Internet Society of Australia
A Company Limited by Guarantee
ACN 076 406 801

DIRECTORS' REPORT – as at 30 June 2018

The Board provides the following report to the members in respect of the financial year 2017-18.

Overview

During the early part of the present term, the Board committed a considerable amount of its effort to rebuilding confidence following the divisive debates of the preceding period. Then, among the organisation's Objects, the two that stand out, and have demanded continual attention, are policy contributions on behalf of the Australian Internet user community, and encouragement of and participation in events that bring together people with similar and conflicting interests and views.

Efforts have been made in relation to the significant adjustments made to auDA, and the emergent successor to the auIGF events. The current encryption debate has been a particularly important rallying-point, in which the Board has been investing a considerable amount of time, and reaching out to both other advocacy organisations and policy-makers. Linkages with the international Internet user community have also been sustained, particularly through the Parliament House public crypto event and subsequent meeting with parliamentary staff, organised jointly with ISOC.

Policy Activities

Submissions on important issues were prepared by Policy Committee members, in some cases supported by other members, and provided to government agencies and regulators, as follows:

- to auDA (twice), on issues raised by the introduction of direct registration
- to the ACMA, on possible re-registration of C519 - the Registered Code on End to End Network Performance Standards for the Standard Telephone Service (in relation to IP-enabled phone services)
- to the Department of Communications and the Arts' Review of Consumer Safeguards Part A - industry handling of consumer complaints
- to the ACCC's Inquiry into Digital Platforms
- re the Government's Assistance and Access Bill, which would require communications providers (carriers, carriage service providers and device manufacturers) to provide even more, and more intrusive, assistance to law enforcement agencies

Verbal evidence was provided to the Joint Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into the NBN (twice), several face-to-face meetings were held with Ministers and Shadow Ministers in Canberra, and contributions were made to consultation processes through the ACMA, auDA and ACCAN.

Events

Events bring members together and foster discussion of issues critical to Internet users. IA participated in several meetings aimed at re-invigorating a national forum on Internet governance in Australia. Members met with the Chair in Carlton VIC in June, for informal drinks and discussion of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into the NBN. In August, members in Sydney were invited to lunch with three international ISOC leaders. IA and ISOC jointly hosted a large event in Parliament House Canberra, on encryption and the current Government Bill that would weaken encryption for all Internet users. The Board is keen to extend activities to the other capitals and regional areas.

Financial and Membership Aspects

Industry changes over the last few years have been one major factor in reducing the generous sponsorship that the organisation has previously received. We continue to run a tight budget and have thereby shown a small surplus for the first time in a few years. With stability returning, we are working to recover to previous membership and sponsorship levels. We are also working on further improvements to internal working processes.

Governance Asects

Governance tasks that were performed included activities following the 2017 AGM (consents, directors' contact-points, ASIC registration); Board calendar, agendas and minutes; reconstruction and posting of missing Board and AGM Minutes; handling of enquiries and complaints; management of members' list traffic and a Code of Conduct for IA fora; update of the Secretary's Handbook to reflect the new Constitution; drafting of a Directors' Handbook; planning and document preparation for the 2018 AGM, including drafting of proposals for amendments to the Constitution; and an online voting process for the AGM.

The number of Directors Meetings and the number of them attended by each of the Directors of the company during the financial year in question were as follows:

Name	Attended	Eligible	Completed Term on 12 October 2017
Chris **Disspain**	1	1	
George **Fong**	1	1	
Anne **Hurley**	1	1	
Laurie **Patton**	1	1	
Chris **Winter**	0	1	

Name	Attended	Eligible	Continuing
Keith **Besgrove**	5	5	
Paul **Brooks**	4	5	
Sae Ra **Germaine**	5	5	
Cheryl **Langdon-Orr**	5	5	
Craig **O'Toole**	5	5	
Holly **Raiche**	5	5	

Name	Attended	Eligible	Elected on 12 October 2017
Greg **Adamson**	2	4	
Roger **Clarke**	3	4	
James **Horton**	2	4	
Shantnu **Kumar**	2	4	
Peter **Tonoli**	4	4	
Fiona **Tweedie**	2	4	

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Secretary, for the Board of the Internet Society of Australia