

**Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth Limited
Annual General Meeting**

**Minutes of Meeting
Friday 17 November 2023**

**Hybrid AGM
held in person at the offices of Gilbert+Tobin, 200 Barangaroo Ave,
Barangaroo NSW and via Zoom**

Directors present:	Prof Gervase Chaney (Chair) Anne Cregan Adjunct Associate Prof Shamal Dass Dr Jenny Proimos Dr Norman Swan Prof Karen Thorpe Emeritus Prof Stephen Zubrick
Members present	Barnardos Australia – Melissa Bell Paediatrics & Child Health division - RACP -Ju-Lee Oei Tasmanian Association of State School Organisations – Jessica Bennett Family Life – Kate Collier Social Impact Measurement Network Australia – Simon Faivel
Apologies:	Hawa Mohammad (Director) Playgroup NSW – Nadene Lee UNICEF Australia – Nicole Breeze Act for Kids – Katrina Lines (proxy) Starlight Foundation – Claire Tredgold (proxy) ACU – Institute of Children Protection Studies – Darryl Higgins (proxy) The Smith Family – Anne Hampshire (proxy) Flinders University – Gerry Redmond (proxy) Fiona Hempstead (Bellchambers Barrett) Australian Government Department of Social Services – Tim Crosier Jacqueline McGowan-Jones, Commissioner for Children & Young People WA
In attendance	Anglicare Tas – Sorayah Witzerman Donna Rogers Sean Michelle (Bellchambers Barrett)
Staff:	Penny Dakin (CEO) Roslyn Dundas (Company Secretary) Harriet Daly (Executive Assistant to the CEO) Michael Hogan (Convenor – Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership)



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ABN 68 100 902 921

Meeting commenced at 2.05pm

1. Acknowledgement of Country and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting at 2:00pm and welcomed attendees. A Quorum of Members was represented.

The Chair acknowledged the Traditional Owners of land upon which participants were present, noting Barangaroo was named after Barangaroo, a Cammeraygal woman, a powerful and influential female leader of the Eora Nation. The Traditional Custodians, the Gadigal, used the land for hunting, the harbour for fishing, canoeing and swimming, and the foreshore as a place of congregation.

The Chair acknowledge the Gadigal of the Eora Nation as the traditional custodians of this place now called Sydney.

2. Apologies

The Chair noted apologies.

3. Report on proxies and voting process

The Chair reported the number of proxies received at the Office of the Company by the Company Secretary, including those received by email was 5 in total - directed to the Chair. The Chair also outlined the process for votes to be conducted online with the assistance of TrueVote.

4. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 11 November 2022 were distributed to members along with the notice of the meeting on 16 October 2023.

Motion

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 11 November 2022 be accepted.

Moved Steve Zubrick Seconded Norman Swan

CARRIED

5. Chairperson's Report

The Chair addressed the AGM, acknowledging that during 2022 – 23 the ARACY team had come together prioritising the wellbeing of children and young people in such fora as the Australian Government's Early Years Summit, hosting visits by the Palix Foundation from Alberta, Canada and



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Sir Michael Marmot from the United Kingdom, progressing the convening of the Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children, and making the Common Approach available globally.

The Chair also reported that the Board has been reviewing the company's constitution and acknowledged Gilbert + Tobin for their contribution to this work.

The Chair noted the resignation of CEO Penny Dakin after 5 years at the helm and thanked her for her excellent leadership and steadfast dedication to ARACY.

Finally, the Chair confirmed that he will be stepping back from his role as Chair – having served in the role since 2019, but will continue to hold a place on the ARACY Board.

6. CEO's Report

The CEO stated that, as this was her last AGM in the role of CEO, she would like to reflect on the year that has gone, but also to thank the Chair for his calm leadership and his commitment to good governance. She thanked the ARACY Board, who volunteer their time because they believe in ARACY and in the need to support our children. She then thanked the ARACY team, noting their extraordinary achievements in improving the lives of children and young people, but stated that our job is not yet done.

7. Questions to directors

No questions were raised.

8. Presentation of financial reports

Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, Associate Adjunct Professor Shamal Dass, presented the financial reports and thanked Bellchambers Barrett, A Counting Edge and Hardwickes for their work in support of ARACY's financial position and procedures. Prof. Dass stated that last year ARACY was in deficit, with significant investments in projects and growth, so this year we can see the benefit of those investments with a projected surplus. ARACY's net assets are now \$886,000.

Prof Dass also reported that 2022-23 saw the implementation of phase 2 of the Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership, and the incubation of the Investment Dialogue for Australia's Children, noting both these projects require significant resources and the company remains grateful to a range of partners who are supporting this work.

Motion

That the Company's Financial Report for the period ended 30 June 2023 be accepted.

Moved Penny Dakin Seconded Jenny Proimos

CARRIED



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9. Presentation of Annual Report

A link to and hard copy of the ARACY Annual Report 2022-2023 was made available for members, and the activities for the year were highlighted by the Chair and CEO during their reports. Members were invited to raise questions.

Motion

That the Company's Annual Report for the period ended 30 June 2023 be accepted.

Moved Karen Thorpe Seconded Steve Zubrick

CARRIED

10. Election of Directors

The Chair handed over carriage of the meeting to the Company Secretary.

The Company Secretary advised that in accordance with the Company's Constitution Ms Anne Cregan, Ass Adj Prof. Shamal Dass and Prof. Stephen Zubrick retire from the Board of Directors and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Motion

That Ms Anne Cregan be re-elected as a director of the Company.

Moved Norman Swan Seconded Gerv Chaney

CARRIED

Motion

That Adj Ass Professor Shamal Dass be re-elected as a director of the Company.

Moved Gerv Chaney Seconded Jenny Proimos

CARRIED

Motion

That Professor Stephen Zubrick be re-elected as a director of the Company.

Moved Shamal Dass Seconded Norman Swan

CARRIED



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11. Declaration of all polls/votes

The Company Secretary thanked all members present for participating in the online approach to conducting ballots during the meeting, delivered in partnership with TrueVote.

The Company Secretary advised all resolutions were carried.

12. Meeting close

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and participation in the meeting. The Chair also acknowledged Jen Davidson and the team at Gilbert+Tobin for the hosting of the meeting, and their ongoing contribution to the work of the constitutional review.

The Chair again acknowledged Ms Dakin as she concludes her time as CEO of ARACY, and thanked for her leadership and for the extraordinary work she has done during her time at ARACY. The Chair advised Ms Dundas, Company Secretary will act in the position of CEO while recruitment for a permanent CEO is underway.

The Chair closed the meeting at 2.40pm (AEST)

Signed as a True and Correct Record

Prof Gerv Chaney
Chair
/ 2024



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