

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

<b>Location:</b>	The Rex Centre, 58-60 Macleay St Potts Point NSW 2011 (In the Baroda Room)		
<b>Date:</b>	Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023		
<b>Meeting Commenced:</b>	Saturday @ 9:00am (AEST)	<b>Meeting Finished:</b>	Saturday @ 5:06pm
	Sunday @ 9:00am (AEST)		Sunday @ 5.00pm
<b>Chair:</b>		<b>Vice Chair:</b>	

POSITION	NAME	DAY 1 SESSION 1	DAY 1 SESSION 2	DAY 1 SESSION 3	DAY 1 SESSION 4	DAY 2 SESSION 1	DAY 2 SESSION 2	DAY 2 SESSION 3	DAY 2 SESSION 4
REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS (RCMS)		Opening Items & Reports	Pres 1 NAWS + Aust Region	Pres 2 Service	Discussion Period	Subcomm Meetings	Challenges Highlights RSBoA AGM	Workshop Leadership Dev in NA	New Business & Closing Items
Blue Mountains and Central West RCM (NSW) (Acting)		Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap
Blue Mountains Alt RCM (NSW)									
Canberra RCM (ACT)		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Canberra Alt RCM									
Central Coast NSW RCM (NSW)		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Central Coast NSW Alt RCM (NSW)		P	P	P	P	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap
Coffs Coast NSW RCM (NSW)									
Coffs Coast NSW Alt RCM (NSW)									
Far North Coast RCM (NSW)		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Far North Coast Alt RCM (NSW)		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Gold Coast QLD RCM		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Gold Coast QLD Alt RCM		Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab
NA@Home (online) RCM									
NA@Home (online) Alt RCM									
Newcastle & Hunter Valley NSW RCM		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Newcastle & Hunter Valley NSW Alt RCM									
Northern Australia RCM		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Northern Australia Alt RCM									
South Australia RCM		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P

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South Australia Alt RCM									
South Coast NSW RCM		Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap
South Coast NSW Alt RCM									
Sunshine Coast QLD RCM		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Sunshine Coast QLD Alt RCM		Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap
Sydney East NSW RCM		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Sydney East NSW Alt RCM		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Sydney North NSW RCM		Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab
Sydney North NSW Alt RCM		Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab
Sydney South NSW RCM		Ab	10:51	P	P	9:15	P	P	P
Sydney South NSW Alt RCM									
Sydney West NSW RCM		Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	10:30	p	p	p
Sydney West NSW Alt RCM									
Victoria/Tasmania RCM		P	P	P	P	P	p	p	p
Victoria/Tasmania Alt RCM		Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap
Western Australia RCM Acting		Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab
Western Australia Alt RCM									
<b>LEGEND</b>									

**P = Present**

**Ap = Apology**

**Ab = Absent**

**= Vacant**

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SUBCOMMITTEES	NAME	Opening Items & Reports	Pres 1 NAWS + Aust Region	Pres 2 Service	Discussion Period	Subcomm Meetings	Challenges Highlights RSBoA AGM	Workshop Leadership Dev in NA	New Business & Closing Items
Indigenous Chair		P 9:15	P	P	P	P	P	p	p
Indigenous Vice Chair		Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap
Information Technology (IT) Coordinator									
IT Assistant Coordinator									
NA Today Chair		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
NA Today Vice Chair									
Outreach / Fellowship Development Chair (Caretaker)		Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap
OR.FD Vice Chair									
Policy Chair		P 9:30	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Policy Vice Chair		Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab
Public Relations Chair									
Public Relations Vice Chair									
Strategic Planning Chair									
Strategic Planning Vice Chair									
POSITION	NAME	DAY 1 SESSION 1	DAY 1 SESSION 2	DAY 1 SESSION 3	DAY 1 SESSION 4	DAY 2 SESSION 1	DAY 2 SESSION 2	DAY 2 SESSION 3	DAY 2 SESSION 4
WORKGROUPS ETC.									
Fellowship Service Office Chair / Rep		P	P	P	P	Ap	Ap	Ap	Ap
Fellowship Service Office Chair / Rep		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Public Officer		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Sydney Metro Chair		Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab
<b>LEGEND</b>									

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ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE									
Chair		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Vice Chair		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Secretary (Acting)		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Assistant Secretary									
Treasurer		P	P	P	P	P	9:30 P	P	P
Assistant Treasurer									
Regional Delegate		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Alternate Delegate									
POSITION	NAME	DAY 1 SESSION 1	DAY 1 SESSION 2	DAY 1 SESSION 3	DAY 1 SESSION 4	DAY 2 SESSION 1	DAY 2 SESSION 2	DAY 2 SESSION 3	DAY 2 SESSION 4
OBSERVERS	NAME	DAY 1 SESSION 1	DAY 1 SESSION 2	DAY 1 SESSION 3	DAY 1 SESSION 4	DAY 2 SESSION 1	DAY 2 SESSION 2	DAY 2 SESSION 3	DAY 2 SESSION 4
			P	P					
			P	P					
			P	P					
				P					
				P					
							P		
						P	P		
						P	P		
LEGEND									

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#### OPENING ITEMS

**Note: Vice Chair performs role of Chair on day one 9:00 – 5:06pm**

#### **Acknowledgment to Country:**

NA Australia acknowledges that we meet on Aboriginal Land. We recognize the strength, resilience, and capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people.

Australia comprises many Aboriginal and Torres Strait nations. We would like to acknowledge all of the traditional custodians of the land within Australia.

We pay respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Elders past and present.

#### **Service Prayer:**

“God grant us knowledge so that we may serve in accordance with Your divine precepts, instil in us a sense of Your purpose, make us servants of Your will and grant us a bond of selflessness that this may truly be Your work, not ours, in order that no addict anywhere need die from the horrors of addiction.”

#### **12 Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous:**

1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on NA unity.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority— a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
3. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using.
4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or NA as a whole.
5. Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.
6. An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
7. Every NA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
8. Narcotics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centres may employ special workers.
9. NA, as such ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
10. Narcotics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the NA name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.
12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

#### OPENING ITEMS

##### Twelve Concepts for NA Service:

1. To fulfil our fellowship's primary purpose, the NA groups have joined together to create a structure which develops, coordinates, and maintains services on behalf of NA as a whole.
2. The final responsibility and authority for NA services rests with the NA groups.
3. The NA groups delegate to the service structure the authority necessary to fulfil the responsibilities assigned to it.
4. Effective leadership is highly valued in Narcotics Anonymous. Leadership qualities should be carefully considered when selecting trusted servants.
5. For each responsibility assigned to the service structure, a single point of decision and accountability should be clearly defined.
6. Group conscience is the spiritual means by which we invite a loving God to influence our decisions.
7. All members of a service body bear substantial responsibility for that body's decisions and should be allowed to fully participate in its decision-making processes.
8. Our service structure depends on the integrity and effectiveness of our communications.
9. All elements of our service structure have the responsibility to carefully consider all viewpoints in their decision-making processes.
10. Any member of a service body can petition that body for the redress of a personal grievance, without fear of reprisal.
11. NA funds are to be used to further our primary purpose and must be managed responsibly.
12. In keeping with the spiritual nature of Narcotics Anonymous, our structure should always be one of service, never of government.



