



CLIMATE<sup>AND</sup>  
**HEALTH**  
ALLIANCE

## ANNUAL REPORT

2013-14

## Contents

Report from CAHA President .....	3
Message from CAHA Convenor.....	6
Governance.....	6
Expert Advisory Committee.....	7
Members.....	8
Purpose.....	9
Publications.....	10
Partnerships.....	11
Networks and Alliances.....	12
Events.....	14
Projects.....	15
Campaigns.....	17
Conferences.....	17
Communications.....	19
Volunteers.....	21
Report from CAHA Treasurer.....	22
Financial Report 2013/14.....	23



## REPORT FROM CAHA PRESIDENT

In terms of CAHA's achievements and impact, the past year is one I think we can all be proud of.

In the few short years since our inception, the Australian political and media landscape has come to recognise this nascent, and increasingly influential group, as a force, and more importantly, as the respected voice of the health sector on matters climate change.

We have adopted the daunting responsibility of holding to account, our political leaders, so that they strive to protect, and advance, the interests, health and wellbeing of the Australian public.

After repeated frustrations and dismay at the political stonewalling on much needed climate action, we welcome positive glimmers of hope that have emerged in the press recently. Signalling that pressure might be a vehicle for a potential scope for shift in stance, the Australian Federal Government spoke of the importance of climate as an issue to be faced globally. SBS quoted the Prime Minister as suggesting that he raised the topic of Climate Change and stated . . .

*"It's very important that we get strong and effective outcomes from the conference in Paris next year. Climate change is an important subject. It is a subject that the world needs to tackle as a whole".*

As one swallow does not make a spring, one phrase does not equate to a well-coordinated, comprehensive, ambitious political platform to reorientate Australia into becoming a world leader in the battle against global warming... or at least, a nation doing its fair share. That pronouncement was a hopeful sign, but just that, a sign that may yet wither on the vine. Our responsibility does not wane.

CAHA's achievements in terms of advocacy during the past twelve months have been extraordinary, and a testimony to the committed group on the Committee of Management, the Expert Advisory Committee, the Friends of CAHA, contributions of our member organisations, and our tireless CAHA Convenor.

The past year saw the CAHA team release multiple reports, prepare senate submissions, publish pieces in *The Conversation*, produce a bevy of media releases and continue to promote and distribute the short movie *"The Human Cost of Power"*. I was personally involved in a senate appearance, writing for *The Conversation*, and giving numerous media interviews and presentations, as detailed on our website. The growing momentum, and media interest in the voice of the health sector is palpable. We are being heard, and listened to: we **ARE** making waves.

Our international platform also continues to expand. I represented CAHA at the IPCC 19th Conference of the Parties in Warsaw, where I presented the opening address at the WHO Side Event on Health and Climate Change. Our newest Committee of Management member Prof Peter Sainsbury, attended the WHO inaugural Summit on Climate Change & Human health in Geneva, along with Prof Lynne Madden. This pair also joined me in New York for the United Nations Summit, representing CAHA, and at the 400,000 strong people's

march through New York's streets, and New York's Climate Week. These meetings provide opportunity to further develop our collaborative efforts with the Global Climate & Health Alliance, and like-minded NGOs. Australia was a world leader in developing CAHA as a national institution. The United States is currently moving to develop a national CAHA based on our model.

Funding our operations remains a challenge, and we are taking steps to establish mechanisms to ensure sufficient funding for ongoing, and expanding activities in the coming years.

For CAHA as an organisation, the task ahead looms large. Emissions continue to grow. Australia is one of only four nations cited by UNEP as a probable failure at reaching its emission target reductions by 2020. The WHO calculated that 7 million people die annually due to air pollution, predominately from the fossil fuels that are destroying the climate. Last year was Australia's hottest on record, and this year will be among the hottest five since records began in 1910. Extreme heat waves and bushfires will inevitably result over the coming summer months. Yet large sections of the Australian population continue to deny the science, and much of the health sector remain disengaged from climate change.

2014 was also a year of loss. I was unable to attend the CAHA Annual General Meeting and *Public Seminar – Protecting Health from Climate Change: What's Needed?* in November as I was attending a memorial service for Professor Tony McMichael - my boss, mentor, friend and colleague, who was recognised as a world leader in prosecuting the argument that climate change IS a human health issue; a concern of the highest order of magnitude. Barely a publication exists that does not cite his work. His book, *Planetary Overload* alerted the world to the combined problems of human impact on planetary resources, due our global population size, and industrial scale extraction of water, chemical release, land use change, and socio-political systems that drove this spiralling upwards of growth and resultant ecological degradation. He tirelessly pushed the WHO and Australian Governments (among others) to recognise climate change and its link with human health and survival.

