

**CHIROPRACTORS REGISTRATION BOARD**

**OF**

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**30 JUNE 2003**

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*For the year ended 30 June 2003*

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# CHIROPRACTORS REGISTRATION BOARD OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003

Pursuant to Section 16C of the *Chiropractors Act 1964*, I report hereunder on the Board's activities for the year 2002/2003.

### 1. CONSTITUTION

The Chiropractors Registration Board is constituted under the provisions of Section 9 of the *Chiropractors Act 1964* (the Act) as a body corporate.

### 2. GOALS

The primary goals of the Board are:

- a) to ensure the administration of the *Act*; and
- b) protect the public from any unprofessional, improper or incompetent practice of chiropractic.

### 3. FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

The Board is directly responsible to the Minister for Health for all matters relating to the administration of the *Chiropractors Act 1964* and the *Chiropractors Registration Board Rules 1966* (the Rules).

The functions of the Board are:-

- to maintain the Register of chiropractors;
- to deal with applications for the registration of chiropractors pursuant to the provisions of the Act and the provisions of *Mutual Recognition (Western Australia) Act 1995*;
- to investigate complaints made in relation to the practice of chiropractic and to take disciplinary action if appropriate;
- to ensure chiropractors are informed of any changes to the Act and the Rules.

### 4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

Membership of the Board is prescribed under Section 7 of the Act.

The Board consists of five members appointed by the Governor and of these:-

- a) one will be a legal practitioner nominated by the Attorney General;
- b) two will be registered Chiropractors nominated in the prescribed manner by the WA Branch of the Chiropractors' Association of Australia;
- c) one will be a registered Chiropractor nominated by the Minister;
- d) one will be a person nominated by the Minister to be a representative of consumer interests.

## 5. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

*The current Board members are:*

Valerie Frazer	Nominated by the Attorney General
R C Scott	Nominated by the Chiropractors' Association of Australia
R Young	Nominated by the Chiropractors' Association of Australia
B Goodreid	Nominated by the Minister for Health
K Spencer	Nominated by the Minister for Health

*Alternative members:*

B Grant (alternate for R Young)	Nominated by the Chiropractors Association of Australia
A Knight (alternate for B Goodreid)	Nominated by the Minister for Health
A M Powlesland (alternate for R C Scott)	Nominated by the Chiropractors Association of Australia
R Gamble (alternate for K Spencer)	Nominated by the Minister for Health

The Registrar is Mr C D Emmott

## 6. MEETINGS

During 2002 – 2003 Eleven (11) meetings were held with attendance by Board members as follows:

### **No. of Meetings Attended**

Valerie Frazer	10
Rachel Young	8
Bevan Goodreid	10
Robert Scott	9
Ken Spencer	6

## 7. REGISTER OF CHIROPRACTORS

As at June 30, 2003 there were 256 names on the Register which had been issued with licences to practise in Western Australia during the year then ended. During the year twenty three (23) applications for registration were approved. Of these thirteen (13) applied under Mutual Recognition with ten (10) applying under the Act. There have been a number of queries from overseas chiropractors (mostly Canadians) and these have all been referred to Ms Debby Ramsay at the Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia (CCEA) regarding the examination.

## 8. REGISTRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Qualifications recognised by the Board are those obtained from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology or from institutions holding prime accredited status in accordance with the Australasian Council on Chiropractic Education (ACCE) requirements. The only other Australian course to have attained prime accredited status by ACCE is that from Macquarie University. In addition, the Board has accepted applicants who have undertaken the clinical proficiency examinations conducted by the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology provided the proficiency level achieved was equal to that of current graduates from that Institute. In future the Board will only accept overseas applicants who have undertaken the CCEA Examination.

## 9. FEES

The following are the current registration fees:-

### *Licence Fee*

*To practise in Western Australia if the licence is issued during the period from January to June* \$187.50

*To practice in Western Australia if the licence is issued during the period from July to June* \$375.00

*Non-practising, out of State members* \$100.00

*Application Fee* \$100.00

*Certificate Fee* \$30.00

*Six months temporary Registration Fee* \$200.00

## 10. AMENDMENTS TO THE ACT AND RULES

The only amendment to the Chiropractors Registration Board Act or Rules during the year ended 30 June 2003 was to give the Board the power to waive or reduce any licence fee.

The State Government will introduce a State Administrative Tribunal from 1 January 2004. This Tribunal will hear all disciplinary matters from all Registration Boards, other than those matters where the penalty is likely to be of a minor nature, and not involve suspension or removal of the name from the register.

The current Act provides for the Board to maintain a Record of Students. However the Rules do not define the requirements for this Record or any disciplinary matters for students. The Board has written to the Health Department seeking an amendment to the Rules in relation to these issues.

## 11. PENALTIES

The penalties which the Board may impose on registered chiropractors are reprimand, suspension, cancellation of licence or order the chiropractor to pay a penalty not exceeding \$5,000.

## 12. COMPLAINTS

During the year the Board dealt with a number of new complaints against registered chiropractors.

