

THE PODIATRISTS REGISTRATION BOARD OF TASMANIA

P. O. Box 240 Claremont Tasmania 7011 Phone (03) 62491377 Facsimile (03) 62494292

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

Membership of the Board:

The current membership of the Board is:

Member	Term
Ms Janice Mason (Chair), Podiatrist	3 years concluding 9 March 2009
Mr. David McKay, Podiatrist	3 years concluding 9 March 2009
Ms Toni Nash, Podiatrist	3 years concluding 10 April 2008
Ms Sarah Piggott	3 years concluding 10 April 2008
Ms Kay Gunn	3 years concluding 9 March 2009

Board Meetings and Membership:

The Board met four times during the year and the number of meetings attended by each Board member were:

	Number of Meetings Attended
Ms Kay Gunn	1
Mr. Julian Edwards	3
Ms Janice Mason	4
Mr. David McKay	4
Ms Toni Nash	4
Ms Sarah Piggott	4

Role of the Board:

The Board is responsible for administering the Podiatrists Registration Act 1995 including approving applications for registrations, maintaining a register of registered podiatrists and investigating any complaints or possible offences under the Act.

The Act outlines the following functions of the Board:

- to administer the scheme of registration;
- to supervise the practice of podiatry in this State;
- to investigate complaints and, as necessary, undertake disciplinary action against registered podiatrists;
- to prosecute offences against this Act;
- to monitor the standard and provision of podiatric services in this State;
- to monitor standards of education and training in podiatry;
- to advise the Minister on matters relating to this Act;
- such other functions as are imposed on the Board by this or any other Act or as may be prescribed.

Registration Policy:

An important role of the Board is to ensure that persons practising podiatry in Tasmania have the appropriate training and qualifications. The categories of podiatrists who meet these requirements are:

1. Podiatrists who have successfully completed a current undergraduate course from an Australian School of Podiatry.
2. Podiatrists who are currently registered in another Australian State in accordance with Mutual Recognition Legislation.
3. Podiatrists registered in New Zealand in accordance with Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition.
4. Other overseas trained podiatrists who have completed requirements prescribed by the Australian Podiatry Council.

Activity Report 2005-06

Footcare Assistants

The Board continued to monitor the employment of footcare assistants within the Tasmanian public health system. A meeting was held with the Manager, Community Podiatry to discuss the activities of footcare assistants and issues of concern to the Board. Representations were made to the Industry Skills Council about training competencies they are developing. The Board has also sought information from independent providers of foot care services about their scope of practice and training undertaken.

Australian and New Zealand Council of Podiatry Registration Boards

Julian Edwards represented the Board at the Joint meeting of Boards, Schools of Podiatry and the Australasian Podiatry Council in New Zealand and the inaugural meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Council of Podiatry Registration Boards in Sydney. Tasmania will be hosting the 2nd meeting of the Council in August 2006.

Publication of national guidelines on infection control was a major achievement during the year and the publication of agreed national occupational health and safety guidelines is well advanced.

Policy Development

The following new policies were developed during the year

- Provision of names and addresses of registered podiatrists
- Recency of practice
- Personal information protection policy
- Advertising policy

Board Web Site

The Board has developed a web page that provides detailed information about its activities that is of interest to both podiatrists and the general public. The web address is www.podregtas.com.au

Meeting of Tasmanian Health Registration Boards

The Board participated in a meeting of Tasmanian Health Registration Boards. A viable option to provide induction training for Board members was identified and will be implemented. Boards are also going to work together to develop a consistent approach to the investigation and consideration of complaints including the need for changes to existing legislation.

Complaints

The Board initiated three investigations underway into activities of independent providers of foot care, which are continuing.

Australasian Podiatry Council Accreditation Reference Committee

David McKay is the Board's nominee on this Committee

Expansion in Access to S4 Drugs

At the moment podiatrists have access to a limited range of local anaesthetic drugs provided they have the necessary skills and training in this area. The Board considers that consideration should be given to expanding the range of S4 drugs that podiatrists may use. This has been subject to discussion at national meetings with a consistent approach across all jurisdictions favoured.

Registration Fees:

During the year the Board agreed to increase registration fees for the 2006-07 year:

	Current	Revised
Application Fee	\$145	\$150
Annual Fee	\$290	\$300
Late Fee	\$58	\$60
Restoration Fee	\$145	\$150

Finance:

A copy of the Annual Financial Statement is attached. A surplus of \$5,000 was achieved for the year, this being in line with the initial budget. The Board believes that sitting fees should be revised to reflect the role undertaken by Board members and has put a proposal to the Department of Health and Human Services.

Register of Podiatrists

Reconciliation of Additions and Removals from the Register

Total on Register as at 1 st July 2005		70
Additions		
Applications Approved	16	
Restorations	-	16
Removals		
Non-payment of annual fees	10	
Expiry of short-term registration	5	16
Total on Register as at 30 th June, 2006		71

Profile of Registered Podiatrist

	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06
Applications & restorations approved	12	13	8	4	10	10	12	14	11	16
Podiatrists Registered as at 30 June	72	71	66	59	58	61	59	68	69	71

Demographic Profile

Gender

Male 24, Female 47

Age

20-29 years	20
30-39 years	24
40-49 years	16
50-59 years	7
60 years an over	4

Region of Registered Address

Southern Tasmania	35
Northern Tasmania	13
North Western Tasmania	16
Interstate	7

Contact Details of the Board:

Tony Sansom
Secretary
PO Box 240
Claremont TAS 7011
Phone 62 491377
Fax 62 494292
Email secretary@podregtas.com
Website www.podregtas.com

Podiatrists Registration Board of Tasmania
Annual Financial Statement for the Year ended 30 June 2006

Cash Receipts	2005/06	2004/05	Cash Payments	2005/06	2004/05
	\$	\$		\$	\$
Balance from last Account	27,749.85	19,520.03	Honorarium	9,000.00	8,250.00
Application Fees	4,835.00	4,370.00	Audit Fees	460.00	460.00
Renewal Fees	17,603.00	17,584.00	Sitting Fees	4,350.00	3,600.00
Infection Guidelines	68.19	0.00	Infection Guidelines	202.86	0.00
GST Collected for ATO	6.81	0.00	Web Site Development	1,930.50	0.00
GST Received from ATO	1,291.00	937.00	Travel, Accommodation, Meals	2,116.99	1,530.56
Interest	1,244.68	1,027.47	Bank Charges	153.15	124.50
			Other Expenses	0.00	280.00
			GST paid to suppliers	1,300.15	964.64
			Merchant Charges	533.81	478.95
			Balance to next Account	32,751.07	27,749.85
	52,798.53	43,438.50		52,798.53	43,438.50

Notes to and forming part of the Accounts

1. The financial statement has been prepared on a cash receipts and disbursements basis.
2. The only asset of the Board is the cash balance of \$32,751.07 as shown in the Statement.