



# **Dominic Furphy**

## **APA ACT Branch President Nomination for APA Board of Directors**

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**Director: ID 036 03867 35876 41**

**Recipient - ACT Allied Health Award for Excellence in Management and Leadership 2016**

### **Overview**

I have nominated for the APA Board of Directors to contribute my extensive knowledge, leadership skills and passion for physiotherapy. I am an active and engaged APA member and the current APA Branch President in the ACT.

I am enrolled to complete the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course in February 2026 and looking forward to developing my skills further.

I have over 25 years' experience in the physiotherapy profession, working in Australia and the United Kingdom - NHS. I have developed a breadth of skills from working across public, and private sectors and for the past 15 years in government sector management roles.

Working within Government has enabled me to develop a deep understanding and political acumen that I would bring to the APA Board of Directors. I am experienced working with Ministers, Senators, Policy makers and various stakeholders and developing relationships quickly. I offer strong leadership skills from experience managing health services, people and being accountable to Executive, Government and citizens. My role requires broad oversight across a range of community- based allied health services that intersect with hospitals, local Non-Government Organisation's and private providers.

As an active and engaged APA member, ACT Branch President and member of the National Advisory Council, I have developed solid working knowledge and understanding of the APA and how it functions.

Some of my key advocacy achievements in my management role has been introduction of:

- physiotherapists into the ACT Walk in Centres (Urgent Care Clinics)
- physiotherapists into the Orthopaedic Triage Clinics
- establishing a physiotherapy service in the ACT jail in 2025.

These initiatives continue to be successful and were achieved through detailed planning, scoping and advocacy with Executive and Ministers.

### **Skills I offer the APA Board of Directors**

- experience working with Ministers, Senators and their advisors
- a working knowledge of the machinery of government and political acumen including providing input to the ACT Legislative Assembly annual hearings, and annual reports.
- extensive experience in senior leadership roles
- excellent communication skills with a proven ability to build strong relationships and partnerships.
- demonstrated ability to think strategically and be progressive and forward thinking.
- deep understanding of the value and importance of working collaboratively with other allied health professions and stakeholders to achieve progressive outcomes.
- knowledge and experience working with a wide range of stakeholders including public, private and Not-for-Profit organisations.
- financial management skills and proven experience to foresee and manage budget opportunities and/or deficits.
- risk management experience including strategic, operational and reputational risk and implementing mitigation strategies.
- experience developing frameworks, writing policies, developing business plans and input into organisational strategic planning.
- monitoring, analysing and reporting on service performance activity and KPI's.
- being an active listener who is curious and values differences of opinions and ideas

### **Governance**

I am an experienced leader with demonstrated knowledge, skills and proven ability to think strategically. I always act with integrity, probity and am fiscally responsible - declaring any conflicts of interest that may be both actual or perceived conflicts.

I have many years of experience leading and contributing to committees - Clinical Governance, Corporate Governance, Quality and Safety, Work Health and Safety and Finance Committees. This enables me to offer the APA Board of Directors, my experience and a deep understanding of regulation, governance and accountability.

I have experience preparing for several accreditation processes including the National Disability Insurance Agency and National Standards accreditation by The Commission.

I have led accreditation against the Aged Care Standards, for Commonwealth Home Support Program services provided by the teams that I lead.

I have a strong working knowledge of corporate governance, reporting and accountability demonstrated by me providing reports, activity data and being accountable for the outputs.

I am always progressive and courageous in my approach, balanced with curiosity to learn from others and explore new and innovative ways to advance physiotherapy.

I am proficient in risk management including financial and operational risks, conducting risk assessments using risk matrix tools and implementing mitigation strategies. I am cognisant and compliant with relevant legislation, regulations and ethical standards.

**APA Strategic Plan - Towards 2030** - I am committed to the APA's Strategic Plan and the four pillars that inform this strategy – Advocate, Educate, Connect and Deliver.

As a senior leader in the public sector, I have demonstrated experience delivering strategic agendas that align with the priorities of the Organisation and the Government.

