

THE PODIATRISTS REGISTRATION BOARD OF TASMANIA

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CIRCULAR TO REGISTERED PODIATRISTS

Renewal of Registration Year ending 31 December 2008

Registered podiatrists are invited to renew their registration for the year ending 31 December 2008. If you wish to obtain a certificate of registration for this year please complete the details on the attached application form and return to me with the prescribed fee of \$300. Please note that no GST is included as the fees have been exempted under section 81 of *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999*.

There are several issues that podiatrists will need to consider when renewing registration for next year.

Non Practising Podiatrists

Should any registered podiatrists not have practised podiatry within the past five (5) years, the Board is required to issue a certificate of registration only if they meet current requirements for registration. If you fall into this category and wish to continue registration, you will need to provide further information to enable the Board to assess whether you meet these requirements.

The requirements of the Board are outlined in its Recency of Practice Policy (2/2006). A copy of the policy can be obtained from the website.

<http://www.podregtas.com/boardpolicies.htm>

Due Date and Fine for Late Payment

The due date for receipt of all applications for renewal is 31 December 2007. Podiatrists who do not submit all the required details by this date will incur a late fee of \$60.00. Unfinancial podiatrists as at 31 January 2008 will be removed from the register as prescribed in section 36 (8) of the Podiatrists Registration Act.

Should a podiatrist be removed for this reason they may apply for restoration to the Register (the prescribed restoration fee, in addition to the annual renewal fee is \$150).

Professional Indemnity Insurance

As you are aware, podiatrists need to provide evidence of professional indemnity cover in order to obtain a certificate of registration. As podiatrists have already provided this documentation following the request from the Board earlier this year, you will not be required to provide this documentation unless specifically requested.

Email Addresses and Communication

The Board wishes to establish an email distribution list in order to improve communication with registered podiatrists and provide a ready mechanism to circulate information of interest to podiatrists. Could you please ensure that your current and preferred email address is provided on the renewal form?

Communication with Patients

At its September meeting the Board discussed the importance of good communication with patients including seeking information about any consultation with other health care providers and fully discussing treatment options. The Board intends to develop a brochure for consumers which include information on the role of the Board, the importance of good communication and the complaint process.

University of Tasmania Survey of the Allied Health Workforce

The Tasmanian University Department of Rural Health is undertaking a study to develop a comprehensive profile of the Tasmanian clinical and therapeutic allied health and oral health workforce. This study has received ethics approval from the Human Research Ethics Committee (Tasmania) network, which is constituted under the NHMRC.

The results of this survey will provide valuable information about the podiatry workforce in Tasmania which will be useful for the profession, educators and health workforce planning. The survey will shortly be posted to all podiatrists and a response from all podiatrists is encouraged.

Members of the Board

Current members of the Board are:

Podiatrists	Expiring	Lay Persons	
Janice Mason (Chair)	9 March 2009	Sarah Piggott	10 April 2008
David McKay	9 March 2009	Kay Gunn	9 March 2009
Toni Nash	10 April 2008		

Board Web Site

The Board's website address is www.podregtas.com and provides detailed information about the Board and its responsibilities including registration, policies, renewal of registration, complaints and publications. Requirements for registration including all relevant forms may be obtained from the site.

Please contact me if you have any questions about these matters.

Tony Sansom
SECRETARY

21 November 2007