**Narcotics Anonymous®**

## ARSC Meeting Minutes September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

### OPENING ITEMS

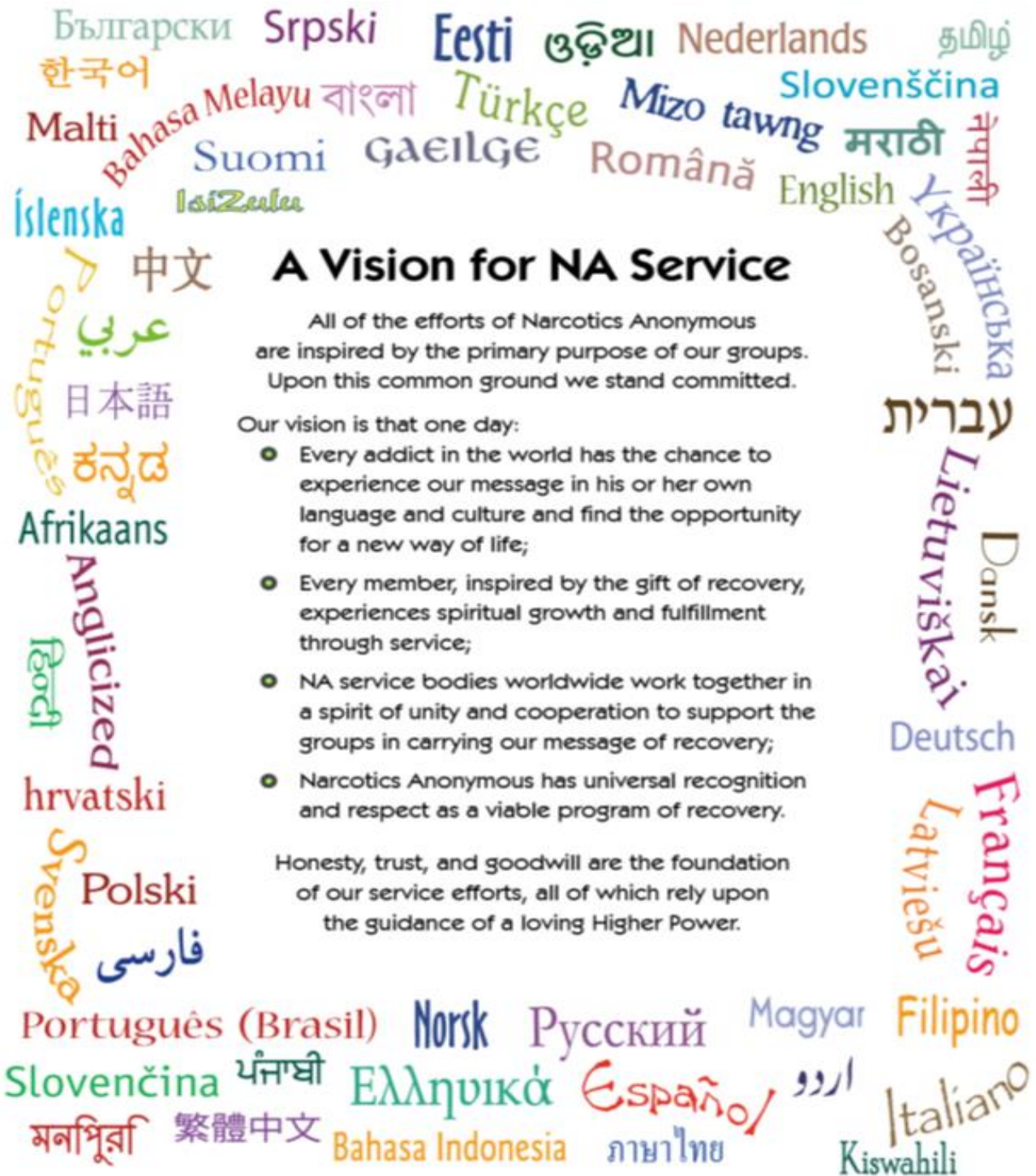
#### A Vision for NA Service

All of the efforts of Narcotics Anonymous are inspired by the primary purpose of our groups. Upon this common ground we stand committed.

Our vision is that one day:

- Every addict in the world has the chance to experience our message in his or her own language and culture and find the opportunity for a new way of life;
- Every member, inspired by the gift of recovery, experiences spiritual growth and fulfillment through service;
- NA service bodies worldwide work together in a spirit of unity and cooperation to support the groups in carrying our message of recovery;
- Narcotics Anonymous has universal recognition and respect as a viable program of recovery.

Honesty, trust, and goodwill are the foundation of our service efforts, all of which rely upon the guidance of a loving Higher Power.



## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SATURDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023																				
1.0	<u>OPENING ITEMS AND REPORTS</u>		9:00am-10:30am																		
1.1	<p><b>OPENING ITEMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acknowledgment of Country: FSO Chair</li><li>Welcome to new participants and thanking departing participants</li><li>Count of participants to establish quorum</li><li>(A quorum is defined as 40% of all standing positions of the ARSC, including Subcommittee Chairpersons, and Administration Committee members, and must include a minimum of 5 RCMS (or their alternates).</li></ul> <p>Day 1: &gt;40% of all standing positions (21 participants) and 10 RCMS (Quorum Reached)</p> <p>Day 2: &gt; 40% of all standing positions (22 participants) and 10-12 RCMS (Quorum Reached)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Service prayer: RCM Gold Coast</li><li>Twelve Traditions: Read around the room</li><li>NA Vision: RCM Victoria</li><li>Twelve concepts: Read around the room</li><li>Approval of previous minutes: RCM Syd East</li><li>Seconder: RCM FNC</li></ul>		Start 9:02  Finish 9:20																		
1.2	<p><b><u>ACTION LIST POST JUNE 2023 ARSC*</u></b></p> <table><tr><th>Item No</th><th>Action Item</th><th>Responsibility</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>NA Today Chair and Indigenous Chair to work together on more Aboriginal &amp; Torres Strait Islander and Culturally And Linguistically Diverse content in the magazine (Proposal #5 from March ARSC).</td><td>NA Today Chair / RD/Indigenous Chair Pending</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Update contact/distribution list for NA Today to include Aboriginal rehabs (Proposal #8 from March ARSC).</td><td>Chair/ NA Today Chair / RD Pending</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Update contact list for NA Today to reflect current information.</td><td>Chair / VC / NA Today Pending</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Copyright for Aboriginal artwork.</td><td>RD / Indigenous Chair Pending</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>Provision new emails.</td><td>IT / Chair / VC Pending</td></tr></table>		Item No	Action Item	Responsibility	1	NA Today Chair and Indigenous Chair to work together on more Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and Culturally And Linguistically Diverse content in the magazine (Proposal #5 from March ARSC).	NA Today Chair / RD/Indigenous Chair Pending	2	Update contact/distribution list for NA Today to include Aboriginal rehabs (Proposal #8 from March ARSC).	Chair/ NA Today Chair / RD Pending	3	Update contact list for NA Today to reflect current information.	Chair / VC / NA Today Pending	4	Copyright for Aboriginal artwork.	RD / Indigenous Chair Pending	5	Provision new emails.	IT / Chair / VC Pending	Start: 9:20  Finish 9:26
Item No	Action Item	Responsibility																			
1	NA Today Chair and Indigenous Chair to work together on more Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and Culturally And Linguistically Diverse content in the magazine (Proposal #5 from March ARSC).	NA Today Chair / RD/Indigenous Chair Pending																			
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	6	Update bank account and ACNC due to rollover of positions.	VC / Treasurer <b>Pending</b>	
	7	Election preamble to be sent out to the body ( <i>VC to check with SA</i> ).	Secretary <b>Completed</b>	
	8	RCM NA@Home and Chair to set up workgroup regarding ( <i>Proposal #3 June ARSC</i> ).	RCM NA@Home/Chair <b>Pending</b>	
	9	Chair to contact RCM WA (Acting) to clarify whether WA intends to submit a proposal to the FSO regarding literature postage costing.	Chair <b>Completed</b>	
	<b>*Read out by the RD</b>			
1.3	<b>REPORTS</b>  <i>Pertinent discussion and information to add after reports submitted, only additional information/discussion added here. Full reports available on Onedrive.</i>  <b>REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER (RCM) REPORTS</b>  <b>RCM Canberra</b> <i>Additional Information:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reports that Canberra is 'watching this space' in relation to literature postage costs.</li> </ul> <b>RCM Central Coast</b> <i>Additional Information:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduces Alt RCM Central Coast - [REDACTED] who is present.</li> <li>Updates ARSC that Central Coast Printed and put-up PR posters.</li> <li>Announces that they have an upcoming Unity Day activity planned.</li> </ul> <b>RCM Newcastle and Hunter Valley</b> <i>Additional Information:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refers to listed discussion topic about posting vulnerable members details on FB</li> </ul> <b>RCM South Australia</b> <i>Additional Information:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have a camp coming up – will post a flyer soon.</li> </ul>			<b>Start 9:26</b>  <b>Finish 9:50</b>

