



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

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2015-16**

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## REPORT FROM CAHA PRESIDENT

With great pleasure I have the honour to present the 2016 Climate and Health Alliance President's Report.

The need has never been greater for a unified voice such as CAHA's, to precisely articulate how unmitigated climate change is damaging to human health, and risks our very existence. The year 2013 was Australia's hottest on record. Globally, 2014 was the hottest (at 0.74°C above average), but this record was passed by a very long margin in 2015 (0.90°C above average), and the early part of 2016 indicates this year may even surpass 2015. This is a dangerous and alarming trend, and reflects exactly what the climate science has been predicting. In Australia, 20% of the coral of the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) is now dead. We are seeing marine and terrestrial heatwaves, extension and increasing severity of the bushfire seasons, more droughts, unstable wet seasons and more intense storms. The marine heatwave that devastated the GBR was 175 times more likely to happen than in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels prior to the industrial revolution. These marine and land based extremes will be normal in the not too distant future, as southern Australia will experience 10 extra heatwave days per year for every degree of warming, and the tropics will experience an extra 40 heatwave days.

Soon after our 2015 Annual General Meeting, 195 of the world's governments met in Paris at the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (UNFCCC). At this 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP), assembled government representatives pledged to limit global warming to 2°C, and aim for 1.5°C through transitioning their economies to renewable energy sources. The Paris Accord came into force on November 4<sup>th</sup> 2016.

The scientific community constantly reassesses what chance we have in limiting global warming to 1.5°C. Their findings are grim. With global emissions not declining, but continuing to accelerate CO<sub>2</sub> reached their annual peak of 406ppm in 2016, global average warming reached 1°C. Furthermore, not only do the Paris Accord pledges fail to limit warming to 1.5, or even 2°C, they will surpass 3°C of global warming if all countries meet their pledges. Such pledges are "intentional". They are not legally binding, and are therefore unlikely to be met.

Climate scientists are now increasingly despondent as the lack of political commitment drains all hope of survival of the GBR, species' existence, and the ecosystems upon which human survival fundamentally depends. I wrote my first essay on climate change during my MPH in 1992. Since then there has been a 37% increase in radiative forcing (the warming effect on our climate – because of long-lived greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) from industrial, agricultural and domestic activities). But as health professionals, **we** cannot sink into despair and walk away from the challenge.

CAHA continues serving the Australian public through our relentless platform of activities. We continue our efforts to decarbonise Australia, supporting the health sector "Do No

Harm" to reduce their greenhouse gas footprint via the Health Care Without Harm funded program Global Green and Healthy Hospitals.

Through submissions, reports and media releases we disseminate the seriousness of climate change as a health threat by highlighting the health risks arising from climate change to targeted audiences. However, our Executive Director, **Ms Fiona Armstrong** received one of *The Australian Financial Review* and Westpac "**100 Women of Influence Awards**" which aim to increase the visibility of women's leadership in Australia, and highlight the important contribution women make in creating a bold and diverse future for Australia. Fiona's award in the Social Enterprise & Not-for-profit category is well deserved. This placed her alongside other influential women as Gillian Triggs, Clover Moore and even Gina Rinehart. Somewhat less prestigious was my own recognition via an Australian National University Media Award for "24/7 Award for Most Impressive Media Performance".

The CAHA Vice President, fellow members of the Committee of Management, the Executive Director and I have presented to numerous fora to raise awareness, educate and motivate people within and beyond the health sector of the rising health threats. Some of these will be detailed in the Executive Director's Report.

My roles as a climate and health research academic (Visiting Fellow at ANU), key spokesperson for Climate Change for the Australian College of Nursing, and Executive Committee Member of the Ecology and Environment Special Interest Group of the Public Health Association of Australia all serve to support my activities as President of CAHA, and help me promote the Alliance. Examples include invitations to present keynote addresses to international fora, such as to the Korean International Environmental Symposium at the Seoul National University, and to national fora, including teaching the Australian Defence Force leaders in a Climate Change short course at ANU. Being located in Canberra has also served well, for example, by providing ready access to politicians in response to being a co-signatory in "An open letter to the Prime Minister on the climate crisis, from 154 scientists".

CAHA's activities also focus on, and attempt to reverse, the paralysis in Australia's political response to climate change via our advocacy campaigns. For example, the Joint Standing Committee On Treaties established an Inquiry into the Paris Agreement, to which both the CAHA Vice President and I provided submissions as individuals *in addition to* the CAHA submission. My own was as CAHA President, and also as an individual climate and health researcher. I was called to present to the Canberra hearing on Wednesday, 28 September 2016, as per Hansard, and the Executive Director presented to the Melbourne hearing.

This year, 2016, has been a Federal Election year. Despite international recognition that climate change presents severe and potentially catastrophic risks to human health and indeed survival, Australia's major political parties saw fit to shy away from this, the major health risk of this century. Equally alarming was the response of the media, who collectively failed to challenge the political abrogation of responsibility, that being optimising the wellbeing of Australian society, and protecting our and our children's future.

The Climate and Health Alliance responded with a campaign “**Election 2016: Where is the leadership to protect Australians from the worsening health impacts of climate change?**” Our aim was to provide voters vital information that was not readily apparent through the mainstream media. We surveyed the main political parties: Liberal, National, Labor and the Greens on their policies on key issues relevant to climate change and health, and presented these in a ready reckoner Scorecard graphic, in a format akin to an Electrocardiograph.

In conjunction with the World Federation of Public Health Associations, and the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA), CAHA conducted an international survey to identify and compare national progress on increasing climate change into health strategies with the specific aim of protecting human health. Australia was found to be trailing most other countries.

The major piece of work adopted by CAHA has been a project to develop a **National Strategy for Climate, Health and Wellbeing**. Although initiated and resourced at first by CAHA, our intent is for this to be collectively owned and promulgated by Australia's health sector and receive bipartisan political support. Key features of this strategy involve stopping the harm, by transitioning to a low carbon economy, re-establishing a research platform to understand the many manifestations of climate related health harm and to develop, trial and evaluate adaptation strategies, and support the health sector to respond to the changing health needs and increasing demands as climate extremes continue to unfold.

Committees and sub committees have been formed, and meet on-line weekly. Several face to face workshop meetings were held into the lead up to the key date of October 10<sup>th</sup>, where by 30 health leaders meet in Parliament House Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care Ken Wyatt, Shadow Minister for Health Catherine King, and Australian Greens leader and health spokesperson Senator Richard Di Natale. Health leaders continued in the afternoon with a Roundtable to progress ideas for developing the strategy.

