



ANNUAL REPORT

2020 – 2021

SECRETARY **BUSINESS**
TREASURERS
COUNCIL APOLOGIES
CORRESPONDENCE
DATE
NEXT GENERAL **Moved** CLOSED
STILL MEMBERSHIPS WORK
VICTORIA **ACTION**
CARRIED
INFORMATION VIA ATTENDANCE
SECONDED PROGRESS EXECUTIVE
ELECTION COMMITTEE **ARISING**
ASAP CHAIRPERSON ZOOM
MINUTES PRESIDENTS
MEETING REPORT
CANCER

Cancer Action Victoria would like to acknowledge that we come together on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulim Nation. Cancer Action Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land and waters throughout Victoria and pays respect to them, their culture, and their Elders past, present and emerging.

Cancer Action Victoria Inc.
PO Box 228, Geelong 3220
admin@canceractionvic.org.au
ABN 84971507717
REG No. A0049010V



About Cancer Action Victoria:

Purpose

Cancer Action Victoria advocates for Quality Care. We identify issues that are important to Victorians affected by Cancer and Advocate for Action to address them.

Our Goals for 2018 – 2021

- Goal 1 To identify and plan ways in which Cancer Action Victoria (CAV) can partner successfully with key stakeholders moving forward.
- Goal 2 To establish strategies to cross-collaboratively empower and encourage further active Consumer involvement.
- Goal 3 To agree and define clear communication and marketing messaging encompassing shared goals of CAV and key stakeholders.

Committee 2019-2020

- President:** Mrs Marilyn Dolling
- Vice President:** Jim Cormack
- Treasurer:** Mrs Sandra Anderson
- Secretary:** Marie Crow
- General Committee:** Mrs Gayle Newbury
Mrs Denise Horsey
Natalia Dewiyani
Ian Dennis

In these pandemic times, our healthcare professionals are working in the most difficult situations for months. The least we can do is send a thank you message to healthcare workers along with Doctor’s, Cleaners, Allied Health etc. Let us share our thank you messages and wishes for coronavirus warriors, heroes, healthcare workers & doctors to make them feel special for all the good they are doing to the society.

Coronavirus messages of thanks can fill their hearts with happiness and by doing this for healthcare workers we are also performing a way to salute them all.

This pandemic has certainly taught us some important lessons. Spend time with the people you love. Spend time doing the things that bring you joy. Be proud of what you have achieved over the past 12 months. Be proud of who you are and what you have learned and achieved.

Sandra Anderson - Treasurer



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CANCER ACTION VICTORIA

Tuesday, 16th November 2021
Via ZOOM

Our AGM is a time to celebrate and reflect on the achievements over the past 12 months and look forward to the year ahead. It is an opportunity to network and meet with other members

AGENDA

- Acknowledgement of Country
- Welcome
- Apologies
- Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2020 AGM
- President's Report 2020-2021
- Treasurer's Report 2020-2021
- Appointment of Auditor for 2021-2022
- Election of Committee for 2021-2022
- Declaration of the result of the Committee election
- Guest Speakers:
- Close of the meeting
- Stay Safe

PO Box 228, Geelong 3220
admin@canceractionvic.org.au
ABN 84971507717
Registration No. A0049010V

MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CANCER ACTION VICTORIA

Tuesday, 23rd February 2021

At THE CANCER COUNCIL VICTORIA 615 St Kilda Road, Melbourne at 4pm

1. **OPENING AND WELCOME:** We would like to acknowledge that we come together on the traditional lands. Cancer Action Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land and waters throughout Victoria and pays respect to them, their culture, and their Elders past, present and emerging.
2. Marilyn Thanked everyone that has helped her over the past 12 months.
Present: Marilyn Dolling, Sandra Anderson, Gayle Newbury,
Ian Dennis, Denise Horsey, Jim Cormack,
Kerri Easton, Judy Margolis (Mestastatic Breast Cancer Support Group),
Alice Bastable (Engagement Lead Strategy & Support Division, Cancer Council),
Katya Gray (WEHI Consumer Co-Ordinator for the Buddy Program).
Joanne Britto (Manager, Consumer Involvement at the Victorian CCC).
3. **Apologies:** Maurice Anderson, Margaret Watts, Marie Craw, Mei Krishnasamy (Melbourne University), Professor John Zalberg (Monash university), Stacey Baltetsch, Ashley Baltetsch, Dawn & Robert Quarrell, Irene Moravski, Irene Harrigan, Susan Hanson (Cancer Australia), Prof John Zalberg (Monash University), Kathy Wells (BCNC), Rosemary Bambury, Melissa Shand, Anna Mascitti (NEMICS), Stacey Bond (PHN Gippsland), Angela Verde.
“That the Apologies be accepted”. Carried
4. **Confirmation of the Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting 18th February 2020.
Moved: Ian Dennis **Sec:** Kerri Easton.
“That the previous Annual General Minutes 18th February 2020 be accepted”. Carried
5. **Presidents Report:** Marilyn Dolling As written.
Moved: Denise Horsey. **Sec:** Ian Dennis.
“That the President’s report be accepted”. Carried
6. **Receipt of the Financial Statement for the Financial Year**
Moved: Sandra Anderson **Sec:** Ian Dennis.
“That the Financial Report for 1st July 2019 to 30th June 2020 be accepted”. Carried
7. **Nomination of Auditor for 2020/2021**
Moved: Sandra Anderson **Sec:** Ian Dennis.
“That Mann, Smith & Associates be accepted as Auditor for 2020/2021” Carried.

