



WELCOME

Welcome to our first 2018 Newsletter.

The year is flying by, and as a Board we have been busy progressing current projects and identifying new ones. We hope that you find this update on activities useful.

CONSISTENCY, QUALITY, SUPPORT

Key MSB objectives (as defined in the Constitution) include:

- Oversight of the application of the Standards with a view to achieving consistency and quality in mediation services and training, and
- Finding ways to support, complement and encourage our members in their efforts to meet their objectives in relation to the Standards

With these objectives in mind, the MSB are supporting 2 projects this year.

The first project focuses on training and assessment under the NMAS, and builds on the Outreach conversations conducted in various States during 2017. These conversations provided a platform for the establishment of a sub-committee of highly experienced trainers and assessors across Australia. We are currently in the process of working with this Committee to identify ways in which we can provide clarity and as a result consistency in training and assessment experiences across the country.

We will keep you updated and will seek input from our members as this project develops.

Our second project is one of an auditing nature. Over the past few months former Board Director and Project Officer Ippei Okazaki has assisted the MSB

to gauge areas of compliance and non-compliance with our membership criteria. The focus of this project is likened to a “health check”. While the overriding principle is one of consistency, quality and public protection, our approach to this exercise is one of collaboration and support. In circumstances where criteria have not been met, we start by working with our members so that they are able to achieve compliance. It is our experience that members are all genuinely trying to do the right thing, and that our support, via information for example, is generally all that is required. We thank those who have assisted us to date for their help with this project.



MSB WEBSITE

The new MSB website was officially launched in October 2017.

We have received very positive feedback regarding the front-end user experience, and in particular the infographics, downloadable PDFs and the FAQ section. Many of our member organisations have found it particularly useful when introducing the NRMAS in mediation training courses.

The website includes a complex backend designed to maintain the integrity of the National Register and assist in the administrative relationship between the Board and its members. We continue to work with our members and with our Coder to improve the backend functions of the site. Thank you to everyone who has provided feedback and helped us in this regard.

If you have not done so already, we encourage you to explore the site: www.msb.org.au

2018 DISCUSSION FORUMS

During 2017 we visited Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth. We facilitated discussions that focused on practical issues arising from the implementation of the Approval Standards.

These forums produced invaluable feedback that assisted us in developing the resources available on the new website, and in beginning project work in training, assessment and compliance. The forums were also instrumental in the creation of a community of practice amongst RMABs and training providers.

Next month we begin our 2018 Outreach program, beginning in Adelaide (9th July) and Sydney (18th July). Invitations have been circulated to our member organisations to join us in discussing:

“Mediation as a Profession – Where are we? Where do we want to be? How might we get there?”

We thank Belperio Clark Lawyers in Adelaide and The College of Law in Sydney for their help in hosting these upcoming events.

It is our intention to visit the other States and Territories. If you are interested in hosting a forum please contact our Secretariat coordinator@msb.org.au

We look forward to these discussions, and to identifying ways in which the MSB might provide support.

HAVE YOU GOT A QUESTION?

Have you or one of your members got a question for us?

You may well find the answer in the FAQ section of our website.



We continue to develop this so that it is a helpful resource for all.

Be sure to take a look, and feel free to share this link with your members:

<https://msb.org.au/resources/faqs>

If you can't find what you need, please don't hesitate to contact our Secretariat, Jenny Watson at coordinator@msb.org.au or start a conversation with any of our directors:

Mark Hebblewhite (MSB Chair) - VIC

Andrew Bickerdike (MSB Deputy Chair) - VIC

Bianca Keys (MSB Hon Secretary) - NSW

Philip Argy (MSB Hon Treasurer) - NSW

Linda Kochanski – QLD

Doug Murphy QC – QLD

Greg Rooney – SA

Jill Howieson - WA



Copyright © 2018 Mediator Standards Board, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