Unified involvement by our CAHA member partners and the broader health sector on this major strategy reflects a hallmark of CAHA's success. Recognition that climate change is presenting a health emergency is well recognized among health leaders, and we have arrived at a state of willingness to collaborate to protect Australia's health. I thank the support from PHAA, the Australian Health and Hospitals Association, the Australian College of Nursing for their support in co-hosting this event. I also thank the health leaders for giving their time to attend and commitment to progress this vital project. Together, we can make a difference.

Climate change presents a massive challenge, which requires substantial and sustained commitment **from all of us** to offer health protection. The **National Strategy for Climate, Health and Wellbeing** is therefore a large undertaking, and no doubt a first step. We have a mutual obligation to each other and to our children to develop a comprehensive and appropriately ambitious strategy and to drive this forward. I look forward to our ongoing collaborations, and future wins in this regard.

This report presents the President's perspective on CAHA's reach and major achievements throughout 2016. I have not attempted here to replicate the more thorough list of activities detailed in the Executive Director's report.

I turn my attention now to the Committee of Management, and CAHA's impressive team of staff, volunteers and interns. It has been an honour to serve with this highly talented and committed team throughout the year. They give not only of their time and expertise, but many self-fund travel to meetings and pay own expenses as ongoing funding streams for our work have yet to emerge, above the modest membership subscriptions, and some isolated project specific works. The impressive output of CAHA's achievements is performed on volunteer basis by almost all, so the search for funding continues. We invite donations as one off payments, routine direct payment methods, and in-kind through active contributions to our ambitious activity listings. Our website [www.caha.org.au](http://www.caha.org.au) provides links to various mechanisms for contributing to the Alliance. We welcome all input.

Outlining the volunteer nature of our work is the perfect segue to thanking CAHA's founder and Executive Director. I first met Fiona at the inaugural meeting in Melbourne in August 2010, where she outlined to those present, her vision for a cooperative alliance of the health sector to face the challenges of climate change, to lobby for strong mitigation action, and to help the sector prepare. Since then I have witnessed Fiona's 24/7 dedication to the Alliance on an almost entirely pro bono basis whilst also committing considerable amounts of her own funds to the establishment and continued growth and functioning of CAHA.

CAHA's successes are largely attributable to Fiona's exceptional talents, skills and dedication. Her award as one of Australia's 100 Most of Influential Women in 2016 is testimony to her widely recognized achievements. Those of us within the organisation are in awe of her stamina and capacity to "move the earth". It is heart-warming to see that those outside who are exposed to her energies, commitment and skills are similarly struck.

On behalf of CAHA, of all our members, CAHA Friends and colleagues and the Australian public, I thank Fiona for her magnificent and selfless contribution to the Climate and Health cause to date. We understand that continued commitment for nigh on 24/7, every day, for over 6 years is unsustainable, and we reluctantly urge Fiona to embark on a somewhat more self-preserving course for she is too vital, too skilled, and frankly, too important to allow to 'burn out' or risk her health.

CAHA is therefore embarking on a phase of strategic reform aiming to maximize our continued influential impact of mainstreaming a health lens into strong action against worsening climate change into the future, and to maximise CAHA's access to Fiona's expertise, in a more sustainable manner.

In closure, the slower and more feeble global and national efforts are towards mitigating climate change, the greater the need for adaptation, and the greater the need for the

Climate and Health Alliance. It is pleasing to observe that positive moves are now afoot. The Paris Accord was a step in the right direction, and the business community now recognise that directors and leaders have a duty of care to mitigate against climate risks. Soon, Australian governments, at all levels must also recognise their legal responsibilities. The health sector is now strongly mobilising to lend their collective voice to this aim. We have good reason to be optimistic. CAHA, as an Alliance, is now stronger than ever as we embark upon this new phase.

In unity, and in strength we can make a difference.

**Dr Liz Hanna**, 7 November 2016

## REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What a year! We have worked harder than ever at CAHA this year!

It's been a year of reinvention and renewal, with new board members joining the CAHA Governance team, new member organisations joining the Alliance, along with new individual members, a new (and massive) omnibus campaign, a new project officer, new book-keeper, and (at last) a new office with space for CAHA's many volunteers and interns.

We've shifted our focus to a new emphasis on advocacy and campaigning through community organising – a process in which we are learning by doing by launching a massive outreach and organising effort to engage healthcare stakeholders in a conversation about a national public policy response to the health impacts of climate change.

We have produced more publications than in any other year, with the World Federation of Public Health Associations report: ***Climate Change and Health Policy Assessment: A Global Survey*** (a project led by CAHA), our first joint publication with Doctors for the Environment Australia (DEA): ***Investing in Health: The Australian health professions and fossil fuel divestment***, the release of our ***Discussion Paper: Towards a National Strategy on Climate Health and Well-being for Australia*** to kick off a national consultation and the very exciting campaign to secure this strategy, and the report from the survey accompanying the Discussion Paper: ***Survey of Health Professional's Opinions Around a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia***.

Thanks to support from the Climate Media Centre, CAHA has attracted more media coverage than ever before, helping to highlight the links between climate change and health in the minds of the public, the media and, we hope, politicians and policymakers.

With Carol Behne now leading CAHA's work in coordinating to Global Green and Healthy Hospitals project, membership in the Pacific region has grown to a record 23 members, representing 550 hospitals and health services and 3 health organisations.

A core part of CAHA's work this year has been the development of the campaign strategy to guide our efforts, and those of others, in advocating for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia. It's been a full year-long effort, with the initial strategy meeting with CAHA members and key allies in Melbourne in November 2015, followed by further meetings in Melbourne in March 2016, and Sydney in May 2016. The participation of many individuals and groups and support from colleagues in the broader climate movement has been invaluable as we shaped the strategy through their participation in reference groups, campaign core and support groups, events, meetings, online forums, consultation with healthcare stakeholders, and meetings with parliamentarians.



Our national and global partnerships, which add such value to our work, continue to flourish. CAHA is proud to be a founding partner in Victoria's Take@ initiative. We're pleased to welcome a new Executive Director, Jeni Miller, to the Global Climate and Health Alliance, of which CAHA is a founding member,. And we're grateful to the strong supportive network provided by Climate Action Network Australia through leadership retreats, and the power lent by a common agenda for action.

Over the next year, we will be working to secure a sustainable funding base to support CAHA's advocacy in its three priority areas – leading the campaign for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia, expanding the network of the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals in the Pacific region (and promoting the 2020 Health Care Climate Challenge), and through the Healthy Energy Initiative. As global average temperatures soar, and polar ice caps melt away, we recognise it is more important than ever to bring the voice of health professionals to advocate for climate action.