In his untimely passing, humanity has lost one of its greatest warriors.

We also mourned the loss of another climate change and human health campaigner, and humanist, CAHA Vice President Associate Prof Erica Bell. Also widely published and respected for her expertise and work in this field, Erica had been with CAHA from the start, representing the National Rural Health Alliance. Her untimely death is another major loss to CAHA and the cause.

We have a busy year ahead, and we look forward to the continued support from our member organisations, our Friends of CAHA, our Expert Group, interns, volunteers and small support staff. My final task is to acknowledge the efforts of Fiona Armstrong, and the Committee Members, and Expert Advisory Committee. However Fiona, as in the previous years, warrants a special mention. She is indeed the driving force, and on behalf of all of CAHA, I thank Fiona for her dedication, commitment, and skills she brings.

*Dr Liz Hanna, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2014*



## REPORT FROM CAHA CONVENOR

The Climate and Health Alliance has continued to build its profile and its both nationally and internationally network in 2013-14. In December 2013, I attended an international meeting on climate change and environmental health hosted by the Prince of Wales; in August 2014 CAHA Director Peter Sainsbury attended the first World Health Organization Health and Climate and Health Conference in Geneva; and both Dr Sainsbury and CAHA President Dr Liz Hanna attended the UN Climate Summit hosted by UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon in September 2014. These invitations and events highlight the strong global networks that are developing on climate change and health; the increasing recognition of the importance of health in responding to climate change; and the recognition of CAHA's work as part of this growing global community.

The CAHA national network continues to grow: in 2013-14 we welcomed new organisational members, the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at UNSW, Koowarup Regional Health Service, and Psychology for a Safe Climate, and many new individual members from across the health professions.

CAHA has continued its leadership on climate, energy and health policy, contributing to submissions to inquiries and public consultations, and leading the development of a joint **Position Paper and Background Paper on Health and Energy Choices**, produced by a collaboration of health groups, which outlines the evidence on the health implications of energy choices, points to the dangers of fossil fuels, and makes recommendations for action. This marks the strongest position taken by such a collaboration of health groups anywhere in the world in pointing to the risks from fossil fuels, and calling for action: from governments, businesses, communities, and the health sector.

A major focus of work during the year has been the development of the report: **Coal and health in the Hunter Valley: Lessons from one valley for the world** to be released in early 2015. This report highlights the risks to health for people in this very intensive coal mining region – from air pollution from particles in coal dust as well as toxic gases produced in mining, transportation and combustion of coal, but also the risks to health from the psychological distress experienced as homes, farms, communities and even towns are swallowed up by coal mines.

Our work on sustainable healthcare continues apace with strong growth in the Australian and New Zealand arm of the **Global Green and Healthy Hospitals Network**. The GGHH Pacific network (Australia and New Zealand) now boasts a membership network which includes ten health systems, with over 40 hospitals, and approximately 100 other health services (aged care, and community health centres, and residential care) employing more than 50,000 people.

We look forward to continuing to expand on all of this work in 2015.

*Fiona Armstrong, December 2014*

## GOVERNANCE

### COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT (CAHA BOARD)

The CAHA Committee of Management (CoM) 2013-14 included:



Dr Liz Hanna, CAHA President (Australian College of Nursing)



Fiona Armstrong, CAHA Convenor



Associate Professor Erica Bell, CAHA Vice-President (Australian Rural Health Education Network) (to 26th July 2014).



Dr Brad Farrant (Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth)



Dr Bret Hart (Alliance for Future Health)



Dr Peter Sainsbury (Public Health Association of Australia)



Dr Elizabeth Haworth (Friends of CAHA)



Alice McGushin (Australian Medical Students Association)

## EXPERT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CAHA's Expert Advisory Committee is a highly credentialled group of experts who provide a hugely valuable service in support of CAHA in sharing their expertise to ensure CAHA public statements and published papers are highly credible and are based on the best available scientific literature and evidence.