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SATURDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023	
	<p><i>*The Vice-Chair asks the Treasurer about insurance for the camp – who confirms all is in order.</i></p> <p><b>RCM Sydney East</b>  <i>Additional Information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduces Alt RCM [REDACTED] who is present – [REDACTED] explains that [REDACTED] is from Melbourne but was elected Alt RCM as more that 50% of Sydney East’s meetings are virtual.</li> <li>A GSR workshop was facilitated.</li> <li>Sydney Metro met and have confirmed a chair for the 2024 Sydney convention.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>If any items need to be discussed later as part of discussion, please note them as</i></b>  <b><i>Noted to be a Discussion Topic</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Posting vulnerable members details on FB (already logged for discussion).</li> </ul> <p><b>SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS</b></p> <p><b>NA Today</b>  <i>Additional Information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vice Chair asks about \$6000 float – NA Today Chair confirms that the sum was carried over from previous reports when a float was in place.</li> </ul> <p><b>Indigenous Subcommittee</b>  <i>Additional Information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quotes and translations process need to be discussed.</li> <li>Discussion was held around whether Indigenous subcommittee members could be involved in elections as historically the Indigenous voice has been limited – Policy Chair clarified process as is stands – RD suggested that we may evolve and recommended a submitting a proposal.</li> </ul> <p><b>FSO Chair/Rep</b>  <i>Additional Information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair asks FSO chair whether ‘they were inundated with enquiries’ relating to the cessation of covering postage to which FSO chair states there were none.</li> <li>The Vice Chair asks about a financial repot – the FSO confirms that it will be sent through later.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Officer</b>  <i>Additional Information:</i></p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

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Item No	ARSC SATURDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treasurer has been added as a Management Committee Member within the ACNC portal (Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission), on the bank account as an authoriser and signatory access is pending.</li> </ul> <p><b>ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Admin) REPORTS</b></p> <p><i>Additional Information:</i></p> <p><b>Chair</b></p> <p><i>Additional Information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please note Father's Day clashing with the ARSC has been added to discussion.</li> <li>Vice Chair asks if the Chair is ok? The Chair replies that he is ok and that water is helping</li> </ul> <p><b>Vice Chair</b></p> <p><i>Additional Information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spent a lot of time 'fire-fighting' as there are not enough trusted servants to do the work – the Chair has been doing 4-6 hours daily.</li> <li>There is a large amount of work involved in supporting vacant sub-committee chair positions.</li> <li>RCM Canberra asks how that can be helped and reports that they are facing a similar challenge. The stand-in secretary states that tomorrow's workshop on Leadership Development will hopefully be beneficial.</li> </ul> <p><b>Regional Delegate</b></p> <p><i>Additional Information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RCM Canberra thanks the RD for their comprehensive report.</li> </ul>	
1.4	<p><b>TREASURER QUARTERLY REPORT</b></p> <p><b>PLEASE REFER TO FOLDER 'FINANCIAL REPORTS' within Sept 2023 ARSC OneDrive.</b></p> <p>If you need a copy of the reports and aren't able to access them, please contact your RCM or email the ARSC secretary directly on: <a href="mailto:secretary@na.org.au">secretary@na.org.au</a></p> <p><b>Report to ARSC</b></p> <p><i>Additional Information:</i></p>	<p><b>Start 9:50</b></p> <p><b>Finish</b></p> <p><b>10:00</b></p>

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

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	<p><i>Treasurer introduces himself and thanks the out-going Treasurer for their assistance handing over the role. The Treasurer then talks through the quarterly report. Report to be added to the Shared drive.</i></p> <p>Q: RCM Gold Coast asks about the fund flow process.</p> <p>A: The Vice Chair confirms the fixed amounts and frequency of fund flows to APF and NAWS. The Chair then explains the process of distributing excess funds above the ARSC's prudent reserve and expenses – 1/3 to APF and 2/3's to NAWS</p> <p>Q: Vice Chair asks the Treasurer how he is going?</p> <p>A: The Treasurer replies that he is going well and continues to be grateful for the support. The Vice Chair then speaks to the benefits of having an Assistant Treasurer.</p>	
	<b><u>BREAK</u></b>	<b>10:00am-10:36am</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<p><b><u>Discussion Period – note as we were ahead in the Agenda we started Discussion early.</u></b></p> <p>Quorum Met: 23 participants, 9 RCMs</p> <p>Prior to formal discussion, Vice Chair raises the <b>Travel Policy</b> to clarify how to complete the <b>Travel Reimbursement Form</b>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Main Travel</u></b> – main travel is the means by which ARSC members travel from their home city to the ARSC city – e.g. flights, long distance train, car. Regional Committee Members (RCMs) will have their main travel costs paid for by the ARSC (air travel, petrol costs, bus/train). All other expenses such as hotels/accommodation, per diems, airport transfers will be paid for by their respective Areas.</li> <li>• <b><u>Accommodation</u></b> is reimbursed up to \$110/per night – must provide accommodation receipts.</li> <li>• <b><u>Per diems</u></b>: maximum per diem allowance is \$100/day. It is not necessary to provide receipts for meals, but you must submit a reimbursement request to receive the per diem allowance which will ask for your daily total meal expense. The per diem is granted on actual expenditure, rather than automatically awarding the maximum allowance. Receipts should be included for other items being claimed – e.g. local taxis, trains, etc.</li> </ul> <p>Q: RCM Victoria – Is it ok to record food only as expenses?</p>	<p><b>Start</b> <b>10.36</b></p> <p><b>Finish</b> <b>11.00</b></p>

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

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	<p>A: Vice Chair – Yes – however if additional travel (ie trains/taxi) is being claimed as part of the per diem allowance (max \$100/day) it should also be recorded and receipts provided</p> <p>Q: Gold Coast RCM – Is this process for accountability to the ARSC or our ASC?</p> <p>A: Vice Chair – RCM's are accountable to their ASC's if being funded to attend the ARSC – each ASC should have it's own process for accountability.</p> <p>Q: RCM Far North Coast (FNC) – Can I book my own flights?</p> <p>A: Vice Chair – this is not the preferred method – it is preferred that we use the travel agent as they understand our requirements.</p> <p>Q: FNC – what if I can find cheaper flights?</p> <p>A: Policy Chair – Flight Centre has a credit – I believe it has now been used? Vice Chair confirms yes – credit has been used.</p> <p>A: Vice Chair [explains travel process for their employment] Confirms that Flight Centre agent has a criteria that they follow. This process provides price efficiency and value.</p> <p>Q: FSO Chair: Is parking an expense that is covered?</p> <p>A: Local participants aren't normally eligible for travel reimbursements if travel to the ARSC is less than 75km. If travel is &gt;75km, the travel policy applies.</p> <p>Q: FSO Chair - Is fuel reimbursed at a kilometre rate?</p> <p>A: Policy Chair – no – we accept fuel receipts. Vice Chair then explains that the best way to do this is leave on a full tank, fill up upon arrival, then submit the receipt and double to cover there and back. RD states that the travel policy needs some work.</p> <p>Vice chair – States that the travel policy can be reviewed at another time. Please ensure that all likely expenses are reported to the Treasurer asap so that they have an idea of expenses for the closing balance.</p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