CANCER ACTION VICTORIA ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

WHO ARE WE?

Cancer Action Victoria (CAV) is a State-wide key advocacy body that strives to represent, and advocate on behalf of Victorians affected by cancer. It is a committed volunteer, consumer led non-government organisation with a management committee and membership which includes those living with cancer, cancer survivors, families and associated health professionals.

AIMS:

- To advocate - working and speaking on behalf of other people.
- To work in partnership with individuals and organisations to ensure the voice of people living with cancer is heard in policies and programs for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, survival and research of cancer.
- To listen, care, influence and advocate, using our lived experience to ensure people affected by cancer are represented.

CAV members are represented on key advisory groups; government steering committees; research projects and education and training initiatives. CAV work hard to be a strategic partner to government; research facilities and have contributed into senate inquiries on key cancer areas.

Key areas of influence include consumer advocacy training; Consumer information, education, and health literacy; Involvement in and supporting research opportunities; Surveys, focus groups and feedback.

CAV works closely with the Department of Human Services, Cancer Council Victoria, and with the Victorian Integrated Cancer Services (VICS) that form the Victorian Cancer Clinical Network, a cluster of Hospitals and associated health services that deliver services to people with all types of cancers within their region. We also work alongside other cancer organisations including Victorian Survivorship Centre and WEHI

PRESIDENTS REPORT

It is with pleasure that I present to you my report for the last twelve months in CAV. In the midst of the global Coronavirus pandemic, we have all been in uncharted waters.

- In Victoria, everyone has been challenged by the devastating changes to normal life brought about by COVID. The sudden, long lockdowns, fears, restrictions, testing and vaccinations have made a huge change to what used to be 'normal lives. Evidence showed that COVID-19's effect on cancer patients has been a key concern to the cancer community with delayed or decreased diagnosis, tests and treatment. For our cancer patients, their families and carers, this variable and rapidly changing landscape meant huge changes on the physical presence and

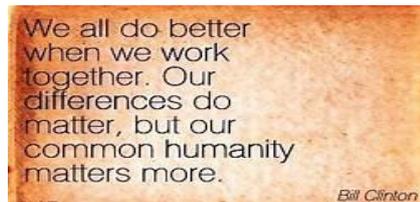
support able to be given during their cancer journey, many found it extremely hard to be left at treatment centres, hospital wards, homes where individuals were living alone, without their loved ones being able to accompany them. Many also faced extra challenges when they viewed and made treatment decisions. Mental health issues also increased, both in patient and carer. Cancer Australia is working with the cancer community and the Australian Government Department of Health and have developed timely information about COVID-19 vaccines and care guidelines for people affected by cancer. CAV has been able to post these on our social media sites to keep our contacts updated.



ACHIEVEMENTS

- One big event that took place was the launch of the OlderCAN resource. This exciting event was reported through the Media with articles in Geelong Advertiser, Herald Sun and The Senior Newspaper. At present a request for another grant in being processed to enable this resource to be put in place
- Sandra and I attended the PC4 Symposium by Zoom. This was a full day with many wonderful speakers...focus was on the OCPS and how they are being developed and successfully being implemented across the Nation. PC4 also have a great series of Podcast where Dr Kristi Milley interviews leaders in cancer primary care
- Ongoing involvement and reviews with Victorian Cancer Survivorship Centre.
- Participation on the VIC-COL Steering Committee with Monash Partners; Vic State Government, Western Alliance & other Stakeholders as the research into use of Colonoscopies as a <low-value elective procedure
- Free webinar about COVID-19 vaccination and how to have conversations about it in your community
Dr. Jess Kaufman, vaccine uptake expert from the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, talked about a better understanding. Of the COVID-19 vaccines and build confidence in discussing COVID-19 vaccines with people in your community. Webinar included an overview of how the COVID-19 vaccines work; the latest safety and effectiveness data; strategies for discussing the vaccines with people
- Our FB page continues to bring active communication between consumers and many different cancer organisations. The opportunity to respond to consumer questions and support the different cancer streams has been very worthwhile. Thanks to Natalia and Jim for their continued active involvement with this. Mental health issues aggravated by COVID continues to need support and attention.
- Representation by Committee members on Committees and projects including Melbourne University; Peter Mac; WEHI, Monash Partners; Western Alliance, Primary Health Networks -PHN; VICS and Cancer Council

