

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

**Health Professions Boards (Procedures) Act 1981
Dentists Act 1931**

APPOINTMENTS TO THE DENTISTS BOARD
OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The positions of chairperson and three appointed members on the Board become vacant on 29 May 1998. Paragraph 7(1)(a) of the *Dentists Act 1931* (the Act) requires that a chairperson and 3 other members be appointed in accordance with the *Health Professions Board (Procedures) Act 1981*.

The Act provides for the registration of dentists, specialist dentists and dental hygienists, and for related purposes. All registered dentists and specialist dentists were notified by circular of the upcoming vacancies to the Board. The closing date for nominations was 9 February 1998.

Nine applications were received for appointment to the four vacancies. All applications are of a high calibre and all applicants are eligible for appointment.

In considering the applicants regard was given to gender representation, representation from the various employment sectors, areas of speciality, as well as the degree of commitment of the individual in maintaining high standards within the profession. The current Board comprises one female and three male appointed members, and three male elected members.

The current chairperson Dr Brian Mor, has carried out the responsibilities of chairperson over the last three years in a highly dedicated manner, and it is suggested that he be reappointed to the position of chairperson. It is further suggested that Dr Amanda McKeon be reappointed to the Board as she has provided a valuable contribution to the Board since her appointment. She is the only woman on the Board at this time.

Dr David Trigger was appointed to the Board on 15 December 1996. Dr Trigger has proved to be a valuable member and it is suggested that he be reappointed in this position.

Dr Stuart Long has not renominated for appointment. Dr Long was employed within the ACT Dental Service and thus provided the public sector perspective on deliberations of the Board. Dr Desmond Storey is a private practitioner and has also been a consulting dentist to the ACT Department of Health and Community Care since 1989. It is suggested that Dr Storey be appointed to the Board in this position, not only for this reason but for his continued excellence as a practitioner and commitment to the profession.

Appointments to the Board are for a period of three years commencing from the date of the Instrument of Appointment, to and including 28 May 2001.

After consideration by Government the appointments were referred to the Standing Committee on Health and Community Care in accordance with the *Statutory Appointments Act 1994*. The Committee had no objections to the appointments proceeding.