



ASCCANZ

Association for Supervision, Coaching, Consultancy in Australia & New Zealand

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Dear member

It has been 5 years since the foundation of ASCCANZ. This has been a period in which the association has navigated the difficult phases of establishing itself as a unique contributor in the broad field of supervision, coaching and consulting.

Last year, as part of our review process (see November Issue of the ASCCANZ newsletter), we explored all aspects of the ASCCANZ operating model; what it stands for and the services it is offering to its membership base.

A key consideration in the review was to address the fact that as an association, the growth of our membership has been steady but slow. We suspected that our approach in the setting of high standards for professional excellence and ethics in the recruitment of members may well have been a contributory fact to this slow pace of growth.

In addition, we as a membership, have often communicated that ASCCANZ did not have a clear offering and that this makes it difficult for prospective members to make a choice between joining ASCCANZ or other "like wise" associations.

As part of the review process we worked with an external consultant who provided us with a report disclosing his findings just before the end of last year; a report which was hard to accept but fair in its assessment of our association.

A key finding was the difficult position we faced as an association, striving to provide excellence in service to a broad range of professional disciplines. The report stated that this ultimately diluted the impact of our effort.

The Board reconvened on March 5, 2007. The time lapse was fortuitous as it provided time for reflection and to develop the energy required to tackle the implications of the report. After much energetic discussion, the Board concluded that for our association to develop a strong sustainable position in an already heavily serviced market place with various

associations such as CAPA, PACFA and others, ASCCANZ has to become a more focused association.

The Board agreed on a direction. We would now like to share this with you for your consideration and we will hold an open discussion at our forthcoming forum meeting on 23 April.

The proposition from the Board is:

that from this year onwards ASCCANZ dedicate its focus on Supervision and the application of Supervision across a number of disciplines such as coaching and consulting

We do not know of any Professional Association in Australia (New Zealand may have one) which currently provides such professional support across the spectrum of industries in which it serves.

The current ASCCANZ definition of supervision continues to be relevant. It encompasses supervision as a process of reflection about oneself, one's role, the team, the organisation and the primary task, as well as the inter-relationships between these aspects.

In fact, many current members have commented at our meetings, professional development days and conferences that the blend of different professional orientations and philosophies that exists within ASCCANZ is one of its greatest strengths. We have the opportunity to socialise with and learn from people in a safe environment that we otherwise would not have the opportunity to meet professionally.

Our suggested direction will have no impact on our current primary external relationships with EAS and ANSE. The mutual accreditation recognition will be maintained if the ASCCANZ membership supports this more focused direction.

The Board of your association believes that our strength lies in the clear direction of Supervision.

It is the Board's view that effective supervision provides a very important component in the broader application of clinical supervision, case work, team supervision, and supervision for managers, supervision for coaches and supervisors themselves as well as those consulting to organisations in various capacities.

The Board would like to put the above proposal (as outlined in italics and bold) to the membership and strongly recommend you consider this proposal on its merits.

Issues such as: How does this change potentially affect my membership? Will this indeed assist me in my current role in life? How relevant was (and now will) ASCCANZ be for me? These are all questions we ask you to consider.

The Board is looking forward to building your association into the Peak Body for Supervision in Australia and New Zealand and we make our selves available to discuss this proposal with you, our members.

As one Board member said:

‘If we can apply our work to the definition of supervision, as outlined above, this will ensure that this tapestry of complementary threads can continue to be woven to develop a strong, unique pattern that will enhance all of our professional lives.’

We look forward to receiving submissions and feedback on this proposal either by email or post, but perhaps even more importantly we ask you to join us at the forum meeting in Waverley/Sydney of 23 April (Monday, 18-20 hrs).

With collegial regards

ASCCANZ, the ANZ Association for Supervision

Servaas van Beekum, drs. president

Evelyn Crotty, vice-president

Dr. Allison Strasser, secretray

Alex Fok, treasurer

Suzy Woodhouse, member

Maxine Rosenfield, member

Peter Freese, member