### Members of the CAHA Expert Advisory Committee:

- Associate Professor Erica Bell, University Department of Rural Health, University of Tasmania (deceased 26th July 2014)
- Professor David Karoly, Federation Fellow in the School of Earth Sciences, University of Melbourne
- Professor Stephan Lewandowsky, School of Psychology, University of Western Australia
- Dr Peter Tait, Convenor, Ecology and Environment Special Interest Group, Public Health Association of Australia
- Associate Professor Grant Blashki, Nossal Institute for Global Health
- Professor Simon Chapman, Professor of Public Health, University of Sydney
- Dr Susie Burke, Public Interest, Environment & Disaster Response, Australian Psychological Society
- Professor Colin Butler, College of Medicine, Biology and Environment, Australian National University
- Professor Garry Egger, School of Health & Human Sciences, Southern Cross University

All members of the expert advisory committee offer unique and informed perspectives on climate and health issues and CAHA is grateful for their willingness to contribute.

## MEMBERS

There are twenty eight organisations that are members of the Climate and Health Alliance, representing health care professionals from a range of disciplines, health care service providers, institutions, academics,



*Many CAHA members attended the Forum on Climate Change and Health: Research Policy and Advocacy in Melbourne in November 2013*

These include:

Alliance for Future Health  
 Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW)  
 Australian College of Nursing (ACN)  
 Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)  
 Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA)  
 Australian Health Promotion Association (AHPA)  
 Australian Institute of Health Innovation (AIHI)  
 Australian Research Alliance of Children and Youth (ARACY)  
 Australian Women's Health Network (AWHN)  
 Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA)  
 Australian Nursing Federation (ANF)  
 Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA)

Australian Psychological Society (APS)  
 Australian Rural Health Education Network (ARHEN)  
 CRANApus  
 Doctors Reform Society (DRS)  
 Friends of CAHA  
 Health Consumers' Network (Qld)  
 Health Issues Centre (HIC)  
 Kooverup Regional Health Service (KRHS)  
 Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA)  
 Psychology for a Safe Climate (PSC)  
 Cohealth (formerly North Yarra Community Health)  
 School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW (SPHCM)  
 Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH)  
 Women's Health East (WHE)  
 Women's Health in the North (WHIN)  
 World Vision Australia

The organisation *Friends of CAHA* is for individual members. Its members include senior academics and health professionals with considerable expertise in environmental health and climate and health issues. There are now more than 50 members of FoCAHA who support CAHA's work. Having achieved a critical mass, this group meets occasionally and there are plans for regular meetings to support networking and information sharing, to support projects relevant to their knowledge and skills, and to encourage others to join the group.



## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Climate and Health Alliance's Statement of Purpose and Objectives are:

### Aim

The Alliance's aim is the restoration of a healthy and ecologically sustainable natural environment for all species, including humans.

### Purpose

The Alliance's purpose is to promote the protection of the natural environment to enhance sustainability and health and wellbeing for all species, including humans.

### Objectives

In particular, the Alliance will:

- **Advocate** for effective public policy and community responses to promote a healthy ecology and society through the prevention of environmental degradation, including from climate change and from threats to air and water and soil, in order to protect and promote the health and wellbeing of the community and of biodiversity upon which humans depend;
- **Collaborate** with others to identify and remove structural barriers to the protection of a healthy environment, including effective responses to climate change and the preservation of biodiversity; and to support the development of environmentally responsible and sustainable practices in health care;
- **Engage and inform** health professionals, policy makers, and the community through the provision of information and education about the importance of environmental protection for health and wellbeing, including with regard to the risks from climate change and in relation to appropriate responses to protect and promote ecosystem and human health;
- **Share** information and resources about health and the natural environment and climate issues through a network of individuals and organisations;
- **Establish and maintain** a public fund to be called **Healthy Futures Fund** for the specific purpose of supporting the environmental objects/purposes of the Climate and Health Alliance.

## PUBLICATIONS

CAHA produced the following publications and reports in 2013-14:

**Climate and Health: The Research, Policy & Advocacy Agenda**: Report from Forum - November 2013.

**The health sector as a leader in low carbon transformation: Report from Greening the Healthcare Sector Think Tank** - October 2014

**Joint Statement on Coal and Health**: CAHA and Climate Council - September 2014

CAHA released a Joint Statement on Coal and Health with the Climate Council in September 2014 in response to the release of the report from the Inquiry into the Hazelwood coal mine fire in Victoria. Spokespersons Professor Tim Flannery, Professor Fiona Stanley and Dr Liz Hanna received considerable media coverage in relation to the statement.

**Health and Energy Choices** – November 2014

CAHA led the development of a Joint Position Paper and Background Paper on Health and Energy Choices on behalf of these health groups: the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA), Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF), National Toxics Network (NTN), Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH), Australian Medical Students Association (AMSA), Women's Health East (WHE) and CAHA.



