

# AIDA Board Communique

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December 2020

Dear Members,

I am very pleased to provide the first communique for the new AIDA Board, as your President.

The Board has a complementary set of skills that will contribute to good governance and leadership and has engaged in an extensive online induction process. Most Directors were able to come together in Canberra for our first meeting, on the 5th December. The Board was especially pleased to welcome Dr Dawn Casey as the Board-appointed Independent Director. Dr Casey brings with her significant leadership experience and achievements in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector, as well as extensive governance experience.

The Board considered the review of the AIDA Constitution, noting that a comprehensive consultation with members will occur in 2021. The Indigenous Knowledge Advisory Council has now been formed with a range of Members, community and Indigenous leaders from across the country and will hold its first meeting in 2021. Our conference - AIDA20-21 – is proceeding as scheduled, for 30 June-2 July, Gold Coast. Registrations will open shortly and please note that there are still some Partnerships opportunities available.

Following the meeting, the Board held a one-day strategic planning workshop to set the strategic direction of AIDA for the next 5 years. The new strategic plan will be launched early in 2021.

Directors will be engaging in various member and community engagement within their individual home regions over the coming year, taking advantage of the broad geographical representation within the Board, and will hold Board meetings in Canberra where possible. On behalf of the Board, I wish all members and families a safe and happy Christmas and we look forward to working together in 2021.



**Dr Tanya Schramm**  
**President**