



# Media Release

**13 December 2016**

## **New President for Palliative Care Australia**

**Dr Jane Fischer has been elected as the new President of Palliative Care Australia, replacing Professor Patsy Yates whose 4 year term has come to an end.**

Dr Fischer is a palliative care specialist with more than 25 years' experience in palliative care. She is CEO and medical director at Calvary Health Care Bethlehem in Melbourne and also is the chair of the Victorian Palliative Medical Training Advisory Committee.

"I am very pleased to take on the role of President to continue to ensure that Australians have access to quality palliative care at the end of their lives. I am passionate about community education and engagement to ensure everyone talks to their family, friends and health team about their end-of-life wishes," Dr Fischer said.

Andrew Allsop, psychosocial and spiritual service support manager for Silver Chain in Perth, was elected as Vice President.

Dr Fischer will lead the Board that includes two new members elected in November at the Annual General Meeting.

The Board appointees bring valuable experience in clinical, legal and community sectors.

Judy Hollingworth from the mid-north coast of New South Wales has been an active palliative care volunteer and advocate in the Manning Valley for many years.

Helen Walker from Adelaide has a wealth of experience in local and state government and is the clinical services coordinator at Daw House Hospice in Adelaide.

Professor Lindy Willmott has been re-elected for another three-year term. Ms Willmott is a Professor of Law at the Queensland University of Technology and is an expert in end-of-life law.

Dr Fischer thanks retiring Board members, Professor Peter Hudson, Associate Professor Richard Chye and Professor Fran McInerney for their tireless work and wishes them all well for the future.

### **Palliative Care Australia Board Members**

Dr Jane Fischer (President)  
Andrew Allsop (Vice-President)  
Philip Plummer (Treasurer)  
Professor Patsy Yates  
Professor Lindy Willmott  
Helen Walker  
Judy Hollingworth

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