## SUBMISSIONS

Advocacy for policy has this year been focused on defending climate and environment policy and renewable energy.

A list of the CAHA submissions made in 2014 appears below:

**Submission to Energy White Paper** – October 2014

**Submission to Senate Standing Committee On Environment And Communications Legislation Committee Inquiry Into The Environment Protection And Biodiversity Conservation Amendment** - June 2014

**Submission to the Review of the Renewable Energy Target** - May 2014

**Submission to Hazelwood Mine Fire Inquiry** - May 2014

**Submission to the Victorian Government Inquiry into the Impact of the Carbon Price on Health Services** - February 2014

**Submission to Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Inquiry into Abbott Government Direct Action Plan** - January 2014

## PARTNERSHIPS

The Climate and Health Alliance has an ongoing strategic partnership with the international non-government organization Health Care Without Harm. HCWH has over 483 member organizations in 53 countries, working to transform the health care sector worldwide so that it is ecologically sustainable and no longer a source of harm to public health and the environment.



HCWH and CAHA work together to: raise awareness about the health effects of climate change and the health benefits of climate action; mobilise the health sector to respond effectively to climate change; and promote sustainable practices in health care to reduce the sector's environmental footprint.



Health Care Without Harm provided a grant to CAHA in 2014 to support its work in promoting the [Global Green and Healthy Hospitals](#) (GGHH) and advocacy for climate action.

HCWH and CAHA are also working collaboratively on projects related to climate, energy and health.

CAHA Convenor Fiona Armstrong attended the HCWH global team meeting in California in August 2014 to discuss shared strategic projects on climate and health, energy and health and sustainable healthcare.



## NETWORKS AND ALLIANCES

CAHA is a member of a number of networks and alliances that share environmental, climate and health concerns.

In 2013-14, CAHA has been active in the following networks and partnerships:

### Climate Action Network Australia

The Climate and Health Alliance is a member of the Climate Action Network Australia (CANA) - a network of regional, state and national environmental, community development, and research groups and the Australian arm of Climate Action Network International. Membership of CANA allows the Climate and Health Alliance to share its expertise on climate and health issues, and help inform and influence the advocacy agenda of other groups to highlight the implications for human health from climate change and the health benefits of climate action.



Dr Peter Tait from the CAHA Expert Advisory Committee attended the 2014 CANA Conference in Sydney.

### Global Climate and Health Alliance

The Climate and Health Alliance is a founding member of the Global Climate and Health Alliance (GCHA), established following the Global Climate and Health Summit in Durban in December 2011.

The Alliance consists of health organisations from around the world united by a shared vision for a sustainable future.

Specifically Alliance members work together to:

- Ensure health impacts are integrated into global, national and local responses to climate change
- Encourage the health sector to mitigate and adapt for climate change

The GCHA website:

<http://www.climateandhealthalliance.org/>

In 2014, the Global Climate and Health Alliance members worked together to a briefing report, film and series of infographics to explain the health implications of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Working Group II report.



A joint media release from members of the Global Climate and Health Alliance in response to the IPCC report is available here: [http://caha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/GCHA\\_CAHA\\_Media-Advisory\\_WGII\\_Australia\\_040414.pdf](http://caha.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/GCHA_CAHA_Media-Advisory_WGII_Australia_040414.pdf)

In December 2014, GCHA organised the third Global Climate and Health Summit in Lima in Peru in parallel with COP20, the annual meeting of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.



### Collaborative advocacy and communications

CAHA was involved in a collaborative communications effort with communications experts to promote the IPCC AR5 report to highlight the health aspects of the report from Working Group II + the Synthesis report.

CAHA has been engaged in a number of initiatives involving collaboration in advocacy and/or communications efforts, including working with Public Health Association of Australia and local environment groups on advocacy regarding the health risks to the local community in Morwell from the Hazelwood coal mine fire, which led to calls for an Inquiry and a long term health study, both of which were realised as an Inquiry has been held and a 20 year health study announced.

CAHA has continued to support other campaigns and initiatives – providing support to the Oakey Coal Action Alliance by writing to the Qld Coordinator General regarding a



proposed coal mine expansion at Acland, on the Darling Downs; signing a joint statement calling for the closure of the Angelsea coal mine and power station; and attending the Beyond Coal and Gas Gathering with other health, environment, community, and faith groups.