*Fiona Armstrong, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016*

## GOVERNANCE

### COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT (CAHA BOARD)

The CAHA Committee of Management (CoM) 2015-16 included:



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



Fiona Armstrong, CAHA Executive Director



Dr Brad Farrant (Independent Director)



Dr Peter Sainsbury, CAHA Vice President (Public Health Association of Australia)



Dr Elizabeth Haworth (Friends of CAHA)

Kim Daire (Independent Director)



Terrona Ramsay (Koowerup Regional Health Service, now Independent Director)



Dr Harry Jennens (Healthy Futures)



Robyn Clay- Williams (Institute for Health Innovation)

Clare de Kok (Independent Director, November 2015-May 2016)

Observers on the CAHA board: Natasha Abeysekera and Carolyn Reimann (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 Grant Blashki, Nossal Institute for Global Health, University of Melbourne
- 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
- Professor Simon Chapman, Professor of Public Health, University of Sydney (retired 2016)
- 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
- Professor John Wiseman, Melbourne Sustainable Societies Institute

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.

## STAFF

CAHA was pleased to welcome Carol Behne and Sheryl Thompson to the team in 2016.

Carol is the Sustainable Healthcare Project Officer leading the CAHA Global Green and Healthy Hospitals initiative in the Pacific region supported by funding from our international partner, Health Care Without Harm.

Sheryl Thompson has joined CAHA as Administrative Support and Bookkeeper to help manage CAHA's financial accounts and administrative support.

## MEMBERS

There are twenty-seven organisational members of the Climate and Health Alliance in 2015/16, representing health care professionals from a range of disciplines, health care service providers, institutions, academics, researchers and consumers.

### List of Members:

Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW)	Health Consumers' Network (Qld)
Australian College of Nursing (ACN)	Healthy Futures
Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)	Health Nature Sustainability Research Group (Deakin University)
Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA)	Health Issues Centre (HIC)
Australian Health Promotion Association (AHPA)	Health Services Union (HSU)
Australian Institute of Health Innovation (AIHI)	Koowerup Regional Health Service (KRHS)
Australian Women's Health Network (AWHN)	Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA)
Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA)	Psychology for a Safe Climate (PSC)
Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF)	Cohealth (formerly North Yarra Community Health)
Australian Psychological Society (APS)	School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW (SPHCM)
CRANApplus	Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH)
Doctors Reform Society (DRS)	Victorian Allied Health Professionals Associations (VAHPA)
Friends of CAHA (FoCAHA)	Women's Health East (WHE)
	Women's Health in the North (WHIN)

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.

## 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:

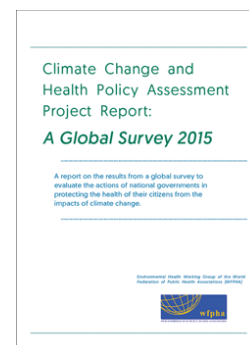
- **Advocate** for effective public policy and community responses to promote a healthy ecology and society through the prevention of environmental degradation, including from climate change and from threats to air and water and soil, in order to protect and promote the health and wellbeing of the community 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 FY 2015-16:

***Climate Change and Health Policy Assessment: A Global Survey*** (a World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) project led by CAHA).

This report outlines responses from 35 countries in the first-ever global benchmarking survey of national climate and health policy. It shows Australia is lagging well behind other industrialised nations in protecting its citizen from the major health risks associated with global warming.



***Investing in Health: The Australian health professions and fossil fuel divestment***

– this report is our first joint publication with Doctors for the Environment Australia (DEA). This report makes the case for health and medical professionals and health and medical organisations to divest from climate changing fossil fuel investments, and shift their financial resources to clean, healthy, low carbon investments.



The ***Discussion Paper: Towards a National Strategy on Climate Health and Well-being for Australia*** was the key document in kicking off a national consultation about national climate and health policy. This paper first reviews the health impacts of climate change in Australia. It examines the current national climate change mitigation and adaptation policies, especially the extent to which they acknowledge and respond to the impacts of climate change on human health and the health sector. Finally, some key elements of a National Strategy for Climate, Health and Well-being are proposed.



The Preliminary Report from the ***Survey of Health Professionals' Opinions Around a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia*** provides an overview of the responses to the online survey accompanying the Discussion Paper. The results represent the first national snapshot of the knowledge and views of healthcare stakeholders regarding the health impacts of climate change and on the health sector's preparedness to deal with these impacts, and reveals strong support (98%) for the national strategy.



## SUBMISSIONS

Advocacy for policy has this year been focused on defending climate and environment policy and renewable energy, with strong calls for health to be recognised in the development of energy and climate policy.

A list of the CAHA submissions made in 2015/16 appears below:

- Presentations to Joint Standing Committee on Treaties Inquiry into the Paris Agreement (Hansard) – September 2016
- Submission to Joint Standing Committee on Treaties into the Paris Agreement – September 2016
- Submission to Climate Change Authority in response to Second Draft Report from Review of Australia's climate policy options – February 2016
- Submission to Hazelwood Coal Mine Fire Inquiry – October 2015

## PARTNERSHIPS, NETWORKS AND ALLIANCES

CAHA maintains strong links with other national groups through its membership of Climate Action Network Australia and with global groups through the Global Climate and Health Alliance, and other national climate and health alliances in the US and the UK.

CAHA is a proud partner and affiliate of Health Care Without Harm, and through this relationship is the Coordinator of the Pacific region of the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals network and Australian partner of the global Healthy Energy Initiative.

## PROJECTS

### Global Green and Healthy Hospitals

A key joint project between CAHA and Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) is the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH). CAHA is the regional coordinator of the Pacific region of the GGHH network (including Australia and New Zealand) and works to promote the network, recruit hospitals and health services to the global network and support regional members in implementing their sustainable healthcare initiatives.



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.



Health Care Without Harm provided a grant to CAHA in 2015 and 2016 to support its work in promoting the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH) and advocacy for climate action.

Through this grant Sustainable Healthcare Project Officer Carol Behne has been appointed for two days a week to deliver outreach, engagement, education, and promotion of GGHH in Australia and New Zealand using a mix of events, webinars, publications, online and face to face engagement.



There continues to be strong growth in the membership of the Pacific network (Australia and New Zealand) of the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals network in the last year. As of June 2016 there are 23 GGHH members in the Pacific Region representing just over 550 hospitals and health services (due to a revision of member accounting methods this appears to a reduction of this number from last years' report, but actually represents a 10% increase).