- We have been able to respond to many of the requests sent for assistance but see a need for a bigger team to help with the load our small committee are dealing with at present



HIGHLIGHT

Early in 2021 Committee member Denise Horsey raised a question regarding Sun safety in schools, especially for children who had cancer as well those who had previous treatment. On investigation, this proved to be a hole in the system as far as education and brochures. Denise and our Vice President Jim Cormack (who is a Melanoma survivor) took up the challenge to head this project.

This project was very timely and after Jim submitted the project details to Cancer Council within a very short time, we received notice from Amanda Piper who appreciated the work and was able to give a rapid reply that "it had been passed onto the SunSmart team and they agree that this information could be included more prominently. They will update their SunSmart Schools and Early Childhood Membership policy templates and website accordingly." A heartfelt thankyou to Jim and Denise on their prompt action and access for us in this project!



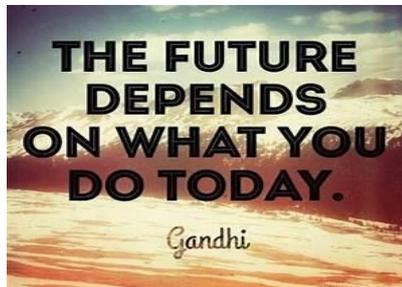
CHALLENGES

Many of our Committee have been personally challenged over this period with our own medical challenges and family bereavements. COVID restrictions have meant that we have been unable to meet face to face, so our meetings were held on Zoom. We also changed the frequency from monthly meetings to bi-monthly as our needs were different due to restrictions.

On two occasions we have been the victims of cyber attacks

- Our webpage contact email was attacked and we were receiving up to 100 emails from WordPress every minute. Our Web manager was contacted but this gave ongoing problems for some time. Frustratingly for those receiving the emails it swallowed up and affected our own personal emails. This was a major problem at a time when we were dependant on our emails for most of our day-to-day activities. Our webpage is in need of a high priority review.
- The second was also connected with our website donations section where Stripe was the company generating a major problem. Sandra as our Treasurer took the brunt of the time consumed trying to get this sorted out. Thank you, Sandra, for your diligence and persistence in handling this!

- During the year Esther approached us asking to be released from the committee due to change of work priorities. We give sincere thanks to her for her short time on CAV Committee and wish her the best in her new work,
- We also give our ongoing support and love to Marie who has been in the background due to family and work commitments.



FUTURE NEEDS

As we go ahead in a world completely different and uncertain as a result of COVID, we once again address the need to reassess the needs of the people we are advocating for and will be making a new Strategic Plan.

CAV are also currently in the process of rebuilding our Governance Committee.

We are looking for people with:

- A lived experience with Cancer - as patient, carer, or close association.
- A genuine interest and passion for making a difference in the lives of those affected by cancer.
- Diverse skills and experience to enable us to maximise our service in advocating for supporting and educating those affected by cancer.
- Good communication skills and strong team ethics.
- Commitment and compassion.
- Involvement with one of the Integrated Cancer Services would be a bonus!

I wish to thank Sandra for her outstanding and capable work as Treasurer...you are greatly valued. Jim for his support and wisdom as Vice President, you too have made a very valuable contribution to our team and a huge thanks to our other team members who despite their own challenges this year have supported, giving time, knowledge, and many different contributions to our work in Cancer Action Victoria.



Marilyn Dolling



Supporting people affected by cancer during COVID-19

Consistent and equitable access to supportive care for people affected by cancer is a long-standing issue. Not surprisingly, this has been compounded by the pandemic.

Throughout COVID-19, Cancer Council Victoria has heard from clinicians about the challenges faced by the primary and acute sectors and the pressures placed on resourcing that have resulted in the de-prioritisation of supportive care screening, assessment, and referral.

This has been reflected in an increase in the number and complexity of enquiries to our 13 11 20 cancer information and support line. In 2020, we had more than 9,400 calls and emails from people affected by cancer, and this year we expect to exceed this number. During the extensive lockdown in 2020, we saw an average increase from 180 to 220 calls per week, with approximately half identifying COVID-19 as the primary reason for their call.