*Planning the Open Space Workshop, Beyond Coal and Gas Gathering, 2014 Image credit: Dean Sewell*



## EVENTS

CAHA held two **public events** in 2014, as well as two **webinars** featuring:

- Health bureaucrat Tsetsegsaikhan Batmunkh on Mongolia's response to health impacts of climate change and greening the healthcare system; and
- An introduction to GGHH and Connect with Nick Thorp on 20<sup>th</sup> August.

### Greening the Healthcare Sector Think Tank



CAHA, together with partner Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association, held the joint annual CAHA and AHHA Greening the Healthcare Sector Think Tank in October 2014. This was hosted by GGHH member Mater Hospital in Brisbane, with the assistance of Mater Sustainability Director Chris Hill. The event brought together around 30 participants from 25 organisations including hospitals, health care services and peak bodies, state government health

departments, professional associations, universities and advocacy groups. An evaluation of the event revealed extremely positive responses, with all respondents either satisfied or extremely satisfied with the venue, facilitation, discussions and presentations. The presentations were considered relevant and provided considerable value, with more than 90% of respondents reporting their understanding of the issues 'improved'.

The event provided the opportunity for people engaged in sustainable healthcare work to discuss case studies of change, national and international opportunities for collaboration, and contribute to a discussion to accelerate progress towards sustainable healthcare and hospital practices. The Think Tank offered valuable networking opportunities for GGHH members and potential members to meet, share ideas, and plan future collaborations. An evaluation of the event revealed extremely positive responses, with all respondents either satisfied or extremely satisfied with the venue, facilitation, discussions and presentations. The presentations were considered relevant and provided considerable value, with more than 90% of respondents reporting their understanding of the issues 'improved'.

Download the Think Tank report [here](#) and read the AHHA Storify report from the days' Twitter feed here: <https://ahha.asn.au/greening-health-sector-2014-storify>



## Public Seminar – Protecting Health from Climate Change: What's Needed

CAHA's Annual Public Seminar was hosted in 2014 by its member, the School of Public Health and Community Medicine at the University of New South Wales. A great line-up of expert speakers revealed the extent to which the health of local and global communities is increasingly threatened by climate change, as well as insight into the policy shortfalls, technological and political solutions and the role of divestment in limiting national and global emissions.



Speakers included (click on each name for a link to a video of their presentation):

[Professor Lesley Hughes, Climate Council, 2014 Eureka Prize winner for Promoting Understanding of Australian Science Research](#) on the latest climate science and implications for human health;

[Associate Professor Melissa Haswell, School of Public Health & Community Medicine, UNSW](#) on re-aligning our relationship with the environment in policy and decision making;

[Professor Mark Diesendorf, Deputy Director, Institute of Environment Studies, UNSW](#)

Replacing fossil fuels with renewables – what's possible;

[Trevor Thomas, Ethinvest](#) on strategies to constrain growth in emissions – Divestment; and

[Professor Peter Sainsbury, Director, Population Health, South-western Sydney Local Health District](#) reported back from the 2014 WHO Health and Climate Conference in Geneva and 2014 UN Climate Summit in New York.

## PROJECTS

### Health and Energy Policy

#### The Human Cost of Power

CAHA continues to promote and distribute the short film, The Human Cost of Power, made in partnership with the Public Health Association of Australia in 2013. The film has been sent to all public health schools and many medical and nursing school around the country. Many communities and community groups have screened the film at local forums and events. The Human Cost of Power screened at the [Transitions Film Festival in February 2014](#);

will screen at a film festival in India in December 2014, and will feature at a side event at the World Federation of Public Health Associations Congress in Kolkata in India in February 2015. The film is available on CAHA's YouTube channel via the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI8Lbuff5U-s1RbPMi0Ms0Q>



CAHA's influence on health and energy initiatives in other countries continues with its model for roundtables with health leaders based on CAHA's 2013 event on the health implications of energy policy being replicated in South Africa and India; and at forthcoming events in China and The Philippines.

## Sustainable Healthcare: Global Green and Healthy Hospitals

There has been exciting growth in the membership of the Pacific network (Australia and New Zealand) of the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals network in the last year. Together with our international partner, Health Care Without Harm, and national partner, Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association, CAHA is working to promote the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals network to Australian healthcare service providers and health organisations to help build the global network.



The GGHH Pacific network (Australia and New Zealand) started the year with three health system members equating to seven individual hospitals.

During 2014, the network has grown to ten health systems, with over 40 hospitals, and approximately 100 other health services (aged care, and community health centres, and residential care) with 50,000+ staff (two in NZ).