## GGHH Pacific Region Members

### Australian members

- Austin Health Service, Vic
- Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association
- Bairnsdale Regional Health Service, Vic
- Hepburn Regional Health Service, Vic
- Kooweerup Regional Health Service, Vic
- Mater Misericordiae Health Services Brisbane Limited, Qld
- North East Sustainability Group, Vic
- Northern Health Service, Vic
- Prince of Wales Private Hospital, NSW
- South Western Sydney Local Health District, NSW



- Southern Cross Care (ACT&NSW)
- St Vincent's Health Australia
- UnitingCare Community, Qld
- Uniting Care Health, Qld
- University of Tasmania, Rural Clinical Medical School
- Western Health, Vic
- Western Sydney Local Health District, NSW
- Women's and Children's Hospital, SA
- Australian Nursing and Midwifery Association, Vic Branch
- New South Wales Nurses and Midwives Association

#### **New Zealand members**

- Auckland District Health Group
- Counties Manukau Health
- Waitemata District Health Board

## **GGHH Pacific Regional Network Achievements**

### **2020 HEALTHCARE CLIMATE CHALLENGE**

Three GGHH members have joined the 2020 Healthcare Climate Challenge, Kooweerup Regional Health Service, Counties Manukau District Health Board and NSW Nurses and Midwives Association. The 2020 Challenge is an opportunity for members to demonstrate their commitment to climate change mitigation, adaptation and leadership. In December 2015 Counties Manukau DHB won a gold and silver award in the 2015 Health Care Climate Champion Awards program associated with the award.

### **CASE STUDIES**

The following case studies have been published in FY 2015 – 2016 as members share their successes with other GGHH members. These include:

- Mater Misericordiae Health Service – Transport
- Mater Misericordiae Health Service – Energy Savings: Parking Lot Lighting
- Kooweerup Regional Health Service – Energy Efficiencies
- Counties Manukau DHB – Green teams
- Counties Manukau DHB – Sustainability at APAC 2015
- Counties Manukau DHB – Theatre Recycling

### **EVENTS**

Presentations and talks regarding GGHH have been given by CAHA at the following events:

#### **September 2015**

- Population Health Congress, Hobart: CAHA hosted a Workshop on Climate Change as a wicked problem for public health (Elizabeth Haworth, Peter Sainsbury, Fiona Armstrong).

#### **October 2015**

- Asia-Pacific GGHH Conference, South Korea (Chris Hill)

### **November 2015**

- Heath Innovation Roundtable (Chris Hill)
- CAHA Seminar Our Climate is Our Health (Pip Carew, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation – Vic branch and Terrona Ramsay Koowerup Regional Health Service)
- Fourth Greening the Health Care Sector Think Tank in Melbourne

### **February 2016**

- Environmental Committee Workshop at St John of God Hospital, Bendigo (Fiona Armstrong)
- Australian Health Design Council Seminar, Melbourne - broadcast nationally via web conference (Fiona Armstrong)
- Eco Friendly Hospitals for a Sustainable World, Brisbane (Fiona Armstrong and Chris Hill)

### **March 2016**

- Health Sector Leaders and Managers Conference, Melbourne (Fiona Armstrong)

### **April 2016**

- NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association Seminar (Chris Hill)
- North East Sustainability Group – Roundtable (Chris Hill)
- Rural Doctors Association of Australia (Chris Hill)
- Doctors for the Environment National Conference (Chris Hill)

### **October 2016**

- Institute of Hospitals Engineers Australia, Adelaide (Carol Behne)

### **Pacific Region Webinars**

A webinar **was held in August 2015**, a joint Australian Hospitals and Healthcare Association and CAHA GGHH webinar was held in June 2016, and an *Introduction to the GGHH network* webinar for potential members was held July 2016.

### **Sustainable Healthcare Newsletter**

The GGHH network is being promoted through newsletters on the topic of sustainable healthcare. The newsletters provide a vehicle to showcase latest best practice through case studies from GGHH members as well as other institutions with exemplary practices, as well as the chance to highlight educational resources, latest research, and upcoming events. The [May newsletter can be found here](#), and the [July newsletter here](#).

## Healthy Energy Initiative

CAHA is part of a collaborative global project, the Healthy Energy Initiative, led by our international partner Health Care Without Harm. Through this initiative, partner organisations work together to share information, resources, and strategies to mobilise health professionals to advocate for healthy energy policies, and to advocate for policy using the scientific regarding the adverse health impacts of fossil fuels.



Healthy Energy Initiatives in 2015/16 include the Paris Platform for Healthy Energy, a Fact Sheet on Healthy Energy Choices,

Other members of the Healthy Energy Initiative include:

China: Rock Environment & Energy Institute

Europe: Health and Environment Alliance

India: Community Environmental Monitoring

Philippines: Health Care Without Harm – Asia

South Africa: groundWork

Global Climate and Health Alliance  
Climate and Clean Air Coalition

CAHA's initiatives as part of this global effort in 2015/15 include:

## Publications

[\*Investing in Health: The Australian health professions and fossil fuel divestment\*](#) – April 2016

## Workshops

*Health Impacts from Coal and Gas – Beyond Coal and Gas Gathering, Lake Macquarie, NSW – April 2016 (Fiona Armstrong, with James Whelan, Environmental Justice Australia, and Mariann Lloyd Smith, National Toxics Network)*

*National Air Quality and Health Meeting – February 2016 (Fiona Armstrong)*



## CAMPAIGNS

### National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia

CAHA has led the development of a health sector campaign to achieve a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia.

This three-year campaign involves outreach and engagement with a broad cross section of healthcare stakeholder groups through a national consultation (Phase 1).

The distribution of a Discussion Paper proposing the strategy in June included a survey to:

- gather feedback on the proposal,
- evaluate understanding and knowledge about climate change and health among respondents,
- seek information regarding the priorities and concerns of healthcare stakeholders in Australia regarding the health impacts of climate change, and
- to ask their opinions on current climate policies in Australia.

The distribution of the Discussion Paper was accompanied by an intensive campaign of outreach and [road show of events](#) to connect health and medical organisations and leading individuals in the sector with this work.

CAHA also held [an online discussion forum over nine days](#) through which we were able to engage hundreds of health leaders and health professionals in a discussion about their concerns and priorities regarding climate change and health to develop an understanding of where the consensus lies for a joint campaign.

A [preliminary report from the survey](#) reveals a high level of knowledge and awareness about climate change and health among respondents, a high level of dissatisfaction with climate policy in Australia among health professionals, and strong support for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia (98% supported).

We have also [trialled a training program for health professionals in advocacy and campaigning on climate change and health](#), which will inform the development of a program for a three day workshop to be offered to delegates of 25 health sector organisations in 2017.

Planning for Phase 2 of the campaign is well underway, with campaign strategy meetings to be held in Sydney and Melbourne at the end of 2017 to further develop plans for advocacy for the national strategy, through Lobbying training and Capacity Building for Leadership in Climate Change and Health Advocacy and Campaigning.

