

Message from the Chair, Wilhelm Harnisch

Most of you would be aware that the Federal Government is moving ahead with the National Disability Insurance Scheme which is scheduled to be fully rolled-out in the ACT by July 2016. The ACT Government has been working closely with service providers, including Focus ACT, in the development of how the NDIS scheme will operate in Canberra.

The Board of Focus ACT, over the past two years, has developed a very detailed implementation plan to make sure that the people we serve can receive uninterrupted assistance as we transition to the NDIS.

The Chief Executive of Focus ACT, Tina Siver, has been central to putting in place a set of arrangements that has seen Focus ACT well positioned to help families like yours, better understand and with a revised set of services that can be delivered under the NDIS.

The Board of Focus ACT is very confident of the strategic approach that has been developed and is very appreciative of the energy and commitment that Tina Siver and her staff have given to making sure that the transition to the NDIS can be undertaken with the minimum of fuss. However, Tina has advised the Board that after leading Focus ACT for over 10 years she will be leaving in August this year.

Tina has made sure that the needs of the people we serve always come first. This commitment was demonstrated over the past two years where Tina devoted an extraordinary amount of energy and vision to ensure a fuss free transition to the NDIS for our clients and families.

Tina's departure will be a great loss but the Board of Focus ACT and I as Chair, have worked closely with Tina in an orderly succession plan to finding a suitable replacement. That process is now well underway. The Board is confident in being able to announce a successful replacement by the end of May/early June 2015.

It is planned for the incoming Chief Executive to work with Tina in the three months ahead of her departure in August 2015.

As Chair, I would like to assure you that there will be no loss of service during and after the handover period. Please let me know if you would like any more information about the Chief Executive succession plan.

In closing, on behalf of the Board of Focus ACT, I would like to thank Tina Siver for her leadership and commitment to serving our clients and families over the past 10 years.



Wilhelm Harnisch
Chairperson
13 April 2015

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