GGHH Pacific members include:

- Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association
- St Vincent's Health Australia
- Mater Hospital, Brisbane
- Manukau Counties and Auckland District Health Boards
- Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide, South Australia
- South Western Sydney Local Health District
- Three regional health services
- One university rural clinical school
- New South Wales Nurses and Midwives Association with 59,000 members

We aim to expand the membership to 100 hospitals in 2015, 150 in 2016, 200 in 2017.



## CAMPAIGNS

### National Strategy for Climate and Health

There are many benefits to health, as well as climate benefits, from cutting emissions. But there is currently no national strategy to address the impacts on health.

CAHA's campaign *Let's get a National Strategy on Climate and Health in Australia* enables people to send a letter to their representatives in the federal parliament and ask them to commit to supporting the development of a national strategy on climate and health.



### Don't let the coal industry determine our future

In response to the [coal industry's claims](#) that coal is needed to address energy poverty in the developing world, CAHA is encouraging health and medical professionals not to let the coal industry determine our future, and to highlight their concerns by writing a letter to the editor or an

opinion piece, or writing to local MPs expressing concerns about the unfettered expansion of coal in Australia and the risks it poses to people's health and the climate.

## PRESENTATIONS

CAHA makes an efforts to engage with a broad range of stakeholders and communities by speaking at public events. The organisation also receives frequent invitations for people to speak at public forums, conferences, seminars, and meetings.

This year, representatives of CAHA have given presentations to the following:

- Sustainable Living Festival, [2°C – too high?](#) February 2014
- [ACOSS Civil Society Forum, 'Creating a shared vision for Australia's future'](#)



- [Health and Environmental Sustainability Conference](#), Victorian Nursing and Midwifery Federation, March 2014



- [Health and Energy Seminar](#), New South Wales Nurses and Midwives Association (NSWNMA) in March 2014
- National Health Congress in Sydney, April 2014
- [Seminar at the Shepparton Health Service, Workshop at Shepparton High School and Public Forum on Climate Change and Health](#) in March 2014
- Seminars at Deakin University in May and July 2014
- Public lectures on climate change and health and screening of the Human Cost of Power at [Celebrating Our Environment Expo in Toowoomba](#), Queensland, June 2014
- Catholic Health Association Annual Conference, August 2014
- Asia-Pacific Congress, case studies by two GGHH members, Melbourne, Sept 2014
- Presentation at the [National Climate Adaptation Conference](#), September 2014
- Keynote address to [2014 SARAH National Conference for Rural and Remote Allied Health Professionals](#)
- Workshop on Global Green and Healthy Hospitals, [Environment Institute Australian and New Zealand 2014 Annual Conference](#), Hobart, September 2014
- CRANaplus Conference, September 2014
- [Nexus: Climate, Health and Environmental Justice Global Gathering, University of California Irvine](#) – October 2014
- SITA-MediCollect Workshop, in Perth, October 2014

Dr Liz Hanna spoke on CAHA's behalf at the Catholic Health Australia National Conference in August 2014, and she and Dr Peter Sainsbury and Dr Lynne Madden attended the Ban Ki Moon United Nations Climate Summit in New York in September.

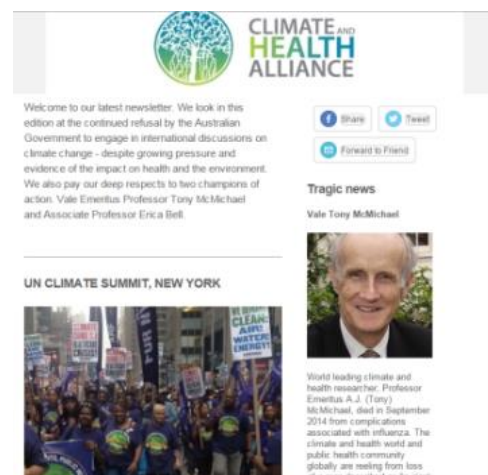
Dr Peter Sainsbury and Dr Lynne Madden represented CAHA at the World Health Organization Health and Climate Conference in August in Geneva.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### NEWSLETTER

CAHA's newsletter subscriber list continues to grow with over 1100 subscribers to CAHA's two regular newsletters – on climate and health and sustainable healthcare. See the links below for recent issues:

- 23/10/2014 - [Latest news on climate and health](#)
- 14/08/2014 - [Latest news on climate and health](#)
- 07/06/2014 - [Sustainable Healthcare News June 2014](#)
- 17/04/2014 - [Latest Climate and Health News](#)
- 20/03/2014 - [Sustainable Healthcare News](#)
- 14/02/2014 - [Climate and health films, seminars, events](#)
- 02/12/2013 - [Climate and Health Alliance newsletter](#)



### MEDIA

CAHA contributes to greater public awareness of climate change and health through its communications and advocacy for policy. In 2013-14, CAHA has highlighted concerns regarding risks to health from the federal government's backward steps on climate policy, the risks to health from the coal mine fire in Morwell in Victoria, the failure of the federal government to acknowledge climate impacts in its budget, the important findings in the IPCC reports, and the need for a price on carbon to limit national emissions.