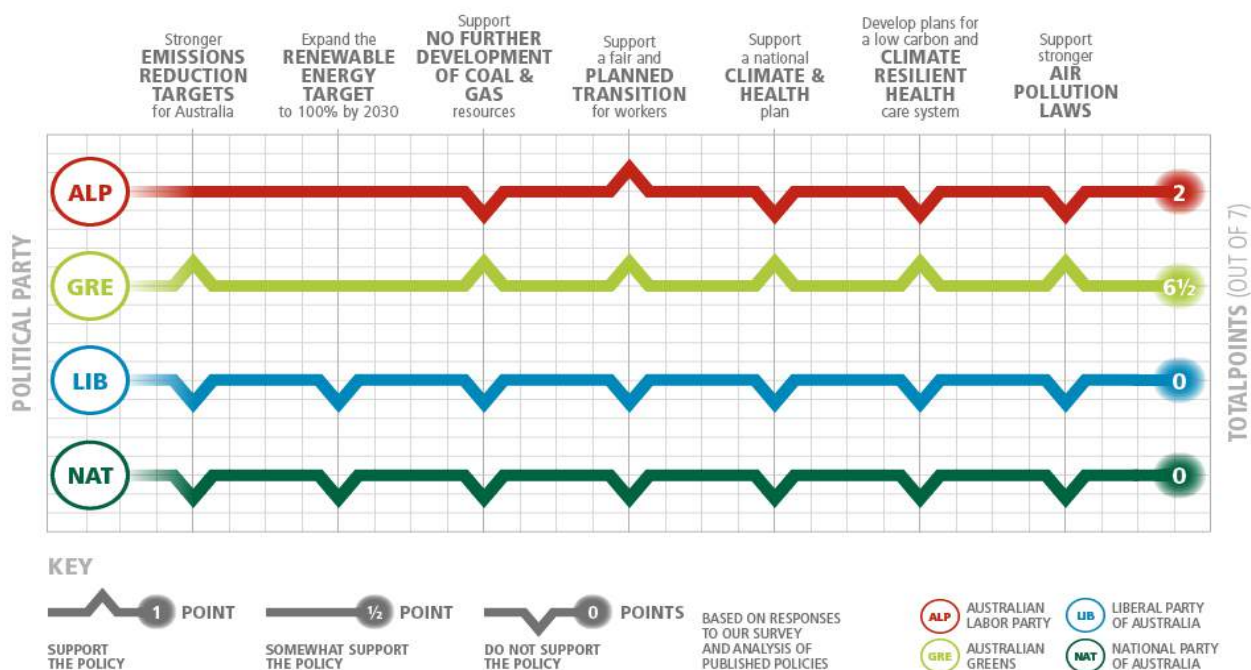
Phase 3 (2018) will involved escalated action government's irresponsibility in failing to develop climate-health policies – unless commitments have been secured.

A survey of political parties in July evaluated commitments to climate change and health over ten policy initiatives, with a scorecard produced on seven of these, rating the Liberal, National, Australian Labor and Greens parties.

The Scorecard below reveals the two parties forming the federal government scored 0/7 on the climate-health policy proposals put forward by CAHA. Labor scored 2/7 and The Greens 6.5/7.

## FEDERAL ELECTION 2016

The health of all Australians is threatened by climate change. This election, how can you use your vote to protect communities from climate change and promote a healthier future? We analysed the policies of the main political parties in Australia – and here are the results.



Vote for good health and a safe climate at this year's federal election.  
Find out more at [www.caha.org.au/campaigns/federal-election-2016](http://www.caha.org.au/campaigns/federal-election-2016)  
Want to see Australia develop a National Plan for Climate and Health?  
Send a letter to your MP today: [www.climateandhealth.good.do](http://www.climateandhealth.good.do)

THE CLIMATE AND HEALTH ALLIANCE IS AN INDEPENDENT COALITION OF HEALTH ORGANISATIONS AND HAS NO POLITICAL AFFILIATION.

### Online campaign – email your MP

The Campaign for also includes an online initiative, which 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.

Email your MP and/or Senators, asking for a national strategy by visiting:  
[www.climateandhealth.good.do](http://www.climateandhealth.good.do)

## CAHA EVENTS

### CAHA Seminar Our Climate is Our Health – Melbourne – November 2015



The *Our Climate is Our Health* Seminar held by CAHA on 19th November 2015 attracted over 60 people and featured an innovative and thought provoking program. The program featured speakers:

- Leadership on climate change and health (Peter Tait from PHAA, Pip Carew from ANMF, John Iser, DEA, Karen Kiang, RACP, and Terrona Ramsay, KRHS)
- An international perspective on the global climate change negotiations (Erwin Jackson, The Climate Institute), and the sustainable development goals, Peter Sainsbury, PHAA and CAHA)

#### **An afternoon session featured an innovative though experiment: Imagining 2030 as a healthy low carbon world**

This thought provoking session involved a panel of thought leaders, facilitated by science journalist Alexandra De Blas. Associate Professor Grant Blashki (Nossal Institute of Global Health), Dr Susie Burke (Australian Psychological Society), Monique Conheady (Moreland Energy Foundation and Flexicar founder), David Holmgren (co-founder of Permaculture concept), and Matthew Wright (Zero Emissions Australia) formed an insightful and inspiring panel who shared their reflections on the perspective of 2030, as they looked back at 2015, and the transition to a health low carbon world.





The panel from Imagining 2030 as a healthy, low carbon world.

The final session: 'Fighting for the natural world (and ourselves): Lessons from the environmental and political movements', featured Victoria McKenzie-McHarg from the Australian Conservation Foundation on a new approach of community organising being adopted by the climate movement, and Holly Hammond who provided some insights from history about the work and successes of social movements in achieving major societal change.



Victoria McKenzie McHarg, ACF

#### **Fourth Greening the Health Care Sector Think Tank – Melbourne – November 2015**

The Think Tank was attended by over 40 health sector leaders, including health service executives, directors of nursing, professional medical and nursing / midwifery organisations, clinicians, sustainability officers, educators, health union representatives, and operations / facilities managers. A series of inspiring speakers in the morning was followed by an afternoon of stimulating discussion.



Speakers included:

- **Paul Holman from Ambulance Victoria**, with a clear message about the health impacts of climate change: heat kills;
- Australian Health Design Council Chair **Jane Carthey** shared some stories of successes and challenges with regarding to embedding **sustainability in healthcare design**;
- **Patrick Tobin** from Catholic Healthcare talked about the **need for leadership from hospital executives**;
- A session on **engaging for behaviour change for sustainability** included **Michele Burton**;
- **Ros Morgan** shared her own inspiring journey of implementing recycling initiatives as a nurse in intensive care at Monash Health;
- **Patricia Schwerle** talked about her involvement in the establishment of a green group at Alfred Health in Victoria and new role in embedding sustainability and climate change in the undergraduate nursing curriculum at Monash University;
- **Forbes McGain** shared some stories from his recent trip to the US where he visited several hospitals to explore opportunities for importing some of the examples of **sustainability in healthcare**.