Average call length increased due to the complexity of calls, and we reported a higher level of distress, with 80% describing it as moderate to severe. Not surprisingly, we've reported a 20% increase in referrals into our specialist psycho-oncology counselling service, year on year.

Like other organisations, Cancer Council Victoria closed its offices early in 2020 and had to quickly change the way we delivered cancer support. Our priority was to keep our 13 11 20 support line operating, so we diverted calls to our nurses working from home. We also set up a postal wig service, emphasised our online and telephone-based peer support services and upskilled our cancer support group leaders to continue connections via video.

With frontline healthcare services overwhelmed, we were able to support the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre by directing non urgent treatment inquiries through to 13 11 20. We joined the Victorian COVID-19 Cancer Taskforce, which was established to support oncology clinicians and streamline communications and were able to champion the patient voice to inform changes to delivery of care.

Data from the Victorian Cancer Registry revealed that approximately 2,500 cancers may have gone undiagnosed in Victoria over just six and a half months during the COVID-19 pandemic last year. To encourage people to get symptoms checked and continue cancer screening, we launched a public awareness campaign called 'Don't Delay'.

This year, vaccine hesitancy was particularly concerning amongst people with cancer, given evidence showed that those who contracted COVID-19 were twice as likely to have severe symptoms and require hospital treatment. A survey we conducted with more than 1,500 Australians diagnosed with cancer provided valuable insights into their concerns and the barriers they encountered and led to our second campaign 'Get Factsinated' to encourage people to 'contact us on 13 11 20 for all things cancer and COVID'.

As healthcare continues to evolve in a post-pandemic world, there is an opportunity to look at the way cancer care is delivered to deliver equitable access to care for all Victorians. As restrictions ease, Cancer Council will continue to provide information and support to Victorians affected by cancer.

For further information please contact Amanda Piper, Head of Cancer Strategy, Cancer Council Victoria at Amanda.Piper@cancervic.org.au.

MANN, SMITH & ASSOCIATES

CPA

Public Accountants - Registered Tax Agents

Reg. Tax Agent Number 76229006

**CANCER ACTION VICTORIA Inc.
Independent Audit Report to Members**

To the Members of Cancer Action Victoria Incorporated

Scope

We have reviewed the financial report of Cancer Action Victoria Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2021. The Cancer Action Victoria Incorporated Committee is responsible for the financial report. We have conducted an independent review of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of Cancer Action Victoria Incorporated

Our review has been conducted to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our procedures include examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with professional reporting requirements in Australia and the Association Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

The review opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Review Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of the Cancer Action Victoria Incorporated is in accordance with:

the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and gives a true and fair view of the Cancer Action Victoria Incorporated financial position as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date.

Signed this day 26th day of August 2021



**Richard Sykes CPA
Mann, Smith & Associates**

3 Harrier Lane, Lara 3212
PO Box 247, Lara, Victoria, Australia 3212

Telephone (+61 3) 5282 5805
Facsimile (+61 3) 5282 5798

CANCER ACTION VICTORIA INC

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2021

	<u>2020</u>	
INCOME		
DHS Grants		
Interest - Bank	4,723.87	14,893.64
GST Refunds	353.00	159.00
Sundry		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,076.87	15,052.64
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Postage	25.90	
Sundry		-40.90
Printing & Stationery	88.00	
Petty Cash		150.80
Audit Fees	297.00	297.00
Post Box	201.00	201.00
Insurance - Directors	1,787.00	1,803.00
Meeting - AGM	166.90	130.00
Website	1,430.00	1,320.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,995.80	3,860.90
<u>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</u>	<u>1,081.07</u>	<u>11,191.74</u>

CANCER ACTION VICTORIA INC

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th JUNE 2021

MEMBERS FUNDS		\$	2020
Balance as at 1st July 2020	424,067.50		412,875.76
<u>Add Net Surplus/(Deficit) 2020/21</u>	<u>1,081.07</u>		<u>11,191.74</u>
	425,148.57		424,067.50
<u>Add Prior Period Adjustment</u>	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
<u>Balance as at 30th June 2021</u>		<u>425,148.57</u>	<u>424,067.50</u>

Represented by

ASSETS

Cash At Bank	8,432.91		10,100.99
Term Deposits			
Account 162487516	53,041.22		52,022.26
Account 162487474	50,579.45		50,579.45
Account 162487441	100,000.00		100,000.00
Account 162487433	<u>213,094.99</u>		<u>211,364.80</u>
	416,715.66		413,966.51
Sundry Debtor - ATO	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		<u>425,148.57</u>	<u>424,067.50</u>