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	<p><b>Commenced formal discussion at 10:48am – facilitated by the Vice Chair as acting Chair.</b></p> <p><b>Discussion Item 1 –</b></p> <p><b>Position speaking to item: RCM Gold Coast (GC)</b></p> <p><b>Discussion item: QR Codes</b></p> <p>Discussion: GC explains that their local area have created a QR code that links to the local meetings list on na.org.au and is being included on all local publications. GC has raised this here as it could be a good idea for the ARSC.</p> <p>Q: Chair – How many QR codes do you envisage?</p> <p>A: GC – Just one that goes directly to na.org.au</p> <p>A: Vice Chair screen shares an example of a QR code</p> <p>[Note: RCM for Sydney South arrives and identifies at 10:51am]</p> <p>Q: RCM Central Coast states that they discussed this at their ASC but that it was hard to action without a PR chair however does agree with the idea of a QR code that goes directly to na.org.au - would we be able to track 'hits'?</p> <p>Q: RD also asks if it would be possible to track 'hits' from the use of a QR code?</p> <p>A: Vice Chair – a QR code can be created and asks – Are we ok with generating a QR code for na.org.au?</p> <p>Chair states that first a feasibility study would need to be conducted and that we may also want to consider a QR code for NA Today...</p> <p>* NA Today Chair states that QR codes are easy to generate</p> <p>*RD states that we should have a QR code for na.org.au</p> <p>*Alt RCM FNC and NA Today both state that they think a code for NA Today as well is a good idea</p> <p>A: Vice Chair suggest that IT create a QR code for NA Today be added to the action list</p> <p>Q: Would we need to first look at feasibility and costs first?</p> <p>A: Vice Chair – a QR code to take you to na.org.au already exists.</p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SATURDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>Q: GC – We would like to see that QR code on all future publications and on the banners.</p> <p>A: Vice Chair suggests that GC write and submit a proposal.</p> <p>A: FSO Vice Chair – All saleable items at the FSO are imported – adding QR code to these items (and future ones) would create additional costs which are not currently known - feasibility would need to be done.</p> <p>*RCM Central Coast states that having a QR code for meetings lists, events and na.or.au would be a good idea.</p> <p>[The Vice Chair recognises observer Vivian from the Swedish Region].</p> <p>*NA Today Chair states that this discussion is getting complicated – they recommend that the additional QR codes be left to PR to do – in the meantime that we just do the one that leads to na.org.au.</p> <p>*The Chair states that they will get in contact with IT and report back to the ARSC.</p> <p><b>{Action Item 1}</b></p>	
2.2	<p><b><u>PRESENTATION: The Relationship between NAWS and the Australian Region (including Q&amp;A)</u></b></p> <p>[Screen share]</p> <p>POWERPOINT PRESENTATION</p> <p>See link to Resources – ‘ARSC September 2023’ folder on OneDrive (for ARSC Members) containing all information and resources used for this presentation, below.</p> <p><a href="#">2309 [REDACTED] Presentation.pptx</a></p> <p>If you need a copy of the presentation and aren’t able to access it, please contact your RCM or email the ARSC secretary directly on: <a href="mailto:secretary@na.org.au">secretary@na.org.au</a></p>	<p><b>Start</b> <b>11:00am</b></p> <p><b>Finish</b> <b>12:30pm</b></p>
	<b><u>BREAK</u></b>	<b>12:30pm-1:30pm</b>
3.1	<p><b><u>PRESENTATION: Service Through the Decades - A personal reflection (including Q&amp;A)</u></b></p> <p>[Screen share]</p> <p>POWERPOINT PRESENTATION</p>	<p><b>Start</b> <b>1.36pm</b></p> <p><b>Finish</b> <b>2:50pm</b></p>

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SATURDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>See link to Resources – ‘ARSC September 2023’ folder on OneDrive (for ARSC Members) containing all information and resources used for this presentation, below.</p> <p><a href="#">2309 History Presentation</a> [REDACTED]</p> <p>For access a copy of the presentation, please contact your RCM or email the ARSC secretary directly on: <a href="mailto:secretary@na.org.au">secretary@na.org.au</a></p>	
	<b><u>BREAK</u></b>	<b>2:50pm-3:20pm</b>
	<p><b><u>DISCUSSION PERIOD (CONTINUED)</u></b></p> <p><i>Discussion Items taken directly from reports / requests of members</i></p>	<b>3:20pm-5:02pm</b>
	<p><b><i>Prior to commencing discussion, a video supplied by the RD from the Finnish Region was played. See link below:</i></b></p> <p><a href="#">Finnish ECNA video.mp4</a></p> <p>If you need a copy of the video and aren’t able to access it, please contact your RCM or email the ARSC secretary directly on: <a href="mailto:secretary@na.org.au">secretary@na.org.au</a></p> <p>There was then a brief discussion about post ARSC meeting transport to the airport for out-of-townners.</p>	
4.1	<p><b><i>In relation to discussion Item 1: QR Codes, the Chair then updated the ARSC explaining that he had been in touch with IT and that a QR code was being developed. The Chair will update as the process progresses.</i></b></p>	
	<p><b>Discussion Item 2</b></p> <p><b>Position speaking to item: Newcastle Hunter Valley</b></p> <p><b>Discussion item: Phoneline Volunteers and Anonymity on Social Media</b></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>The RCM for Newcastle and Hunter Valley (NHV) commenced discussion by explaining that their Area was concerned about newcomers names and phone numbers being posted on social media for contacting by NA Members. NHV explained that there were concerns that these newcomers were possibly vulnerable and that posting such sensitive information could leave them open to interaction that may not be appropriate. NHV went on to say that the practice was supported by a well established OCM from Sydney.</p>	



## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SATURDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>A: The RD stated that new members should be referred to the local committee/community but not have their details posted on social media. The RD continued on to say that the ARSC is not affiliated with any social media based groups that NA communities have created (eg Facebook groups/pages).</p> <p>A: The Chair stated that the ARSC pays a lot for Twillio and that using that service would mean it is not necessary to use social media.</p> <p>Q: RCM Sydney East states they are aware of the Sydney member that has been doing this. Would you like us to contact them?</p> <p>A: NHV – yes please</p> <p>A: RCM Central Coast suggests that the admin of the Facebook page be contacted</p> <p>A: RCM Canberra states that rules can be put on such pages</p> <p>Q: RCM GC – was the member who posted their details contacted?</p> <p>A: NHV - Yes – a 12 step call was done</p> <p>Q: RCM GC – Well therefore it has worked then?</p> <p>A: NHV - Yes it worked this time, however the concern remains that that access to personal information like that could result in ‘the wrong’ sort of person taking advantage of a newcomer.</p> <p>Q: What are you looking for? Is it the ARSC to work together to form a statement to take back to areas?</p> <p>*Chair: This could be managed by PR noting that admin is likely to be supporting a possible caretaker in this role.</p> <p>Acting chair noted that the ARSC previously had guidelines around social media usage.</p> <p><b>{Action Item 2}</b></p> <p><b><i>RCM Sydney East to contact OCM about concerns raised about newcomers sensitive personal information posted on social media pages.</i></b></p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SATURDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023	
	<p><b>Discussion Item 3</b></p> <p><b>Position speaking to item: Indigenous Chair</b></p> <p><b>Discussion item: List of Indigenous rehabs to share</b></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>Discussion had around areas providing a list of indigenous rehabs to the indigenous subcommittee so that they can be in contact to share the NA message.</p> <p>A: Some RCMs stated that no GSRs had brought forth any additional information.</p> <p>Q: RCM Canberra – Are there any virtual indigenous meetings?</p> <p>A: IND. Chair – Yes there are men’s and women’s meetings.</p> <p>* Further discussion was had around cultural sensitivity and from that discussion it was agreed that the indigenous subcommittee would create a statement.</p> <p><b>{Action Item 3 and 4}</b></p> <p><b><i>Indigenous subcommittee to continue compiling list of indigenous rehabilitation centres from each state.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Indigenous subcommittee to create cultural sensitivity statement.</i></b></p>	
	<p><b>Discussion Item 4</b></p> <p><b>Position speaking to item: RCM Canberra</b></p> <p><b>Discussion item: Service recruitment</b></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>Discussion had around how to recruit members to do ARSC service. An idea was raised to create a subcommittee with this as a primary focus, including the idea of creating a pool of trusted servants willing to serve.</p> <p>* RCM Canberra – The purpose of raising this point was to talk about the problems, and then talk about options.</p> <p>Further discussion was had around complexity of roles and an absence of persons in learning positions. It was also discussed that creating and managing pools has shown to be ineffective. Points were then raised about clean time and accessibility and policy stated that reviewing clean time for roles was a separate topic. Policy further stated that established clean time for positions was a result of a lot of past experience and rationale. Discussion continued around service culture and that we are a volunteer organisation.</p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SATURDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>Acting Secretary states that a workshop tomorrow has a strong focus on leadership development and will hopefully help. The workshop is designed to be replicated by RCMs at an area level if they choose to do so.</p> <p>* Vice chair – as the RSBoA is a regulated entity with benefits such as no income tax, there needs to be 5 members on the RSBoA at all times. This adds to the issue of having positions vacant.</p> <p><b>{Action Item 5}</b></p> <p><i>Admin to explore this topic with a view to expanding it within the strategic planning subcommittee.</i></p>	
	<p><b>Discussion Item 5</b></p> <p><b>Position speaking to item: RCM Central Coast</b></p> <p><b>Discussion Item: Visibility and accessibility of persons with a disability</b></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>Discussion was had around NA public service announcements and flyers not having persons with disabilities represented (i.e in a wheelchair etc). Further discussion was had around meetings lists identifying whether there was wheelchair access. It was stated that a member with a legitimate service dog was denied entry to a meeting and that this may highlight an opportunity to further educate the fellowship on accessibility and visibility of members with disabilities.</p> <p><b>{Action Item 6 and 7}</b></p> <p><i>RCMs to check meetings lists to make sure they reflect disability access and to educate ASCs/local fellowships about allowing persons with legitimate service dogs to be able to attend meetings. PR to explore adding persons with disabilities (I.e in a wheelchair) to flyers and public service announcements.</i></p>	
	<p><i>*Brief discussion around bulletin 29 – DRTMRT and people under the influence of substances in meetings.</i></p> <p><b>Discussion Item 6</b></p> <p><b>Position speaking to item: RCM Gold Coast</b></p> <p><b>Discussion item: Clean time requirements for service</b></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>RCM Gold Coast (GC) - RCM asks whether or not there is a possibility that clean time requirements are outdated and whether a review of this could create a chance for more members to gain access to doing service.</p> <p>Q: Vice chair: Is there a particular area of concern?</p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SATURDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>A: GC – Maybe at the ASC level at times is where this seems to start.</p> <p>A: Policy – thank you to GC for raising the point. Policy states that clean time requirements have been developed over many years based on history and experience. Often clean time reflects responsibilities of positions.</p> <p>A: RCM South Australia (SA) – The SA ASC occasionally adjust clean times and offer some flexibility with discussion.</p> <p>Further discussion was had reflecting different ideas around electing people who don't meet clean time requirements including points relating to traditions and protecting NA and NA members, as well as inviting flexibility when appropriate.</p> <p>A: RCM South Sydney – There is always the option to offer a trial period for the sake of the member and the service body.</p>	
	<p>Chair announces that members should remove valuables.</p> <p>Meeting closes at 5:05pm.</p>	
	<b>END OF DAY</b>	<b>5.05pm</b>