Check out [this Storify account](https://storify.com/AusHealthcare/think-tank-on-greening-the-health-care-sector) of how the day unfolded from the perspective of the tweeters in the room: <https://storify.com/AusHealthcare/think-tank-on-greening-the-health-care-sector>

Full reports from the two events above are available on the CAHA website.



## Campaign Strategy Meetings

The development of the campaign for a national strategy on climate, health and well-being included strategy meetings in Melbourne and Sydney. These meetings provided an opportunity to bring together CAHA members, key allies, and 'critical friends' to scope out the Strategic Plan to guide the campaign.

- Climate-health campaign strategy meeting – Melbourne – November 2015
- Climate-Health Campaign Strategy Meeting - Melbourne – March 2016
- Climate-Health Campaign Strategy Meeting - Sydney – May 2016

## Climate-Health Campaign Roadshow

A series of forums and workshops organised by CAHA have formed part of a national roadshow to help promote the campaign for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia. These included:

- Creating a Climate Where Health Matters – Workshop at Climate Change for Good – Gold Coast – July 2016
- What does the Paris Agreement mean for Health – Public Forum – Brisbane – July 2016
- Creating a Climate Where Health Matters – Workshop at Climate Change for Good – Gold Coast – July 2016
- Creating a Climate Where Health Matters – Workshop at AMSA Global Health Conference – Newcastle – July 2016
- What does the Paris Agreement mean for Health – Public Forum – Canberra – August 2016

## PRESENTATIONS

CAHA representatives were invited to present at the following events/conferences in the year 2014-15:

[On Topic – Changing the Climate of Discussion – School of Health and Social Development, Deakin University](#) – June 2016 (Fiona Armstrong)

[Climate Change and the Social Determinants of Health \(SoDoHA\)](#) – Canberra – August 2016

[Geography Teachers' Association Conference](#) - 22 August (Fiona Armstrong)

## CONSULTATION

CAHA participated in the following policy consultations / dialogues in 2015/16:

Educating for Sustainability - SUSTAINED Forum on Sustainability in Health Courses in Tertiary Institutions – February 2016

Climate Change Authority - Review of Australia's climate policy options – February 2016

National Air Quality and Health Meeting – Melbourne - February 2016

Victorian Climate Change Sector Roundtable (Social and health sectors)- March 2016

Australian Labor Party Consultations on Climate Target and Policies – March 2016

Australian Summit on Heat and Health - Climate Council - March 2016

Australian Climate Roundtable, Post Paris Workshop (on behalf of Roundtable member group, Australian Council of Social Services – April 2016

## COMMUNICATIONS

### NEWSLETTER

CAHA's newsletters are sent out regularly to between 1,000-2,000 subscribers, with different newsletters (on climate and health policy, sustainable healthcare, and various campaigns) sent to different audiences. The newsletters below were sent out in 2015/16.

08/10/2016 - [CAHA October Climate and Health News](#)

13/09/2016 - [Sustainable Healthcare News - September 2016](#)

18/08/2016 - [Latest News on Climate and Health: Campaigns, Discussion Paper and Forums and more!](#)

24/07/2016 - [Time for Health Minister to address climate change as major threat to health](#)

21/07/2016 - [Sustainable Healthcare News - July 2016](#)

15/07/2016 - [2020 Healthcare Climate Challenge Awards](#)

08/06/2016 - [Federal election: Time running out for politicians to explain how they will protect people from worsening health impacts of climate change](#)

20/05/2016 - [Sustainable Healthcare News - May 2016](#)

18/05/2016 - [Latest news and research + upcoming events on climate change and health](#)

18/04/2016 - [Media release](#)

26/02/2016 - [Update: Climate and Health Meetings, Events, Research and Jobs](#) 23/12/2015 - [Climate Change and Health Policy Global Survey Results](#)

21/12/2015 - [The world has reached a turning point.](#)

09/12/2015 - [With health from Paris #COP21](#)

08/12/2015 - [Climate Change and Health Policy Global Survey Results](#)

07/12/2015 - [Report from Greening the Healthcare Sector Think Tank](#)

04/12/2015 - [Our Climate is Our Health Report](#)

03/12/2015 - [We did it. We made history!](#)

24/11/2015 - [It's time to march for our planet, for our shared humanity and everything we love.](#)

04/11/2015 - [It's a big month for #ClimateHealth](#)

28/08/2015 - [Latest news on climate and health](#)

## MEDIA RELEASES

In 2015-16, CAHA has highlighted the lack of climate-health policy in Australia, including through the production of a scorecard rating the major parties policy commitments in the lead up to the federal election, drawn attention to the opportunities to drive climate action and health gains through divestment, pointed to the risks for both health and climate associated with coal mining, pointed to links between climate change, heatwaves, and deaths, and promoted the need for climate action in Australia for the nation to meet its obligations under the Paris Agreement.

**10 October 2016**

**[Australia's health leaders tackle climate change at Parliament](#)**

**3 October 2016**

**[Australians left critically vulnerable to climate change: health experts warn](#)**

**21 July 2016**

**[Time for Health Minister to address climate change as a major threat to health](#)**

**11 July 2016**

**[Heatwave deaths linked to human-induced climate change](#)**

**20 June 2016**

**[Major political parties fail to protect Australia from climate change health impacts](#)**

**8 June 2016**

**[Federal election: Time running out for politicians to explain how they will protect people from worsening health impacts of climate change](#)**

**18 May 2016**

**[Australian health groups join global call on G7 nations to phase out coal](#)**

**4 May 2016**

**[Mine investigation response drives home importance of phasing out coal](#)**

**28 April 2016**

**[Senate Committee Report chronicles deadly risks of coal mining](#)**

**17 April 2016**

**[Investing in Health: New report on the case for fossil fuel divestment](#)**

**5 April 2016**

**[US leadership on climate and health highlights Australia's failure](#)**

**12 November 2015**

**[Australia lagging behind on climate and health policy: global survey](#)**

**13 October 2015**

**[‘Our Climate, Our Health’](#) A global health campaign launched today**

**24 September 2015**

**[VW diesel debacle – a wake up call](#)**

## CAHA IN THE MEDIA

Thanks to the support of the Climate Media Centre, CAHA has been more successful in getting media coverage in the last year.

