

Monday 1st December 2025, 2pm – 3:30pm

REGISTER: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: 1 December 2025

Time: 2PM - 3.05PM

Place: Online via Zoom

Attendees: Jo Hunter (JH), Karen Paxton (KP), Catherine Keniry (CK), Deb Kenna (DK), Indra Choudhury (IC), Emma Marshall (EM), Giti Haddadan (GH), Melissa Nott (MN), Hazel Dalton (HD), Mamun Huda (MH), Gerald Chitsunge (GC), Alice Munro (AM), Kerrie Noonan (KN), Rachel Rossiter (RR), Emily Saurman (ES), Maryanne Hawthorn (MH), Letitia Cross (LC), Jessica Iliffe (JI), Luke Marks (LM), Rachel Beldham Collins (RBC)

Apologies: Sam Jakimowicz, Levi Osuagwu, Shannon Pike, Tracey Parnell, Rodney Peterson

Meeting started: 2:06pm

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country by First Nations Co-Chair Deb Kenna

Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the previous AGM held on [Insert Date] were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was moved by [Name], seconded by [Name], and carried unanimously.

Chairpersons' Report

Co-Chair Catherine Keniry presented the Annual Report, highlighting the achievements of the Western NSW Health Research Network over the past year. She noted the successful hosting of the WHRN2025 Symposium, which received positive feedback from participants. The average rating from feedback surveys was noted as 9 out of 10, with many attendees commenting on the friendly atmosphere and high-quality presentations.

Catherine emphasized the importance of collaboration and inclusivity in the network, particularly regarding engagement with First Nations researchers. She acknowledged the contributions of various members and committees in organizing the symposium and fostering partnerships.

Deb Kenna added to the report by discussing the successful engagement of local schools and community members during the symposium, particularly through performances and workshops that highlighted Aboriginal culture.

Financial Report

Karen Paxton, the outgoing Treasurer, presented the financial report. She noted that the financial year runs from July to June and provided an overview of the opening and closing balances. The report indicated a healthy financial position, with an opening balance of \$133,000 and a closing balance of \$103,000 as at 30 June 2025..

Karen highlighted the successful acquisition of sponsorships for the symposium and a research grant from the PHN, which contributed positively to the network's financial standing. She also noted the need to increase university memberships and funding applications for future events.

Proposed Changes to the Constitution

The following proposed changes to the constitution were discussed:

- **Office Bearers:** Update to reflect the titles of Co-Chair and Co-Chair - First Nations. Remove Education and networking from constitution. Proposed MN, Seconded KP. Unanimously approved.
- **Maximum Terms:** A proposal to change the maximum number of consecutive terms for committee members from two to four years was discussed. The motion was moved by JH, seconded by MN. The motion passed with no objections.
- **Financial Year:** A proposal to change the financial reporting year from July-June to a calendar year was also discussed. The motion was moved by KP and seconded by JH. This motion passed unanimously.

8. Acceptance of Annual Report and Financial Statements

A motion to accept the annual report and financial statements was moved by CK and seconded by JH. The motion passed without objection.

9. Election of Office Bearers

The following nominations were presented for election:

- **Co-Chair:** Catherine Keniry (elected unopposed)
- **Co-Chair, First Nations:** Deb Kenna (elected unopposed)
- **Deputy Chairperson:** Alice Munro (elected unopposed)
- **Treasurer:** Hazel Dalton (elected unopposed)
- **Secretary:** Jo Hunter (elected unopposed)
- **Education and Training Officer:** Shannon Pike (elected unopposed)
- **Scientific Chair:** Melissa Nott (elected unopposed)
- **General Executive Members:** Sam Jakimowicz, Gerald Chitsunge, Giti Haddadan, Emma Marshall (elected unopposed)
- **Public Officer:** Levi Osuagwu (elected unopposed)

Closing Remarks

Co-Chair Catherine Keniry thanked all members for their participation and contributions throughout the year. She expressed gratitude for the collaborative spirit within the network and looked forward to continuing the work in the upcoming year.

Meeting closed: 3:20pm.