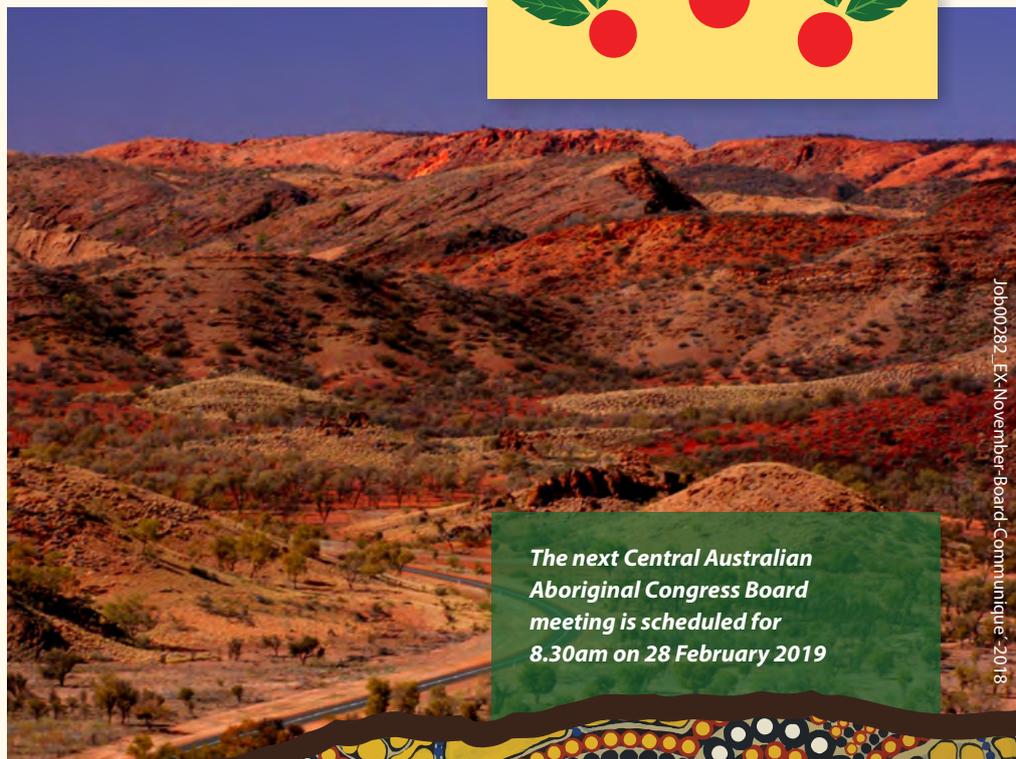
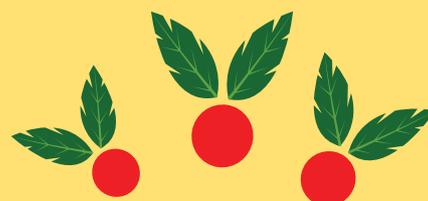
Please be reminded that requests for proof of Aboriginality are only able to be assessed by the Congress Board of Directors at our scheduled Board meetings.

Update your details

It is important that we have the right details recorded in our membership register so that we can contact you the right way, and for accountability. These are separate to your clinical records at Congress. Because your privacy is important to us, we never access your medical records for membership business.

You can help us make sure your details are up to date by emailing membership@caac.org.au or calling **Congress' Membership Officer** on 8951 0904.

Remind your friends and family too!



The next Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Board meeting is scheduled for 8.30am on 28 February 2019