Prominent media coverage included:

Channel 7, 9 and 10 news– Heat, climate, change and impact on workers

SBS TV News – Zika virus – February 2016

ABC Radio National – Launch of Discussion Paper – July 2016

The Conversation – Climate policy needs a health lens - July 2016

Huffington Post – Health Leaders Roundtable – October 2016



## MEDIA TRAINING

The Climate Media Centre has provided media training to CAHA people (GGHH Project Officer (2015) Chris Hill and Friends of CAHA member, Sue Cooke).

## SOCIAL MEDIA

CAHA's social media presence continues to grow with almost 2,500 followers on Twitter, with social media analytics suggesting @healthy\_climate occupies an "influential" status.

Some of CAHA's posts on Twitter are estimated to reach a potential audience of 30,000.

CAHA's Facebook followers have grown to 1,400 and CAHA's Facebook posts reach around 200-400 people each week.

## VOLUNTEERS

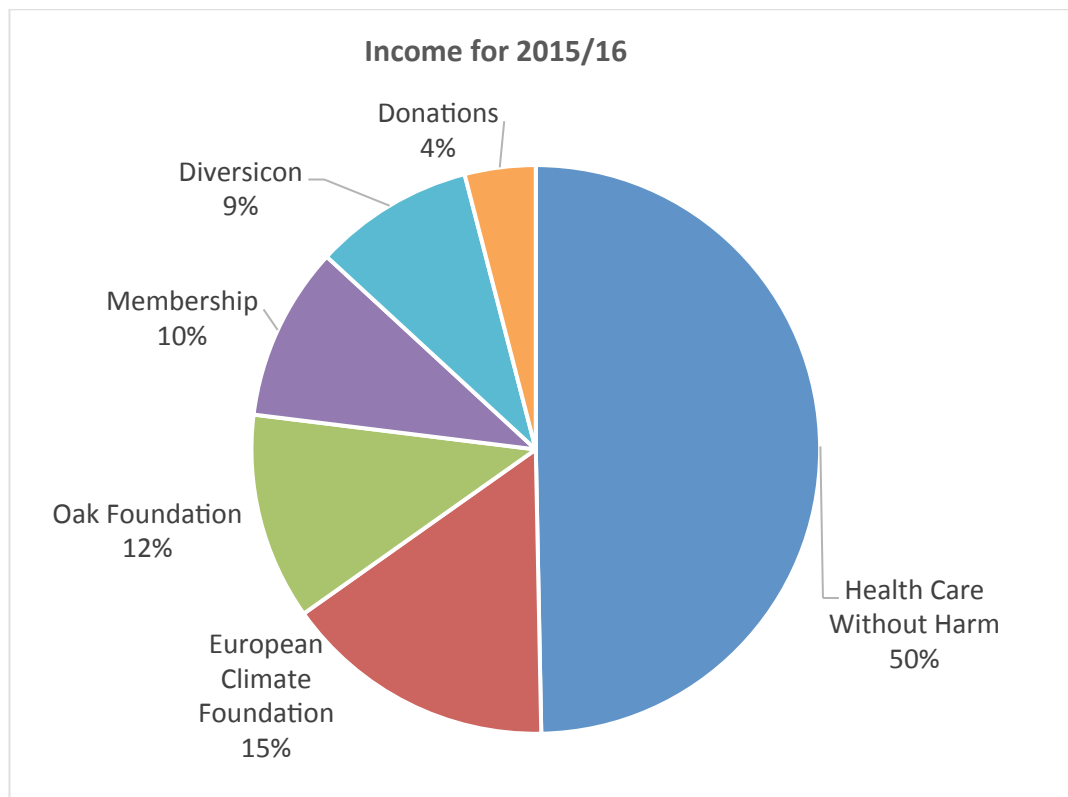
CAHA is very fortunate to have the support of some generous volunteers. Committed volunteers in 2015-16 include Ewa Mazaruk who assisted with database management, events and research; Tina Zacharis who has supported CAHA database management, administration, and volunteer management; Tess Mitchell, who has undertaken research, assisted with publications and administration; Sasha King who has helped organise events, meetings, and generally provided much need support for the national climate-health strategy campaign;

Special mention should go to Marissa Parry, who was the lead author of the Discussion Paper: Towards a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia; Danielle Schutte, who produced the table of climate-health impacts in the Discussion Paper; Ann Borda and Tamara Taylor who developed the accompanying survey and assisted with the Preliminary Report; and Rebecca Patrick who was the lead author of the Preliminary Report from the Survey accompanying the Discussion Paper.

## FINANCIAL REPORT: CAHA TREASURER

### Report from the CAHA Treasurer

In 2015/16 the Climate and Health Alliance received a net income of \$109,804.38. This is a 44% increase on the previous financial year. There was a decrease in funding from Health Care Without Harm for the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals project. Despite this they remain CAHA's biggest funder. The increase in total income was due to an increase in the total number of funders and increased membership fees. Graph 1 below shows the distribution of income streams for 2015/16.



