



**FASD-CAN**  
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder  
Care Action Network

**FASD-CAN Incorporated**  
**Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2025**  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 4.30pm

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**Attendees:** See attendees list at end of this document – quorum exceeded.

**Minute taker:** Paige Saxby

**1.1 Opening/Mihi and Karakia Timatanga**

**1.2 Welcome and Apologies**

**Apologies:** Janet Miller, Christine Woods (Board Member), Rose Hawkins, Chantal Cullinane

**1.3 Adoption of Agenda**

An agenda was sent to all members by email on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025. No amendments were requested.

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
3. Presentation of Chairperson's Report
4. Presentation of Financial Report
5. Appointment of New Board Members
6. Life membership
7. General Business

**2. AGM Minutes from Saturday 9 September 2024**

The minutes were adopted.

Proposed: Leigh Henderson

Seconded: Kathryn Lawlor

Member votes: 29 in favour, 0 against.

**3. Presentation of Chairperson's report – Leigh Henderson**

Leigh summarised her report:

When your lives are touched by FASD you tend to live life on the edge. Planning ahead, savouring the highs, confronting the lows and being nimble. And so it has been for our organisation this year.



The high point was the launch of the updated FASD Action Plan. FASD-CAN put a lot of effort into describing the actions we would like to see progressed to change the environment for those with FASD in Aotearoa. The Board is grateful to Stephanie and her team for the conduct of the engagement workshops.

The low point was the stalling of the work to access Disability Support. The eligibility of those with FASD to DSS would be life changing for many. Unfortunately, FASD was caught in the crossfire of the stabilisation of the support system and access to DSS was excluded from the Action plan. It's an ongoing effort and we continue to advocate for its inclusion.

Our work this year has consolidated and expanded our previous activities. For more detailed information refer to the Chair report in our annual performance report. But I'd just like to highlight the work we have done in the area of workforce development – providing input into the micro-credential training, the training for non-clinical workforce and for clinical workforce – mental health and addiction specialists. Our lived experience and subject expertise have been highly valued.

Our other significant achievement has been provided a programme for people living with FASD – the Titoki programme. By bringing together people with FASD to events and camps we have decreased their feelings of isolation, increased their self-confidence and skills of advocacy and self-knowledge.

Our work is enabled by fantastic, knowledgeable and passionate kaimahi.

#### **Discussion: What reasons do the government give for not funding FASD as a Disability?**

There are a number of different disability sectors who are advocating for access to Disability Support. However is limited in regard to Disability services. FASD is not the only disability not being funded.

Proposed: Leigh Henderson

Seconded: Kim Milne

Member votes: 29 in favour, 0 against.

#### **4. Presentation of Financial Report**

Ross Porter, who is no longer the Treasurer but has the role as our Chair of the Finance, Audit and Risk Sub-Committee, presented the financial report.

For the 2024/25 financial year, this report was circulated to all members on 31 October 2025. Our funding is hand-to-mouth – even at the start of the financial year we were still uncertain when we will have secure funding. We have signed a contract for this financial year with Health NZ. We are not the only NGO in this position in New Zealand in this climate and we are proud of the team who have procured the contract with Health NZ to secure this.

#### **5. Appointment of New Board Members – Leigh Henderson**

Leigh summarised the appointment of New Board Members as a result of the new Incorporated Societies Act. The new constitution allows us to appoint members as well as elect members. The decision this year was to appoint 3 new board members and reappoint one board member.

**Gilbert Taurua** has finished his term – he was thanked for his tenure as a FASD-CAN Board Member.



**Kathryn Lawlor** has been reappointed for another 3-year term.

**Christine Woods** has been appointed as a board member after serving as the FASD-CAN Strategy and governance Board Advisor. Christine has been appointed for a 3-year term

**Nathan Harrington** has been appointed for a 3-year term.

**Tarsha Te Rure** has been appointed for a 3-year term.

**Darryl Roycroft, Harmony Moki and Michele Daly** continue their terms.

*[Find out more about all of the above board members on our [‘About Us’](#) page.]*

Leigh summarised the email that was send out to members on 22 Octobers 2025 relating to the experience of the newly appointed board members.

The Board is comprised of members with a wealth of knowledge and experience who will lead us well into the future.

## **6. Life membership – Stephanie James-Sadler**

Rose Hawkins was honoured as a life member. It’s wonderful to now recognise her great contribution to the organisation and to FASD awareness in Aotearoa New Zealand.

## **7. General Business**

Our spot prize for attendance was drawn – Samia Buchan was the winner.

Kim Milne – acknowledgment of Leigh Henderson, and that she is a phenomenal advocate to all individuals with FASD and their whanau in Aotearoa.

Everyone was thanked for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 4.50 pm

## **Closing/Karakia Whakamutunga**

### **Attendees:**

1. Stephanie James-Sadler - CEO
2. Leigh Henderson - Chair
3. Ross Porter – Board Member & Chair of the Finance, Audit and Rish Sub-committee
4. Trish Porter
5. Ruruhana (Leanne) Brownie
6. Tarsha Te Rure – Board Member
7. Jackie Prichard
8. Alex Prichard
9. Jean-Pierre Mary-Genetu
10. Dennis Brownie
11. Paige Saxby
12. Michele Daly – Board Member
13. Darryl Roycroft – Board Member



14. Anna Gundesen
15. Kathryn Lawlor – Board Member
16. Harmony Moki – Board Member
17. Andrew Buxton
18. Liz Buxton
19. Anna Gundersen
20. Elanor Bensemann
21. Tina Beattie
22. Kim Milne
23. Marilyn Jones
24. Samia Buchan
25. Raychel Blanchard
26. Fiona Harkness
27. Ros Jaquier
28. Nathan Harrington – Board Member
29. Eryl Jones