

CPAC Council Communique

Meeting 30 March 2016

CPAC Council held its first meeting of 2016 on 30 March. Twenty one Council members participated in enthusiastic discussions on a wide range of policy and advocacy topics, including how to increase member engagement in College policy and advocacy activities, and current and emerging health issues the College will be developing positions on and advocating for over the remainder of 2016.

A summary of the day and of the decisions made are outlined below.

- Kate More, Director Fellow Relations, presented to the Council on Member Satisfaction and Member Engagement in the College.

The Council noted that State Committees are important forums for College policy and advocacy with strong jurisdictional networks and spheres of influence.

- CPAC Council discussed the need for more open mechanisms for member engagement in College policy and advocacy activities and piloting new approaches that will allow greater discussion and debate amongst a diverse membership prior to the release of a College position statement.

The importance of supporting advocacy for College policy positions was discussed and considered a priority that needed to be recognised in the planning process.

- Julie Gustavs, Manager, Education Development, Research and Evaluation, presented to the Council on an initiative looking to prepare for the changes due to take place over the next few years in physician education.

The Council endorsed the establishment of the *Next Generation Physician Advocacy Working Group* to develop an advocacy strategy and provide jurisdictionally appropriate leadership and advocacy to support the College's education reforms.

- A number of operational matters were discussed, including the need for a College-wide Endorsement Policy to establish a formal transparent and effective process to appropriately review and respond to external body requests for endorsement, as well as refinements to CPAC Working Party establishment processes, which included the publication of Working Party members' names, after permission is given, on the College website.
- The membership of the CPAC Euthanasia and Physician Assisted Death Working Party was appointed, and the Integrated Care Working Party had its term extended for a further 6 months until December 2016, to allow the group to develop a College Position Statement on Integrated Care. The Council members also agreed to the establishment of a new Working Party in Biosimilars, once the active Climate Change and Health Working Party closes mid-year.

- A pre-election statement will be developed which will highlight the College's key policy priorities and calls on any new Government to adopt College recommendations in these areas.
- The New Zealand Committee continues to lead on obesity advocacy, with input from CPAC and other College bodies, particularly paediatricians, public health physicians and the Maori Health Committees.
- Policy development and advocacy activities will continue on established priorities of specialist access for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, end of life care, the National Disability Insurance Scheme, integrated care, climate change, alcohol policy, refugee and asylum seeker health, medicinal cannabis and digital health.
- As a closing summary CPAC Council acknowledged the last two years of CPAC's achievements and the leadership of Catherine Yelland as CPAC Chair, noting this would be her last Council meeting before her transition to College President.