

Chairperson report 2019

The last year has been a productive but challenging one for the organisation on a number of fronts.

Achievements

Outdoors WA continued to work across the sector with large scale projects like the development of the Australian Adventure Activity Standards and the review of the National Outdoor Recreation training package. It has been positive to see the WA outdoor community engage throughout that time and we will continue to work on these significant endeavours that lift the health and safety and workforce development of the sector. The Executive Officer continued the delivery of advocacy through Outdoors October and ongoing engagement with government and community stakeholders. We recognise that in a constantly changing environment with policies and people shifting all the time we need sustained energy to keep engaged. Outdoors WA was ably supported over the intense period from July to November 2018 by the work of Tracy Lindsey in Events and Communications. We are thankful to the EO, workers and volunteers for the experience they bring in serving the outdoors community and encouraging more people to adventure outdoors.

Appointment of Chairperson

Duncan Picknoll was appointed Chairperson at the 2018 AGM. Duncan advised members at the AGM that, in the absence of other nominations, he was willing to act as Chairperson for a short period, but he was unable to continue in the role beyond December 2018 due to a range of personal and work commitments. Duncan stepped down in December 2018 and Board member Lenore Lyons agreed to take on the role of Acting Chairperson for 3 months in order to lead a recruitment process for an appointed Chairperson. The position of Chairperson was advertised extensively through industry and community networks in January 2019 and three nominations were received. Applicants were interviewed by the Board and Joe McCarthy was appointed in March 2019 with an interim term of office to the next AGM (in accordance with the current Constitution). The Board is pleased to welcome Joe to the role and looks forward to his appointment being confirmed at the AGM.

Strategic Planning

The Board began a review of its strategic plan in 2018 but decided to suspend this work until the new Chairperson was appointed and the Executive Officer returned to work in January 2019. With the appointment of the new Chairperson, the Board's first action was to hold a planning day in May 2019. The new Strategic Plan was finalised in August.

Our EO has created an Operational plan which links to this and we are looking forward to the implementation of this plan in 2020 and beyond.

Board Governance

In 2018, the Board created three sub-committees to assist in its governance work – a Finance Sub-committee chaired by Treasurer Brad Green; a Membership Sub-

committee chaired by Deputy Chairperson Bernadette Suriani; and a HR, Risk and Compliance Sub-committee chaired by Lenore Lyons. The latter initiated a review of all Board policies and procedures, the development of a Governance Charter, and a review of the Constitution. A series of recommendations in relation to updating the Constitution have been put to the membership at this AGM.

I would like to express thanks to the board members who served throughout the year including

Bernadette Suriani (Vice Chair)

Brad Green (Treasurer)

Kim Gibson

Terry Hewett

Lenore Lyons

Duncan Picknoll

Liam Sullivan

Graham Sharpe

Peter Treeby

Andy Wahid

On behalf of the Board I would like to thank outgoing Board members for their service to the organisation – Lenore Lyons and Kym Gibson