- a) Complaint regarding sexual misconduct and inappropriate charging of fees for reimbursement from Health Fund. (7 separate complaints)  
*(The Board proceeded to an inquiry and adjourned the inquiry, as the Chiropractor was not in attendance. Subsequently the Chiropractors name was removed from the Register for non-payment of the annual licence renewal.)*
- b) 4 Complaints referred to the Office of Health Review  
*(Following consent received by the complainants, in each case the Board has forwarded these matters to the Office of Health Review.)*
- c) Complaint alleging sexual misconduct  
*(This complaint proceeded to an inquiry and it was held the Chiropractor had no case to answer.)*
- d) Complaint alleging false claims on a private health fund  
*(Proceeding to an inquiry.)*
- e) 2 Complaints alleging sexual misconduct  
*(Board satisfied with responses).*

## 13. CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

The Australian Conference of Chiropractors Registration Boards (ACCRB) Conference was held in Sydney, NSW on 24-25 August 2003. The Board was represented at the Conference by Dr R Scott, Dr B Goodreid, Dr Rachel Young and Mr C Emmott.

Among the items considered at the ACCRB Conference were:-

- *Standards of Manipulative Care*
- *National Standards of Practice*
- *Student Placement/Internship*
- *Record Keeping Standards*
- *Board Research Grants*
- *Registration qualifications*
- *Uniform Registration Procedures*
- *Student Placement.*

## **COUNCIL ON CHIROPRACTIC EDUCATION AUSTRALASIA**

The Council on Chiropractic Education Australasian Inc (CCEA) was incorporated on 27 February 2002. The Council was formed to encompass the activities of two separate organisations within Australia, namely the Australasian Council of Chiropractic Education (ACCE) and the Joint Education Committee of Participating Registration Boards (JEC).

The main functions of the CCEA are;

- to undertake accreditations in relation to Australian and New Zealand Chiropractic Programs; and
- to undertake competency assessments of overseas trained chiropractors to ensure they are safe and competent to practice in Australia and New Zealand.

The Council has the following objects contained within its Constitution and Rules:

- to assess and accredit chiropractic undergraduate and postgraduate courses;
- to advise and make recommendations regarding statutory accreditation, approval or prescription;
- to develop, advocate and maintain valid and reliable accreditation standards of processes to assess the suitability and quality of chiropractic courses and to judge the success of provider institutions in ongoing development, implementation and evaluation of those course goals and outcomes;
- to develop and conduct competency assessments and advise on the suitability of chiropractors to practice in Australasia;
- to advise and make recommendations in relation to chiropractic education and uniform standards of practice and regulation of chiropractors in Australasia;
- to establish and maintain relationships with bodies or organisations in other countries having objects and functions, in whole or in part, similar to the objects and function of the Council; and
- to ensure that the Council achieves its purpose and objects.

The current membership of the Council is as follows, with each member nominating a Councillor to represent it:

- the Chiropractors and Osteopaths Board of the Australian Capital Territory;
- the Chiropractic Board of New Zealand;
- the Chiropractors and Osteopaths Board of the Northern Territory;
- the Chiropractors Board of Queensland;
- the Chiropractors Board of South Australia;
- the Chiropractors and Osteopaths Board of Tasmania;
- the Chiropractors Registration Board of Victoria;
- the Chiropractors Board of Western Australia;
- the Chiropractors Association of Australia;
- the New Zealand Chiropractic Association;

or each of their successors in law. The Council's membership also includes two nominated Councillors representing Australian and New Zealand Chiropractic Teaching Institutions and two laypersons.

## 15. ASSESSMENT OF OVERSEAS PERSONS FOR SKILLED MIGRATION

The Chiropractors Registration Board has been gazetted as the body responsible for the assessment of overseas persons for skilled migration. This task was previously undertaken by NOOSR who has been devolving this process to professional bodies, where appropriate. For all overseas enquiries the Board has forwarded them onto the Ms Debby Ramsay at the CCEA.

## 16. MURDOCH UNIVERSITY

A chiropractic course was established at Murdoch University in 2002. The board is currently working with representatives from the Chiropractic School of Murdoch University and from the CAA (WA branch) on developing Fieldwork Placement Guidelines for students. The Registrar has been requested by the Chiropractic School at Murdoch to present to the second year students on aspects of the Act and Rules.

## 17. ACCESS/ADMINISTRATION

The Office of the Board is located at:-

Address:

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

15 Rheola Street

WEST PERTH WA 6005

Telephone: (08) 9321 8499

Facsimile: (08) 9481 3686

Correspondence to the Board should be addressed to:-

The Registrar

Chiropractors Registration Board

PO Box 263

WEST PERTH WA 6872

Registrar: Mr Colin D Emmott

Assistant: Ms Kelli Dawson

Applications for registration and other board forms and information can be downloaded from the Board's website at [www.chiroboard.wa.gov.au](http://www.chiroboard.wa.gov.au)



REGISTRAR

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1 October 2003



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**CHIROPRACTORS REGISTRATION BOARD OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
STATEMENT BY THE REGISTRAR  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003**

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I, Colin Emmott, the Registrar of the Chiropractors Registration Board of Western Australia, hereby state that in my opinion:

1. (a) the accompanying financial report as set out on pages 10 to 18, presents fairly the financial position of the Chiropractors Registration Board of WA as at 30 June 2003 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, mandatory professional reporting requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.  
  
(b) At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Board will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
2. During the financial year the Board has:
  - (a) kept such accounting records as correctly record and explain its transactions and financial position;
  - (b) so kept its accounting records that true and fair accounts of the Board can be prepared from time to time; and
  - (c) so kept its accounting records that the accounts of the Board can be conveniently and properly audited.
3. The accounts have been properly prepared by a competent person.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Colin Emmott - Registrar

24<sup>th</sup> October 2003  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date