**Climate disruption is underway: Australia's obstruction on policy putting lives at risk** - 3 December 2014

**Avoiding further global warming can be done cheaply and will improve health** - 3 November 2014

**Health care sector explores pathways to low carbon operations** - 13 October 2014

**Abbott refusal to attend UN Climate Summit a risk to national interest: health and medical leaders** - 24 September 2014

**Senators urged to vote against repeal: a carbon price is good for health** - 7 July 2014

**Federal budget an investment in climate and health damages** - 14 May 2014

**Health and wellbeing the winners in the emerging low carbon world** - 14 April 2014:

**Health professionals call for climate action after UN climate change report** - 4 April 2014

**WA urged to vote for climate and health in Senate election** - 3 April 2014

**We're not yet ready for climate change but it's here now, and harming our health** - 31 March 2014

**Answers needed re health of smoke affected community in Morwell** - 11 March 2014

**Failure to act on climate change putting the health of Australians at risk** - 18 February 2014

**Health groups sound the alarm on Direct Action Plan** - 31 January 2014

A sample of media coverage featuring CAHA President Liz Hanna can be found at the following links:

**'Coal exports a killer for thousands' *The Australian***

TONY Abbott's declaration that coal is good for humanity has been attacked by Australian National University academic Elizabeth Hanna, who warns thousands of people will be sentenced to death if Australia keeps exporting it.

**UN climate report warns of severe, irreversible impact**

ABC Radio National Breakfast's Fran Kelly interviews Dr Liz Hanna on the release of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Synthesis Report from its Fifth Assessment, which says that climate change will lead to 'severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts' on our world if left unchecked.

**Health and climate change – Life Matters – ABC Radio National**

Dr Liz Hanna, CAHA President and Epidemiologist at ANU and Nick Watts, President of the Global Climate and Health Alliance and Project Leader of the UCL-Lancet Commission warn that climate change is a global threat to health with more extreme weather, intense heat, reduced food supply and diseases spreading to new environments.

**Hot and bothered: our health under climate change** *by Bianca Nogrady*

Dr Liz Hanna, CAHA President, features in this ABC *Environment* article: Climate change is not just something that happens to the Great Barrier Reef or Pacific Islands. The health of ordinary Australians may suffer as the temperature rises.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

CAHA's social media presence continues to grow with almost 1500 followers on Twitter, with social media analytics suggesting @healthy\_climate occupies an "influential" status on Twitter.

CAHA has over 700 people signed up for updates to its Facebook page and CAHA's Facebook posts reach approximately 600 people/week.



## WEBSITE



The CAHA website has an average of 2000 unique visitors each month, and hundreds of downloads of key documents. [Health and Energy Choices](#) was downloaded over 600 times in November, while the CAHA Submission on Air Quality was downloaded over 200 times. Most visitors come from Australia (18,705 hits), followed by United States (5,483 hits).

## OPINION

CAHA people had the following opinion pieces published in mainstream or online media:

December 2014

[Greening healthcare: thinking local and networking global](#) by Fiona Armstrong, *The Fifth Estate*

May 2014

[Federal Budget will actively worsen the health of people and planet](#), by Liz Hanna, *The Fifth Estate*

February 2014

[Nothing Direct about Direct Action](#), by Fiona Armstrong, *ABC Environment*

January 2014

[It's time for Australia to change its attitude to extreme heat](#), by Liz Hanna, *The Conversation*

## VOLUNTEERS

CAHA is very fortunate to have the support of some generous volunteers – our most enduring and committed volunteers in 2014 include Caitlin Rawding who assists with database management, website, and publications on a weekly basis and Lyn Moss, who has assumed responsibility for CAHA's admin support and bookkeeping.