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<b>OPENING ITEMS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acknowledgment of Country: RCM SA</li> <li>Count of participants to establish quorum</li> <li>(A quorum is defined as 40% of all standing positions of the ARSC, including Subcommittee Chairpersons, and Administration Committee members, and must include a minimum of 5 RCMS (or their alternates).)</li> </ul> <p>Day 1: &gt;40% of all standing positions (21 participants) and 10 RCMS (<b>Quorum Reached</b>)</p> <p>Day 2: &gt; 40% of all standing positions (22 participants) and 10-12 RCMS (<b>Quorum Reached</b>)</p> <p>Chair states that they spoke with IT re: the QR code and will discuss with the RCM Gold Coast.</p>	
1.0	<b>SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS and REVIEWS</b>	9:10am-10:30am
1.1	<b>SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS</b> <i>[FD.OR, IT, NA Today, Policy, PR, SP]</i> <i>Reports submitted to Secretary after the meetings and detailed below.</i>	9:17am-9:52am
1.2	<b>SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEWS</b>	9:56am-10:29am
	<b>IT Subcommittee</b> <i>No subcommittee meeting held</i>	
	<b>NA Today Subcommittee</b> <b>TBC</b> <b>{Action Item 8}</b>	
	<b>Indigenous Subcommittee</b> Present: <span style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</span> Discussion in relation to the proposals being put forward and report tabled. Question as to why our subcommittee cannot vote in elections and only RCMS. Our subcommittee represents indigenous members all across Australia and our three online meetings have a group conscience and the subcommittee has the group conscience of the meetings. It is felt we don't have a voice when voting at the ARSC. It was noted that NA@home was accepted as an Area. Submit a proposal to the ARSC that:	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>The Indigenous Subcommittee be recognised as a voting body within the ARSC representing the indigenous group conscience throughout Australia.</p> <p>Intent: To give the Indigenous Subcommittee and aboriginal Australian members a 'voice' guided by our group conscience.</p> <p>Another intended proposal for November/ December ARSC (but take back to the groups first)</p> <p>Change the name to Australian Indigenous Subcommittee as the indigenous meeting at the Far North Coast Convention meeting has indigenous members from other countries sharing at the meeting.</p> <p>In relation to the Proposals to ARSC with the Subcommittee Report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Unity Day proposal – to be withdrawn until further information can be provided such as a date for the event and the amount requested.</li> <li>2. Proposal for PR Funds to be withdrawn as funds are already allocated for printing within the budget.</li> <li>3. LT working group proposal – discussion – Name needs to be changed from Local Translation Committee as we cannot have a committee within a subcommittee, it needs to be a working group. Suggestion for change to Australian Indigenous Language Working Group.</li> </ol> <p>After RCM discussion in relation to the proposal, it has been advised the proposal needs more information in relation to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What language proposal covers and area it pertains to</li> <li>b. Demographics of addicts in the area</li> <li>c. Identify the population numbers literature will be distributed to</li> <li>d. Research the level of drug use and the areas of highest drug use</li> </ol> <p>Discussion around the requirements set down for translation work that there must be a member on the group who speaks the language. It was advised we have a member that speaks the language (Djarmapingu) but cannot do professional translation work. The ARSC Chair also advised he would provide a written response to the proposal with the request for further information.</p> <p>The possibility of having the literature flyers or IPs recorded in audio recordings in language was also suggested. Glossary for the language would still need to be worked on to provide guidelines to the conceptual fidelity of the NA message.</p> <p>Close of meeting.</p>	
	<p><b>FD.OR Subcommittee</b></p> <p>Fellowship development outreach subcommittee meeting - present: [REDACTED]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Caretaking chair [REDACTED] limited availability to caretaker role</li> <li>- Unsure of availability of Vice chair [REDACTED], hasn't made contact</li> <li>- Online H&amp;I submitted report</li> <li>- NA@Home, not sure what's happening, note proposal submitted</li> </ul>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Talked about the services we provide to our new members IE FD workshops to areas, contact with isolated communities, sponsorship program</li> <li>- All agreed to still meet online every 1st Thursday of the month, [REDACTED] agreed to facilitate if [REDACTED] unavailable</li> <li>- [REDACTED] to contact [REDACTED] and let him know to delegate tasks arising from service email account IE making contact with enquiries for sponsorship and vetting EOIs for sponsorship</li> <li>- [REDACTED] to contact [REDACTED] to see if he needs assistance with distribution of literature to contacts of isolated communities</li> <li>- Members to approach people in areas to encourage nominations for chair</li> <li>- All going to do our best to help ensure continuity of service</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Policy and Procedures (P &amp; P) Subcommittee</b>  <b>Policy and planning sub-committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy and planning is going well</li> <li>• There is a tension because sometimes there isn't a policy – in this case, we need to fall back on traditions, concepts and steps</li> <li>• The role of policy and planning sub-committee work is to collect the regional conscience</li> </ul> <p>What's working well</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lots of policies have been updated on the website</li> <li>• Many policies have been made more simple</li> <li>• Mainly, the current policies cover the need</li> <li>• The intention is for policy and procedure to support NA culture and unity, so power driven harsh policy is contrary to unity</li> <li>• In terms of doing the work – its not controversial – just need to use the traditions, values, concepts</li> <li>• There is lots of writing, thinking and talking through concepts.</li> <li>• The policy and planning sub-committee are happy to get it wrong and keep trying.</li> </ul> <p>Limitations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue is that the limitations of policy are only known when its used and tested</li> <li>• For example, the grievance policy does not clarify what accounts for a grievance, so it is important to identify what the grievance is and whether due process is followed.</li> <li>• Policy takes time, committee members are busy.</li> </ul> <p>On the horizon – priority tasks for next 12 months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updating grievance policy and procedure</li> <li>• Consensus based decision making</li> <li>• Simplifying the introductory blurb on policy and procedures as its currently convoluted</li> <li>• Votes of no confidence and removing people from office</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>PR Subcommittee</b>  Posters for fellowship use  Disability poster as discussed on Saturday by Central coast RCM making disability visible and creating awareness that we are disability friendly.</p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>Service poster outlining the pathways of service for workshops and awareness at area to try to dispel the negative narrative around service. QR codes to go to the positions vacant. Ryan to work on</p> <p>Step up to service poster</p> <p>Another poster to focus</p> <p>The positions vacant at region</p> <p>Work on visibility for minority's.</p>	
	<p><b>Strategic Planning Subcommittee</b></p> <p>ACTIONS [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to caretake the strategic planning inbox.</p> <p>Need to go through a process to develop the strategic plan ideally in the first meeting of new Cycle but we have missed that due to no SP chair.</p> <p>[REDACTED] has started a one pager about what Strategic planning is and how we can add value to the ARSC.</p> <p>A proposal is coming today for a Fellowship survey which can be a starting point,</p> <p>Need SP workshop in Dec or March to present the survey and workshop turning that survey into a plan.</p> <p>Actions meet with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to discuss how to bring the proposed survey within the SP Subcommittee.</p> <p>Succession planning is a big part of SP.</p>	
	<p><b>RCM Catch Up</b></p> <p>RCM Meeting Sun 20th Aug</p> <p>Attendees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[REDACTED] - South Coast RCM</li> <li>[REDACTED] - Sydney RCM</li> <li>[REDACTED] - Sydney East At RCM</li> <li>[REDACTED] - Sydney South RCM</li> <li>[REDACTED] - Central Coast RCM</li> <li>[REDACTED] - Newcastle RCM</li> <li>[REDACTED] NT RCM</li> </ul> <p>Discussion Topic: Group readings on being clean today and should members refrain from sharing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sydney East RCM Raised clarity from NA Bulletin 29</li> <li>- NT does have group reading on being clean today</li> <li>- Sydney South doesn't have readings on being clean today</li> </ul>	



## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>Discussion Topic: Newcastle members posting personal phone numbers vs phone line numbers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are there guidelines for phone line workers around 12 tradition ?</li> </ul> <p>Discussion Topic: 7th tradition via online</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cards with Area Bank Details for meetings to use for EFT Transfer</li> </ul> <p>Discussion Topic: Service Members Unable to recruit fresh blood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Central coast: Service BBQ Day, Fund Flow Workshop from Tim</li> <li>- Sydney east asking GSR to share about service is a superpower</li> <li>- Discussion about leaving roles vacant to create space for new trusted servants.</li> </ul>	
	<b><u>BREAK</u></b>	<b>10:30am – 11:00am</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b><u>HIGHLIGHTS and CHALLENGES, New Business and RSBoA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</u></b>	<b>Start</b> <b>11:04am</b> <b>Finish</b> <b>12:35pm</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<p><b>AREA, SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADMIN HIGHLIGHTS and CHALLENGES</b></p> <p><b>ARSC Treasurer</b> – Shares about challenges associated with Iranians in detention (Villawood) and access to resources, getting literature into the centre etc</p> <p><b>RCM Victoria</b> – Highlights the upcoming Convention later in the year (November)</p> <p><a href="#"><u>Melb Convention Flyer.jpeg</u></a></p> <p><b>RCM Far North Coast (FNC)</b> – Shares about the challenges with filling positions on the ASC and attracting people to serve, noting that both the Chair and Vice Chair roles are vacant. FNCASC has been having hybrid meetings – this has been helping attendance. The RD responded about some of the activities of the ARSC PR subcommittee including the development of posters “stepping up” encouraging members to serve as well as other projects in the pipeline. The Alt RCM Far North Coast highlighted the value of service and what is gained from doing it – this is an incentive! The RCM FNC went on to report a highlight being the amazing convention that they had had earlier in the year with over 4000 years of recovery attending and how successful using EFTPOS had been.</p> <p>RCM Central Coast – Says that OCM’s are approachable and open</p> <p><b>ARSC Vice Chair</b> – share Sydney East’s na.org.au webpage and reports that 1000 meetings list were printed via Vistaprint at a good rate that also have a QR code for accessing online meetings.</p> <p>Q: RCM FNC – Has the FNC got one of these pages?</p>	<b>Start</b> <b>11:08am</b>  <b>Finish</b> <b>11:34am</b>

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>A: Vice Chair – Explores and then reports that one can be set up. The Vice Chair screen shares and does a walk through the process on the website.</p> <p><b>RCM Sunshine Coast</b> – Shared that their Area had experienced some challenges with Squares and ABN's. The RCM then reported that Westpac had given them an Eftpos machine attached to the ASC's account and that that had been working well. They were also able to keep the machine. The Policy Chair also shared experience with Westpac Eft devices that could be used and returned for minimal fees. The Vice Chair stated that Westpac seems to be NA friendly from their experience.</p> <p>ARSC Chair – Certainly been a challenging time. Discusses the idea of returning to three ARSC meetings per year – proposing 2 face-to-face (one of which would be roving) and one virtual reminding the ARSC that the four per year was a trial. The Chair stated that whilst there was opportunity for higher productivity with four meetings, that was actually negated by higher apologies resulting in less work being done. There was also challenges meeting goals in the lessened time between meetings when operating at four per year. The RCM Far North Coast (FNC) asked whether a cost assessment has been done in relation to such a change? The Vice Chair responds that this has been considered and that the average cost of a face-to-face meeting is approximately \$10000.00. FNC agrees that returning to three makes sense but not all face-to-face. The Chair noted that the ARSC has sent a lot of money out of Australia in recent times and that we can utilise this to action face to face ARSC meetings.</p>	
2.2	<p><b>NEW BUSINESS - 1<sup>st</sup> Session</b>  <i>All proposals have been documented here as received unless otherwise stated</i>  <b>23 ARSC participants including 9 RCMs (Quorum Met)</b>  <i>[Outcomes categories recorded 'for: against: present not voting' example 20:1:2]</i></p> <p>Indigenous Flyers Proposal  Premium Starter Packs Proposal  September ARSC Dates Proposal</p> <p>Indigenous Yabun Proposal - Withdrawn  Indigenous Literature Translation and Proof Reading Proposal - Withdrawn</p>	<p><b>Start</b>  <b>11.34am</b>  <b>Finish</b>  <b>11.57am</b></p>
	<p><b>*Please note that the Indigenous Subcommittee Chair withdraw all submitted proposals other than New Business Item 1.</b></p> <p><b>New Business Item 1 -</b></p> <p>\$500 for the printing of Flyers and Posters for distribution across Aboriginal communities throughout Australia.</p> <p><b>Proposer</b> – Indigenous Subcommittee Chair</p> <p><b>Second</b> – RCM Sydney East</p>	