*Graph 1 Income distribution 2015/16*

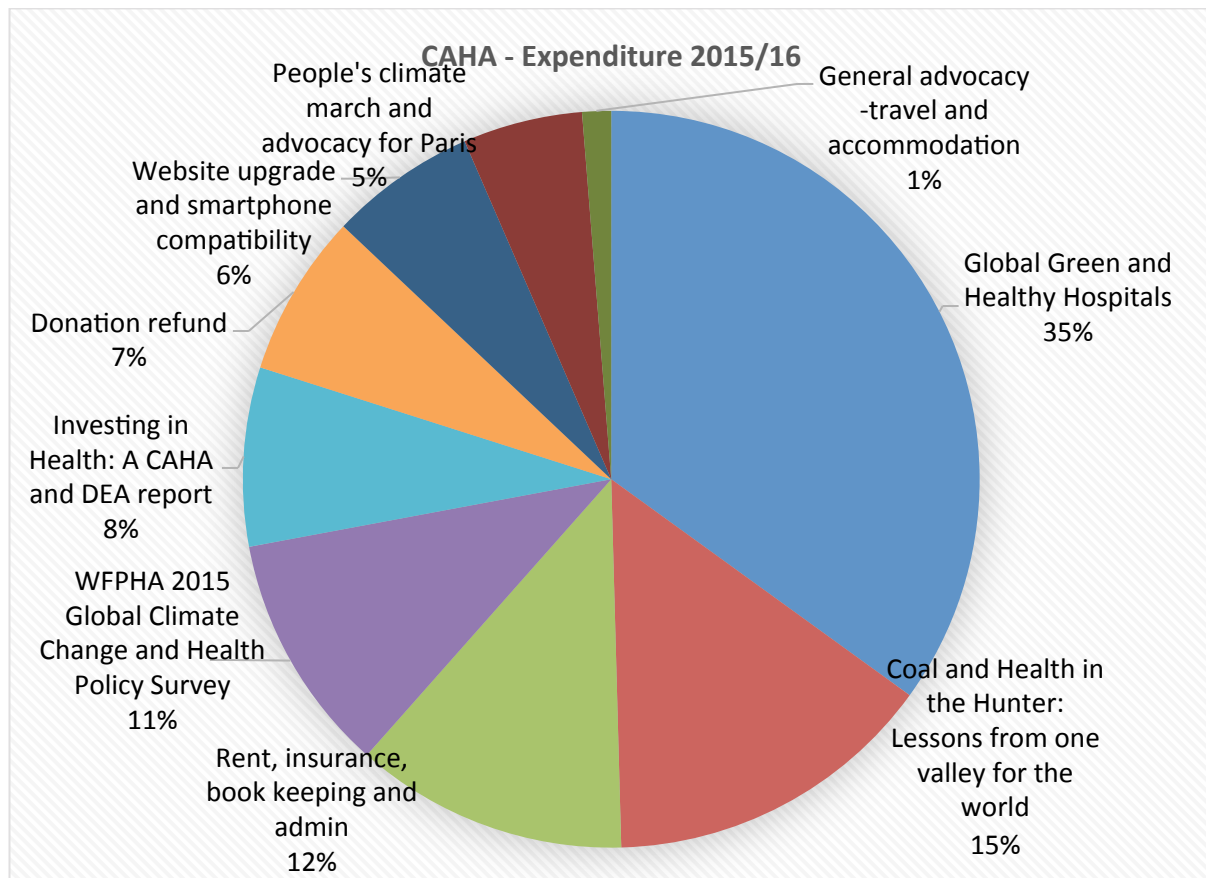
Expenditure for 2015/16 was \$140,169.04. This is an increase of 240% on the previous financial year. This figure is skewed somewhat by the fact that a number of CAHA projects, including Global Green and Healthy Hospitals, are funded by the calendar year and not the financial year. As a result \$21,000 of Global Green and Healthy Hospital funds were carried over from the 2014/15 year and were expended in the 2015/16 year.

Due to a misunderstanding, a donation received in 2014/15 was refunded to the donor, who then renewed the donation in 2015/16. Although this appears as an expense, this was cost neutral to CAHA due to the renewal of the donation.

Graph 2 below, shows the distribution of expenses for 2015/16 by project. Global Green and Healthy Hospitals remained the largest project expenditure for 2015/16. This was followed by the Coal and Health in the Hunter report.

In the 2015/16 financial year significant work was undertaken to upgrade CAHA's website. This was a much needed project, as the previous website was first developed in 2011 and lacked many of the functionalities that are essential today including mobile compatibility. The new website has improved functionality and aesthetics, including mobile responsiveness, social media and fundraising integration, and much improved data capture in terms of how the website is used and by whom to better inform campaign strategy and evaluation.

A total of 88% of expenditure went directly to supporting CAHA projects or advocacy with the remaining 12% going towards rent, insurance, book keeping and administration.



*Graph 2 Expenditure distribution 2015/16*

At the 30 of June 2016 CAHA had a total of \$62,010.23 in its bank account with liabilities of \$3,974.78. This resulted in a total equity of \$58,035.45.

During the financial year Peter Sainsbury stepped down as acting Treasurer and continued his work as Deputy President. I would like to thank Peter for the work he performed in the role of Treasurer.

Finally, I would also like to extend my gratitude to Fiona Armstrong, our Executive Director, who has worked tirelessly to diversify CAHA's funding base and enable CAHA to deliver 2015/16's extensive program of works.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

CLIMATE AND HEALTH ALLIANCE INCORPORATED  
ABN: 75 260 386 455

Climate and Health Alliance		
Balance Sheet		
1st July 2015 to 30th June 2016		
<b>Asset</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
1-1005	Westpac - General Acc 187596	55,920.22
1-1007	Westpac - Donations 187609	6,090.01
		<hr/> 62,010.23
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>62,010.23</b>
<b>Liability</b>		
3-1800	Accounts payable *	3,974.78
		<hr/> 3,974.78
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>3,974.78</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>58,035.45</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
3-1600	Retained earnings	20,763.08
3-1800	Current year earnings	-30,364.66
3-9999	Historical balancing	67,637.03
		<hr/> 58,035.45
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>58,035.45</b>

\* Accounts Payable (Unpaid Accounts):-



## FINANCIAL REPORT

Climate And Health Alliance		
Profit and loss Statement		
1st July 2015 to 30th June 2016		
		Total
<b>Income</b>		
4-1000	Membership Income	10,860.00
4-1005	Donations - GiveNow	2,133.12
4-1010	Donations - Other	2,291.38
4-1020	Interest Received	77.59
4-1025	Interest - Donations Account	3.60
4-2100	GGHH Funding	33,010.08
4-2200	Diversicon Funding	10,000.00
4-2300	HEI Funding	21,514.66
4-2450	Oak Foundation Grant	12,901.56
4-2900	WFPHA Funding	17,012.39
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>109,804.38</b>
	<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>109,804.38</b>
<b>Less Expenses</b>		
6-1000	Accounting/Audit fees/bookkeeping	2,324.00
6-1005	Bank charges	87.00
6-1020	Consultancy - General - De Blas Communications	1,100.00
6-1025	Consultancy - General - Plan to Win	200.00
6-1030	Consultancy - CHHV - F. Armstrong	15,600.00
6-1040	Consultancy - GGHH - F. Armstrong	21,000.00
6-1045	Consultancy - GGHH - Carol Nouwers	5,512.50
6-1090	Consultancy - WFPHA - INTL World Federation	1,500.00
6-1092	Consultancy - WFPHA - Anumitra Chand	7,200.00
6-1095	Consultancy - Diversicon - Lili Morgan	6,720.00
6-1110	Filing and lodgement fees	54.40
6-1150	Insurance	4,253.02
6-1160	Materials - General	191.39
6-1165	Materials - Projects	356.57
6-1170	Media - AAP	310.82
6-1175	Media - Projects	2,582.98
6-1190	Meeting costs	42.40
6-2000	Miscellaneous - General	2,671.40
6-2040	Miscellaneous - Projects	10,126.50
6-3000	Postage - General	389.29
6-3050	Postage - Projects	790.20
6-4000	Printing & Stationery - General	299.37
6-4030	Printing & Stationery - Projects	4,639.06
6-4070	Rent - Fitzroy P/L	5,261.82
6-4200	Telephone - General	38.00
6-4220	Telephone - Projects	52.00
6-4300	Subscriptions	2,063.00
6-5000	Travel & Accommodation- General	1,165.31
6-5030	Travel & Accommodation - Projects	6,163.01