Caitling Rawding  
(CAHA Volunteer)



Lyn Moss (CAHA Volunteer  
Admin/Bookkeeper)

## REPORT FROM CAHA TREASURER

Thanks to the CAHA accounts being managed by Anne Browne, Finance Manager of the Public Health Association of Australia, the treasurer's task was not onerous. The Committee of Management express their gratitude to PHAA and Anne for providing this service.

The majority of CAHA's income in 2013-14 came from grants associated with the Hunter Coal and Health Project and from Health Care Without Harm (HCWH). The income from members and donations are much appreciated.

Missing from the statement is an estimate of "in kind" support. "In kind" is an inadequate term and would be better replaced with "exceedingly generous investment of time and energy" spent by Fiona Armstrong in particular and other members of the management committee in supporting the aims, objectives and achieving the outcomes of CAHA.

Another cost, which is also impossible to estimate, is the additional work required to encourage the government to consider the potential impact of their policies to exacerbate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and thereby compromise health. Unfortunately the link between the two eludes the government as indicated in the response from one of their agencies in response to CAHA seeking Deductible Gift Recipient status a few years ago; suggesting the link between climate change and health is "not yet established" and is "speculatory".

The legacy of this position is demonstrated in CAHA's bottom line as the ability to attract funding from agencies who require tax deductibility for their donations is severely compromised. However this will not deter our resolve to garner more financial support during the 14/15 financial year. We welcome the support of CAHA Volunteer Admin/Bookkeeper Lyn Moss with managing the books in future.

*Dr Bret Hart, CAHA Treasurer, November 2014*

## FINANCIAL REPORTS

CLIMATE AND HEALTH ALLIANCE INCORPORATED

ABN: 75 260 386 455

### CLIMATE & HEALTH ALLIANCE

CI- PHAA  
PO Box 319  
CURTIN ACT 2605

#### Balance Sheet

As of June 2014

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<b>Assets</b>	
Westpac - General A/C - 187596	\$65,267.33
Westpac - Healthy Futures Fund	\$2,369.70
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$67,637.03</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Trade Creditors	\$550.00
<b>GST Liabilities</b>	
GST Collected	\$26.20
GST Paid	-\$2,050.28
<b>Total GST Liabilities</b>	<u>-\$2,024.08</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>-\$1,474.08</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>\$69,111.11</u>
<b>Equity</b>	
Retained Earnings	\$19,246.79
Current Earnings	\$49,864.32
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>\$69,111.11</u>

# CLIMATE & HEALTH ALLIANCE

C/- PHAA  
PO Box 319  
CURTIN ACT 2605

## Job Profit & Loss Statement

July 2013 through June 2014

28/07/2014

Page 1

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Account Name	Selected Period	Year to Date
<b>01 CAHA General</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Membership Income	\$1,845.00	\$1,845.00
Donations - GiveNow	\$955.00	\$955.00
Donations - Other	\$25.00	\$25.00
Other Income	\$477.27	\$477.27
Interest Received	\$111.39	\$111.39
Total Income	<u>\$3,413.66</u>	<u>\$3,413.66</u>
<b>Expense</b>		
Auditing Expenses	\$50.00	\$50.00
Bank Charges	\$10.95	\$10.95
Consultants	\$470.00	\$470.00
Media	\$68.68	\$68.68
Postage	\$15.15	\$15.15
Venue Hire	\$417.73	\$417.73
Total Expense	<u>\$1,032.51</u>	<u>\$1,032.51</u>
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$2,381.15</u>	<u>\$2,381.15</u>
<b>2 GGHH</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
HCWH Funding	\$27,094.15	\$27,094.15
Total Income	<u>\$27,094.15</u>	<u>\$27,094.15</u>
<b>Expense</b>		
Consultants	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Printing & Stationery	\$25.00	\$25.00
Travel & Accommodation	\$307.53	\$307.53
Total Expense	<u>\$10,332.53</u>	<u>\$10,332.53</u>
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$16,761.62</u>	<u>\$16,761.62</u>
<b>3 Hunter Coal &amp; Health Proj</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Other Income	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
Total Income	<u>\$60,000.00</u>	<u>\$60,000.00</u>
<b>Expense</b>		
Consultants	\$15,440.00	\$15,440.00
Materials	\$35.95	\$35.95
Miscellaneous	\$306.05	\$306.05
Postage	\$14.40	\$14.40
Travel & Accommodation	\$242.26	\$242.26
Total Expense	<u>\$16,038.66</u>	<u>\$16,038.66</u>
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>\$43,961.34</u>	<u>\$43,961.34</u>