



Muscular Dystrophy  
New Zealand

**MINUTES OF THE 57<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MUSCULAR  
DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND (INC) HELD AT  
BRENTWOOD HOTEL, 16 KEMP STREET, KILBIRNIE, WELLINGTON**

**Friday 15 April 2016 at 6.00pm**

**PRESENT:**

Raewyn Hodgson (Southern Regions Rep), Peter Tegg (Wellington Rep), Warren Hall (Canterbury Rep), Andrea Clive (Northern Rep), Dr. Erik Andersen, Jan Daly, Barry Edwards, Kristine Gibson, Brian Hadley, Lyn Hawkins, John Hawkins, Alan Hodgson, Andrew Holt, Shelley Hopper, Helen Kelly, Kate Longmuir, Mojo Matthers, Barbara McAdam, Steve McKay, Dianne McKellar, Andrea McMillan, Helen Melvese, Dymrna Mulroy, Miriam Rodrigues, Kerry Stephenson, Annelize Steyn, Herman Steyn, Bevan Higgins

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Heather Browning (MDA NC Chairperson), Ronelle Baker (Chief Executive) *late arrival*, Sophie Tauwehe Tamati (Vice-Chairperson), Margaret Stoddart (minute taker).

**APOLOGIES:**

Roger Loveless, Liz Mills, Andrew Munro (Canterbury Branch Chairperson), Trevor Jenkin (Northern Branch Chairperson), Derek Woodward, Gill Goodwin, Dr. Rakesh Patel, Dr. Richard Roxburgh.

Heather Browning welcomed everyone with special mention to our guest speakers Helen Kelly, Mojo Mathers and Dr. Erik Andersen.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM:**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 17 April 2015 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

**Moved: Peter Tegg**

**Seconded: Kerry Stephenson**

**MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.



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## ANNUAL REPORTS:

### Chairperson's Report

2015 was a difficult year as we lost our CEO but gained a new one in Ronelle Baker. We carried out a Strategic Planning exercise and identified no significant change. The key platforms of life changing impact for members, advocacy, sustainable organisation, outstanding reputation, strive for system excellence were retained at the conclusion of the exercise. The MDA continues to strive for all of those things.

Financially MDA had a good year with a substantial bequest received late in the year. The team are working effectively to reduce expenditure and operate more effectively. DIAS funding stream (Ministry of Health contract) is currently under review and has only one year remaining. There is a need to diversify income and increase revenue from other sources so we are not dependent on government funding.

There has been a significant change in the accounting standards for New Zealand charities which means that the financials for all Branches and National Office will be reported on a consolidated basis from 2017 (reporting for the 2016 financial year). This has been a challenge for the not-for-profit sector. Our auditors have been helpful in this regard.

The Neuromuscular Research Foundation Trust (NRFT) is continuing to fund and deliver neuromuscular research. Acknowledgement given to all of the Trustees for their contribution. Arthur Young Chairperson, Richard Roxburgh, Graeme Hammond Tooke, Leigh Hale, Alexa Kidd and outgoing Trustees Paula Kersten and Lindsay McGregor.

Heather recognised the outstanding efforts of outgoing council members Roger Loveless, Gill Goodwin and Stacey Christie and thanked them for their contribution and years of service.

Heather acknowledged the Chief Executive Ronelle Baker for her leadership.

Move that the Chairperson's report is received.

**Moved: Jan Daly**

**Seconded: Peter Tegg**

**Agreed**

### Financial Accounts for 2015

Brian Hadley the accounts. Better results were achieved this year than the previous year. Looking ahead, branches currently prepare their own financial reports and to

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consolidate all accounts for 2016, a timetable will need to be developed and adhered to.

MDA is phasing out their main database Raiser's Edge and this will be replaced by the VEGA database. This should be in place by end of June.

Move that the Annual Financial Report for the year ending 31 December 2015 be accepted.

**Moved: Heather Browning**

**Seconded: Jan Daly**

**Agreed**

### **Chief Executive's Report**

The report was not read out in full, but was available in the published Annual Report. Due to the travel delays experienced by the Chief Executive, Heather as Chairperson gave a summary of highlights on behalf. Highlights were the financial position of the organisation, and the stronger emphasis on member projects. Ronelle extends her thanks to the Chairperson and whole of National Council for their support in governance.

Heather acknowledged it had been a year of transformation with the focus more on specific interests of members, such as the introduction of the discretionary fund as well as a change in branding and a more inclusive public profile.

Move that the Chief Executive's report is received.

**Moved: Sophie Tamati**

**Seconded: Raewyn Hodgson**

**Agreed**

### **NATIONAL COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS:**

Results of the 2016 National Council election were as follows:

- Rangatahi Rep – Olivia Shivas – new member
- Councillor at large - Andrea McMillan- re-elected member
- Councillor at large - Ken Green – new member

**The meeting closed at 6.35pm and was followed by three guest speakers and refreshments.**