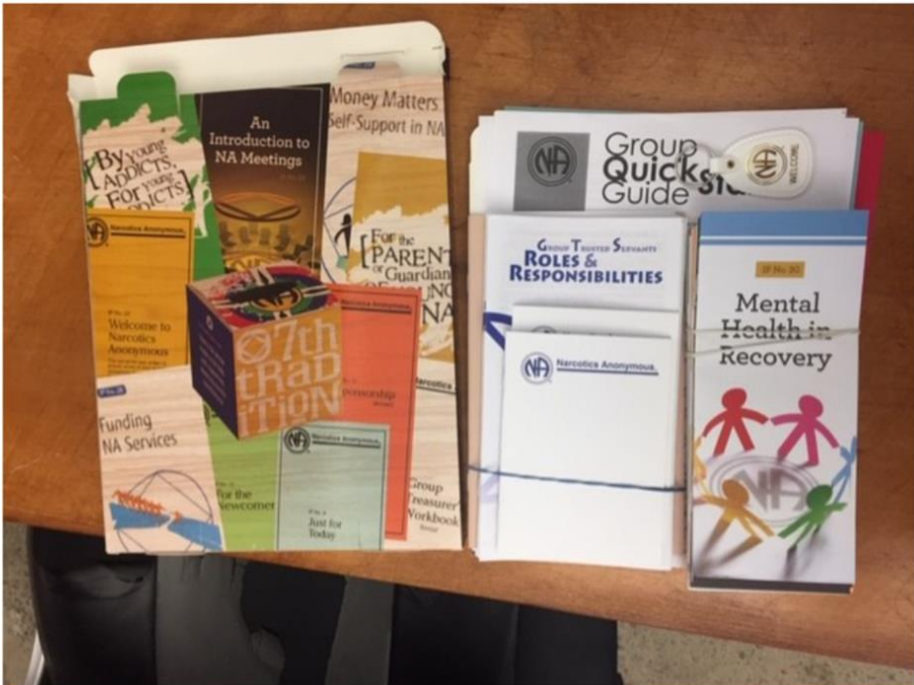
## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p><b>Intent</b> – To carry the message of NA to all Aboriginal Communities, goals and rehabs to addicts who</p> <p><b>Initial straw poll:</b> Unanimous support</p> <p><b>Q: Policy Chair</b> – Firstly, I am very much supportive of this. My question is whether that is enough money to do the printing?</p> <p><b>A: Indigenous Chair:</b> Design has been done specifically to accommodate printing in C5/A4 formats which can also be sent as PDF files.</p> <p><b>Q: RCM South Australia</b> – We have 100% unanimity on this, is there any need to further discuss?</p> <p><b>Q: RCM Hunter Valley</b> – Is there a quote?</p> <p><b>A: Indigenous Chair:</b> We have an estimate</p> <p><b>Second straw poll:</b> Unanimous support</p> <p><b>Endorsed by consensus</b></p> <p><b>{Action Item 9}</b></p>	
	<p><b>New Business Item 2 -</b></p> <p>That the ARSC support and fund the issuing of 'Premium Starter Packs' by the FSO through the 'Group Registration Process' at a cost of \$10 per starter kit (plus postage charged a cost – between \$8.00 and \$14.40).</p> <p>The Premium Starter Kit would include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A copy of all the Service Pamphlets</li> <li>2. 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Box</li> <li>3. Group Reading Cards</li> <li>4. Group Treasurers Record Sheets</li> <li>5. Welcome Keytag and Welcome Chip</li> </ol> <p><b>Proposer</b> – ARSC Vice Chair</p> <p><b>Seconder</b> – Alt RCM Sydney East</p> <p><b>Intent</b> - That new groups are able to obtain at no cost to them some essential resources to start their new meeting.</p> <p><b>Detail</b> - At present, approximately 20-30 basic Starter Kits are requested on the website per year.</p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>30 starter kits @ (\$10+\$14.40 - max postage cost) would be \$732.00</p> <p>The current starter kit is very basic and only contains one White Book, one The Group Booklet, one NA A Resource in Your Community and three each of a variety of pamphlets.</p> <p>If approved, the mechanics of reimbursing the FSO will be worked out between both parties.</p> <p>The FSO Management Committee supports the initiative</p> <p>Please see the photo below of a Premium Starter Kit</p> <div data-bbox="308 882 1225 1565" data-label="Image">  </div> <p><b>Initial straw poll:</b> 21:1:1</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <p><b>Q: RCM South Australia</b> – We have a standing \$25 credit for new meetings – will this be taken away?</p> <p><b>A: FSO</b> – New registered meetings would get the new starter kit</p> <p><b>A: Vice Chair</b> – The new starter kit is much more comprehensive</p> <p><b>Q: RCM Hunter Valley (HV)</b> – Will these new ones override the existing ones?</p> <p><b>A: Vice Chair/FSO</b> - yes – the new ones will over-ride the existing ones.</p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p><b>Q: HV</b> – Will jails still be able to get them via H&amp;I?</p> <p><b>Q: RCM Gold Coast (GC)</b> – Why are there no banners?</p> <p><b>A: FSO</b> – Because of the cost</p> <p><b>Vice Chair breaks down the costs</b></p> <p><b>Q: GC</b> – could some items be removed so as to include banners?</p> <p><b>RCM Central Coast states that their ASC funds banners for new meetings</b></p> <p><b>Q: RCM Far North Coast (FNC)</b> – What about paper banners?</p> <p><b>A: Vice Chair</b> – the proposal relates to the current items listed.</p> <p><b>Q: FNC</b> – Could we please be advised of what adding paper banners would be?</p> <p><b>Chair moves to seek consensus:</b></p> <p><b>Endorsed by consensus</b></p> <p><b>{Action Item 10}</b></p>	
	<p><b>New Business Item 3 -</b></p> <p>That the dates of the September ARSC in person be changed to the second weekend in September from 2024.</p> <p><b>Proposer</b> – RCM Far North Coast</p> <p><b>Seconder</b> – RCM North Australia</p> <p><b>Intent</b> – Father's Day is on the first Sunday in September. Most service positions are 2-4 years and this means missing Father's Day for 2-4 year consecutively.</p> <p><b>Initial straw poll</b> – 22:1:0</p> <p>Brief discussion was held before the Chair calls for consensus.</p> <p><b>Endorsed by consensus</b></p> <p><b>{Action Item 11}</b></p>	
2.3	<p><b>RSBoA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b></p> <p><i>See link to folder on Onedrive (for ARSC Members) containing all information relevant to the AGM, below (Also attached to this document.)</i></p> <p><a href="#">AGM 22-23 Reports.pdf</a></p>	12:07pm – 12:35pm

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>If you need a copy of the documents and aren't able to access them, please contact your RCM or email the ARSC secretary directly on: <a href="mailto:secretary@na.org.au">secretary@na.org.au</a></p> <p>The same minutes are also on the NA website at <a href="https://www.na.org.au/multi/regional-incorporation-documentation/agm-minutes/">https://www.na.org.au/multi/regional-incorporation-documentation/agm-minutes/</a></p>	
	<b><u>LUNCH BREAK</u></b>	<b>12:35pm – 1:30pm</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<p><b><u>Workshop - Leadership Development in NA</u></b>  [Screen share]  POWERPOINT PRESENTATION  See link to Resources folder on Onedrive (for ARSC Members) containing all information and resources used for this presentation, below.</p> <p><a href="#">2309 Leadership Development Workshop 2023.pptx</a></p> <p><a href="#">2309 Leadership Workshop Results.pdf</a></p> <p>If you need a copy of the presentations and aren't able to access them, please contact your RCM or email the ARSC secretary directly on: <a href="mailto:secretary@na.org.au">secretary@na.org.au</a></p>	<b>1:30pm-3:00pm</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>NEW BUSINESS AND CLOSING ITEMS</b>	<b>3:34pm-5:00pm</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b>NEW BUSINESS – 2<sup>nd</sup> Session</b></p> <p><i>All proposals have been documented here as received unless otherwise stated</i></p> <p><b>23 ARSC participants including 9 RCMs (Quorum Met)</b>  <b>[Outcomes categories recorded 'for: against: present not voting' example 20:1:2]</b></p> <p>NA Online Australia Proposal  National NA Survey Proposal  ARSC Meeting Structure and Roaming Proposal</p> <p>Creation of Workgroup to align to NAWs 3 year cycle – Withdrawn.</p>	<b>Start</b> <b>3:34pm</b> <b>Finish</b> <b>4:28pm</b>
	<p><b>New Business Item 4 -</b></p> <p>NA Online Australia (NAOA) be recognised as the renamed area that was formerly known as NA@Home.</p> <p><b>Proposer – OR/FD Caretaker –</b> [REDACTED]</p> <p><b>Seconder – RCM Far North Coast</b></p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p><b>Intent</b> - That NAOA continue to be supported by the Australian Region and have representation at the ARSC as a seated area.</p> <p><b>Detail</b> - NA@Home Area (Blue Jeans platform, previously Paltalk and Skype) was established in 2011 by a group of Australian members seeking to attend meetings online. Since then, we've seen the area grow to 21 meetings per week.</p> <p>The area has always been well supported by the Australian Region and was acknowledged as a seated area in 2020. Since then, our RCMs have represented our area at the ARSC.</p> <p>Unfortunately, a situation evolved where a single individual had a disproportionate influence over the area, controlling the domain name, communications, treasury and online platform. At one stage a single individual concurrently held positions of Area Chair, Treasurer, Tech Admin and Secretary plus multiple group positions.</p> <p>Attempts to encourage rotation of service positions (on an area level) were eventually effective though efforts to observe NA Traditions and Concepts 4, 6, 7, 9 and 12 resulted in escalating bullying and abuse of members of the ASC.</p> <p>These issues have been referenced in previous RCM reports to the ARSC.</p> <p>A member has also reported "There are also so many individuals like myself, simply attending meetings, not in any service position, who were belittled, and whose recovery was called into question to the level that it profoundly affected my life for a while, and I must not be the only one I know...I left because of it and thought I was the only one but I've now found many others who felt the same".</p> <p>On the 25th June 2023 an individual announced that a portion of NA@Home meetings intended to leave the Area and the Australian Region. This announcement was minuted and has been seen by an ARSC trusted servant.</p> <p>Three quarters of the serving members of the NA@Home ASC (Chair, RCM and vice-Treasurer) stayed in place and continued to serve online groups under the renamed NA Online Australia.</p> <p>We have changed platforms and requested and received funding from the ARSC for a dedicated Zoom account for our meetings.</p> <p>While we are still formulating a new policy for our area (as there were many holes in our very scant NA@Home Policy), we don't currently have an active treasury to receive 7th contributions directly though our members are contributing directly to the ARSC in the tradition of self-support.</p>	



## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>The 7th tradition funds (from the previous iteration of the area) remain in the original bank account. To date the funds have not been addressed as engaging in further negotiations was distracting us from our primary purpose and causing harm to our members.</p> <p>NA Online Australia has sought the support of Outreach/Fellowship Development and Policy subcommittees over the last month whilst we have been adapting and enacting a comprehensive Area policy prior to a full ASC election.</p> <p>This has been undertaken by installing an interim chair and secretary elected by a quorum of GSRs. All discussions have been in an open forum, inviting all groups members, all those in attendance have been encouraged to contribute during these discussions. These extraordinary Area meetings have been comprehensively minuted and are available for scrutiny.</p> <p>NAOA has spent the last six weeks concentrating solely on ensuring that our area has a policy in place that protects us from “disproportionate individual” representation within the committee and that a sound framework is in place to guide our decision-making processes. That integrity, diversity and consistency are at the heart of our work and that all decisions made at the area have been achieved by invoking a true consensus of all those involved. This we feel should see us going forward in a diverse yet unified and safer direction.</p> <p><b>Initial straw poll 22:0:1</b></p> <p><b>Endorsed by consensus</b></p> <p><b>{Action Item 12}</b></p>	
	<p><b>New Business Item 5 -</b></p> <p>The proposal is for the Australian Region to conduct a 2023/2024 membership survey. This survey will be overseen by the Region and the analysis and reporting of the survey results will be undertaken for the Australian region by the proposer.</p> <p><b>Proposer –</b> [REDACTED], Committee member of Sunday 5pm ‘Birthday Bash’ NA Online area meeting</p> <p><b>Seconder –</b> RCM Far North Coast</p> <p><b>Intent -</b> NA World Services indicates the intent of NA membership survey serves the purpose of gathering valuable information about our fellowship. It helps us identify trends within our membership, highlight specific groups with unique needs, and enhances our public relations efforts.</p>	



## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023	
	<p>The Australian membership survey will provide the Australian Fellowship with a more nuanced understanding of the needs of the Fellowship going forward, and provides for additional insights into NA Service strategic direction.</p> <p>This proposal also request a budget of \$500 to pay for the survey software that houses the survey. This has been costed with a little flexibility for additional admin aspects.</p> <p><b>Initial straw poll – 17:5:1</b></p> <p>██████ provides information, history and intent and commits to provide a copy of the last ARSC survey</p> <p><b>Second straw poll – 23:0:0</b></p> <p><b>Endorsed by consensus</b></p> <p><b>{Action Item 12}</b></p>	
	<p><b>New Business Item 6 -</b></p> <p>To re-establish our long-time standard practice of 3 ARSC's per year (once every 4 months)</p> <p><b>Proposer – ARSC Chair</b></p> <p><b>Second – RCM Victoria</b></p> <p><b>Intent -</b> To reduce our stresses and to hopefully improve our productivity; this through providing more functional time between the onerous and ineffectual reporting schedule that we had inadvertently adopted during the Covid response era.</p> <p><b><i>The ARSC Chair suggests a friendly amendment to split the proposal which is unanimously agree upon:</i></b></p> <p>Part A) That 3 ARSC meetings are held each year on the third weekend of March, July and November</p> <p><b>Proposer – ARSC Chair</b></p> <p><b>Second – RCM Victoria</b></p> <p>Part B) That of the 3 ARSC's held each year, two are held face-to-face (March in Sydney, November roving) and one held virtually (July)</p> <p><b>Proposer – ARSC Chair</b></p> <p><b>Second – RCM Hunter Valley</b></p> <p><b>Initial straw poll – 19: 3: 1 (86%)</b></p>	

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023			
	<p><b>Discussion -</b></p> <p>The RCM Far North Coast states that they will always vote against due to the financial impact of face-to-face meetings however they would support 1x face-to-face and 2x virtual. The ARSC Treasurer agrees that they support 1x face-to-face and 2x virtual as does the RCM Sydney West.</p> <p><b>Second straw poll - 19:2:1 (91%)</b></p> <p><b>Both part A and part B Endorsed by consensus</b></p> <p><b>{Action Item 13}</b></p>			
4.2	<p>The Chair facilitated a brief discussion relating to the endorsed proposals and the reversion to three ARSCs per annum. It was agreed unanimously that a virtual ARSC would be held in December 2023 to segue between current practise and the return to three ARSC’s annually.</p>			
4.3	<p>The Vice Chair then explained the NA Australia’s legal status on Groups, ASCs, the ARSC and the RSBoA.</p> <p>Screen Share</p> <p><a href="#">NA's legal structure in Australia.pdf</a></p>			
4.4	<b>CLOSING ITEMS</b>		<b>4:30pm-5:00pm</b>	
4.4.1	<b>ACTION LIST</b>		<b>4:30pm-4:40pm</b>	
	<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>		<b>Responsibility</b>
	<b>1</b>	Get in contact with IT regarding creating QR codes for Areas / Subcommittees and report back to the ARSC.		<b>Chair</b>
	<b>2</b>	Contact OCM who is posting sensitive information on FB and requesting members to contact Phoneline callers.		<b>Sydney East RCM</b>
	<b>3</b>	Continue compiling list of indigenous rehabilitation centres from each state		<b>Indigenous Subcommittee</b>
	<b>4</b>	Create cultural sensitivity statement.		<b>Indigenous Subcommittee</b>
	<b>5</b>	Explore the issue of vacant positions and service recruitment, with a view to expanding it within the strategic planning subcommittee.		<b>Admin Committee</b>
	<b>6</b>	RCMs to check meetings lists to make sure they reflect disability access and to educate	<b>RCM’s</b>	


## ARSC Meeting Minutes

### September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, *In Person*

Item No	ARSC SUNDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023			
		ASCs/local fellowships about allowing persons with legitimate service dogs to be able to attend meetings.		
	7	PR to explore adding persons with disabilities (l.e in a wheelchair) to flyers and public service announcements.	PR Subcommittee	
	8	Submit minutes from NA Today Subcommittee Meeting to Secretary	NA Today Chair	
	9	Arrange for printing of Indigenous flyers	Indigenous Chair and Subcommittee	
	10	Implement Premium Starter Kits for all new meeting requests	FSO Chair	
	11	Move the date of the September ARSC in person meeting to the second weekend in September from 2024.	Chair	
	12	Make the necessary changes to rename NA@Home to NA Online Australia (NAOA) on the website and database.	NAOA, IT	
	13	Implement the new ARSC arrangements for 3 ARSC's each year, two which are held face-to-face (March in Sydney, November roving) and one held virtually (July).	Chair and Admin	
	14	Update the Buddy List	RD	
	15	NA Today to provide a summary of how to contribute to NA and include in next publication	NA Today	
	16	NA Today to update distribution contact list	NA Today Chair, Outreach, Chair and FSO	
4.4.2	<b>CLOSING TREASURY REPORT</b> Closing Balance as at 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2023: \$32,408.97			4:40pm-4:45pm

## ARSC Meeting Minutes

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4.4.3	<p><b>NEXT ARSC</b> 2nd and 3rd of December 2023 11am – 5pm (Conference call – via Zoom)</p> <p><b>NEXT RCM MEETING</b> TBC – possibly 19/11/2023, 4-6pm (Conference call – via Zoom)</p>	4:45pm – 4:47pm																																																						
4.4.4	<p><b>FEEDBACK SESSION FOR PARTICIPANTS</b></p> 	4:47pm – 4:58pm																																																						
4.4.5	<b>END OF DAY AND ARSC</b>	5:00PM																																																						

### REPORTS

OneDrive link to the ARSC September 2023 → [2309 SEPTEMBER 2023 ARSC](#)