



# PSYCHOSOCIAL ONCOLOGY NEW ZEALAND

## PONZ AGM

**Friday 18 November 2010, 4.45 pm  
Novotel Hotel, Hamilton**

### Minutes

**Present:** Juliet Ireland, Don Baken, Graham Harbutt, Hazel Nesor, Susan Sutcliffe, Kathryn Taylor, Catherine Dwan, Lorraine Sutherland, Sarah Kidd, Susan Comber, Judy Dickie, Clare Berrill, Di Stephenson, Sinda Hall, Shirley Walker, Joan Petersen, Virginia Lee, Emma Bell, Chris Atkinson, Rosie Dobson, Claire O'Donovan, Stephanie Campbell-Wilson, Helena Stewart

**Apologies:** Roz McKechnie, Sarah Hunter, David Perez, Fiona Pearson, Rebecca Lee

<b>1.</b>	<b>Previous minutes</b>	AGM minutes 29 November 2010 were accepted as being true and correct: Kathryn Taylor, Susan Sutcliffe
<b>2.</b>	<b>President Report</b>	<p>This year has been a disrupted year for many and we especially feel for the people of Canterbury. This conference was originally planned to be in Christchurch and the organising committee had already done a lot of work towards that event. While it was a disappointment for all involved to not be able to hold the conference in Christchurch it is great that some of this work was able to be used in Hamilton.</p> <p>We must thank Graham Harbutt and the rest of the Waikato conference organising team for stepping in to organise this conference at short notice. Stepping in at late notice has been very difficult and we need to thank them for their willingness and congratulate them on a fantastic conference they have</p>

achieved. That so many people have attended in the current financial climate and with professional development budgets squeezed is a tribute to the organisation of the conference and is also proof of the value that is placed on this opportunity by those involved with psychosocial oncology in New Zealand.

Unfortunately with these changes to the organising of the conference the PONZ committee has not been able to be as focused on non-conference matters through this year as it would have liked. I still believe that PONZ has the potential to deliver more to the field of psychosocial oncology than a national conference.

It has been great to announce two awards at this year's conference. We would like to thank Dr Chris Atkinson and Dr Chris Wynne for their vision in initially conceiving that PONZ should have awards and for their generosity in providing the initial funding for one of the awards. Roz McKechnie has been working on a new brochure for PONZ which will aid in advertising what we do and hopefully attracting membership. It is good to hear that psychosocial groups are continuing in different areas of the country. Unfortunately, after the great work that Pat Russell did in updating the website we have not been able to find someone to do the ongoing maintenance. This will be a challenge for the committee over the next year as the website could be a vital part of PONZ.

These are exciting times for psycho-social oncology in New Zealand. The recent release by the Ministry of Health of the *Implementation Plan for the Guidance for Improving Supportive Care for Adults with Cancer in New Zealand* provides many exciting opportunities. The excitement is obviously not for ourselves, but for the people affected by cancer who will benefit from the improvement in their holistic care. The guidelines give us the opportunity to move forward with some of the hope and dreams that many of our members have each harboured over the years. It will be good for us to individually and collectively think about how we can help maximise the benefits for people with cancer of this implementation. PONZ needs to consider how it can best use its strengths for this purpose.

Finally I would like to thank the PONZ committee for all their work over the last year. I know you are each very busy with your work but it is encouraging to look back and recognise that we have achieved some good things together this year.

		<p>Don Baken President Psychosocial-Oncology New Zealand</p>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Secretary/treasurers' report</b>	<p>Please see attached financial statement. This year our costs have predominately associated with the website. Changes to the membership renewal have complicated membership this year which may have an impact on membership numbers. As our only source of income is via membership fees, we need to encourage membership.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Election of Officers</b>	<p>Sarah Hunter has resigned from the committee. We thank Sarah for her contribution to PONZ over the past few years.</p> <p>Current president Don expressed his desire to step down from the role. The idea was raised to have a co-chair position which Don agreed was acceptable for the year. Susan Sutcliffe nominated Hazel Nesor to be a co-chair with Don. Sarah Kidd seconded it and all the attendees were in favour.</p> <p>Juliet was happy to continue in her role as Secretary/treasurer. All attendees were in favour of this.</p> <p>Emma Bell, Southern Cancer Network, volunteered to look after the website. The committee will contact her regarding this.</p> <p>It was also suggested that we have an education officer or co-ordinator on the committee.</p>
	<b>Next meeting</b>	<p>The next AGM venue will be advised in due course, as the next PONZ conference is not until 2013 in Auckland.</p>

PONZ Financial Statement  
Financial year 1 April 2010 – 31 March 2011

*Income*

Membership	1845.00
2009 Conference	40550.18
Interest	<u>106.67</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>42501.85</b>

*Expenses*

Webdesign	3512.51
Web hosting	462.60
2010 Conference	7036.80
2011 Conference	2000.00
Bank fees	47.50
Tax on interest	20.36
Teleconference expenses	259.59
Incorporation fee	100.00
IPOS Membership	129.14
Stationary	<u>16.47</u>
Total Expenses	13584.97

**Net** **28,916.88**

