

Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders

(Previously known as the Autism Council of Australia)

Communiqué from the meeting of the Board — January 2007

- The **Directors** of the new Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders met in Sydney on 19th January 2007. The Board comprises Adrian Ford ASPECT (Chairperson), Mick Clark AUTISM TASMANIA (Deputy Chair), Amanda Golding AUTISM VICTORIA (Secretary), Jon Martin AUTISM SA (Treasurer), Alison Bird AUTISM NT, Penny Beeston AUTISM QUEENSLAND and Bob Buckley AUTISM ASPERGER ACT. Secretariat support is provided by Julie Hook ASPECT.



The 2007 Biennial Australian Conference on
Autism Spectrum Disorders

- The **2007 Biennial Australian Conference on Autism Spectrum Disorders** is not far away. It is convened by Autism Queensland will be held at Royal Pines Resort, Gold Coast from 14th – 16th March 2007. International Keynote Speakers will include Rita Jordan, Catherine Lord and Brenda Smith Myles. National Keynotes will include Tony Attwood, John Wray, Katrina Williams and Verity Bottroff. Full conference details and online registration are available from www.astmanagement.com.au/autism7/.
- **Autism Awareness Australia, 2007** will be held from the 13th – 19th May. The conference theme “Creative Futures” has been adopted as the theme for Autism Awareness Week. The Board approved the design for a colourful postcard and banner, and the wording ‘Autism Awareness Australia, May 2007’. A colourful wristband will also be produced. State and Territory associations will have these items available for purchase and/or distribution (see their respective websites for details). Details of the national Bulletin Board will be posted on the Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders website.
- **Directions for 2007.** The Board has developed a work plan for the coming year and has identified several broad directions that will guide its work. These include a focus on **communication** and building and strengthening **collaborative partnerships**.
- One of the key tasks in the communication area will be the release of the study — **Prevalence of Autism in Australia** — whilst strengthening our partnership with the **research community** will be a priority under our collaborative partnerships direction.
- The Board will next meet immediately after the Biennial Australian Conference in March 2007.

Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders —
www.autismaus.com.au

Contact can be made with the Advisory Board via your respective state or territory Autism organisation:

AUTISM ASPERGER ACT



AUTISM NT



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