

## **Australia Fund Coordinators Meeting**

**Held in Adelaide, South Australia 16<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**Present:** Australia Fund Committee, nominated association Australia Fund representatives and observers.

### **Agenda Item 1. Opening**

Australia Fund Chairperson Gerry Barry opened the meeting at 11.30am and welcomed all association representatives and observers. A role call as per the delegates to the Annual General Meeting was accepted and the agenda for the meeting was confirmed.

Gerry noted the following Australia Fund Coordinator changes:

**Wide Bay Ostomates Association Inc:** David Patterson

**Western Australian Ostomy Association Inc:** Craig Walton

### **Agenda Item 2. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the Gold Coast during October, 2014 and previously circulated were confirmed.

*A resolution to accept the minutes as a true record was approved and carried*

### **Agenda Item 3. Business Arising**

There was no business arising from the previous minutes

### **Agenda Item 4. Correspondence**

Correspondence was limited to emails and requests for assistance.

### **Agenda Item 5. Reports**

#### **a) Annual Report**

Chairperson Gerry Barry presented his written annual report which included a summary of activities of the fund over the past 12 months.

*A resolution to accept the annual report was approved and carried*

#### **b) Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's report and the financial reports for the Australia Fund for the period 1/7/2014 to 30/6/2015 had been presented during the 2015 ACSA Annual General Meeting.

*A resolution to accept the Treasurers report was approved and carried*

Treasurer Peter Lopez informed that an amount of \$10,000 had earlier been transferred to the accounts of the Australia Fund to assist cash flow. The Treasurer asked that this decision by the executive be ratified retrospectively.

*A resolution to approve the transfer of \$10,000 to the accounts of the Australia Fund was approved and carried.*

It was agreed that further discussion regarding the ongoing financial needs of the Australia Fund should be carried over to the ACSA General Meeting.

**c) National Relief Coordinator**

National Relief Coordinator, Sharleen Condon, submitted a written report.

*A resolution to accept the National Relief Coordinators report was approved and carried*

**Agenda Item 6. General Business**

**a) Update of activities including new and proposed overseas destinations**

Chairperson Gerry Barry asked that delegates, observers and coordinators refer to his written report for information about the current activities of the fund.

**b) Discuss the effectiveness of the current programs**

Chairperson Gerry Barry summarised the major programs being carried out by the Australia Fund and informed that all are operating quite effectively.

**c) Discuss the availability of more Australian Coordinators to take over support for particular overseas destinations.**

Chairperson Gerry Barry raised that a request to support 6 x ostomates in Kitui, Kenya has been received and will temporarily be managed by Queensland Stoma Association Inc. He asked that those associations not yet managing an Australia Fund project consider accepting responsibility for this project on an ongoing basis.

**d) Sustainability of our support**

Chairperson Gerry Barry discussed that, in an effort to improve the sustainability of the fund and to ensure that support to fund recipients can be continued, procedures for issuing donated product through the Australia Fund have developed over the years to the extent that product choice is now driven by specific need. Gerry stated that this method appears to be the best mechanism for managing Australia Fund resources effectively and efficiently.

**e) Consider how the Australia Fund can expand and fund assistance programs to help overseas ostomates form and manage their own ostomy associations**

It was raised that expenditure of the funds held in provision by ACSA for STN training in the ASPOA region had been minimal. Chairperson Gerry Barry asked that Council consider expanding the purpose of funds held in provision for STN Training in the ASPOA region to include funding assistance for the development of ostomy associations in ASPOA and other developing countries.

It was agreed that further discussion concerning this matter will be held over to the ACSA General Meeting.

**f) Matters raised by associations coordinators**

Ray Hoy (Warrnambool) asked that Australia Fund correspondence requesting product assistance be more specific in terms of product dispatch destination information. Gerry clarified that the intent behind initial contact with associations was to gauge the availability of product and that destination information would be provided once the National Relief Coordinator instructed that held product be sent.

Geoff Rhodes informed that the latest parcel sent to Mongolia is now missing between China and Mongolia. Geoff confirmed that he is working with Australia Post in an effort to trace its whereabouts. Gerry asked that Geoff forward to him the details of the Australia Post tracking contact for inclusion in the Australia Fund Policies and Procedures manual.

**Agenda Item 7 Other Business**

**a) Discuss whether the Australia Fund can provide greater assistance to help with independent support programs conducted by associations.**

It was agreed to defer discussion of this agenda item at this stage.

**b) Any other matters arising**

i) Appointment of Administration Coordinator:

It was discussed that the increasing workload of the fund has necessitated the appointment to fill the vacant position of Australia Fund Administration Coordinator. It was agreed that the role of the administration coordinator will be to ensure that all paperwork is in order before referral to the National Coordinator and to take responsibility for all aspects of support for funding assistance for the development of overseas ostomy associations.

A nomination for the role of Administration Coordinator was received from Norm Kelly.

*A resolution to accept the nomination was approved and carried.*

**Agenda Item 8 Place and date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting of coordinators would be held at the ACSA Conference in Canberra, ACT in October 2016 at a time to be confirmed. The Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 12pm.

Confirmed:

Gerry Barry  
**Chairperson**