## **Advocacy**

I am committed to advocating for all Australians to have access to the best evidence-based physiotherapy care and advancing the APA's strategic agenda. This includes advocating for Physiotherapists to have Prescribing rights, being Fully Funded First Contact Practitioners, a focus on Health Promotion/Prevention in Primary Care, Imaging rights, funded student placements and the ability to directly refer to Orthopaedic Specialists.

I am cognisant of the APA Values: Accountability, Collaboration, Courage and Excellence and I am confident my career experience attests to aligning with these.

I am cognisant of current National health reform agendas in Australia including – Aged Care, Disability, Primary Care and Veterans' health. I actively contribute to these reforms in my roles as ACT Branch President and Community Allied Health Manager.

Having a clear Value Proposition and agenda enables the APA to develop powerful partnerships and highlight the opportunities for physiotherapists and funders. I actively contributed to developing the APA Valuing Skills Assets. These documents continue to promote the value of physiotherapy to funders and others and highlight that physiotherapy is an integral part of the healthcare system.

I am very proud of my work initiating the development of an Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Action Plan in collaboration with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Liaison Officers. This is an iterative plan that continues to evolve as we continue our journey of reconciliation, truth telling and advancing care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

I value lifelong learning and understand the importance of access to enhanced career pathways, education and opportunities such as APA Titling and Specialisation awarded by the APA College of Physiotherapists. I strongly support further developments of these pathways and understand the importance of enabling physiotherapists to be able to operate at full scope and have defined career pathways to further develop.

## **APA and Committee Experience**

**Current APA ACT Branch President**, I have built strong working relationships and partnerships with key stakeholders including Ministers and Senators, ACT Chief Allied Health office, local hospitals, ACT Capital Health Network (CHN), University of Canberra and the ACT Health Directorate. I have organised and hosted several successful annual APA Forums in the ACT, Research Symposia and presented at CHN and University of Canberra (U.C.) events. I strive to be a strong APA advocate in my ACT President role and have presented at Senators open nights, been on panels and developed a forward-thinking ACT Election Statement with the APA policy team, that was recognised and well received by local Ministers.

**APA National Advisory Council (NAC)** - I have actively contributed to NAC for the past three years. I value the diverse range of knowledge and skills in this forum, which makes NAC a robust and progressive council that advances the physiotherapy profession and provides important advice to the APA Board of Directors.

**APA LGBTQIA+ Advisory Panel member** – I am passionate about equity and diversity and am a strong advocate for diversity and inclusion. I am currently collaborating with the APA Gerontology group to deliver an education session about Older Australians accessing healthcare who identify as LGBTQIA+.

**Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare** – I have been an active member on The Commission’s Primary Care Committee and Primary Care Standards Committee. I provided input into the National Safety and Quality in Healthcare Standards, Clinical Care Standards and was actively involved in the national Primary Care Standards development and setting the accreditation process.

**UC Physiotherapy Course Advisory Committee** – I provide input into the Physiotherapy Bachelor and Master’s courses and have been actively involved in the development of an Advanced Practice Masters Course. The aim is to increase career opportunities at an advanced scope level and develop career and pathways for physiotherapists.

### **Summary**

The APA is thriving with over 34,000 members. This is testament to membership being a central focus in the Strategic Plan and providing high value to APA members.

I pride myself on being progressive, inclusive, democratic, forward thinking, strategic and solutions focused. I welcome and encourage diversity and inclusion, and empowering people to be themselves and thrive.

If I am successful with my nomination, I am committed to being a hardworking and active contributor to the current high functioning APA Board and future proofing the profession. I am reliable, calm under pressure, have good emotional intelligence and continue to have a strong passion for physiotherapy. I see this role as being an ambassador and key contributor to empowering physiotherapists to thrive and advance the APA’s strategic agenda. I will remain agile and future focused with a big picture mindset and always act with integrity, transparency, probity and in the best interests of the APA and its members.

I am eagerly awaiting the outcome of my nomination and look forward to working with the APA Board of Directors in the future.



BSC (HONS) Physiotherapy. University of Salford – U.K.

Graduation 1999

Graduate Certificate Public Sector Management. Queensland University of Technology.

Graduation 2017

Company Directors Course. Australian Institute of Company Directors. Enrolled – February 2026



### **Work Experience**

2020 – to present – Community Allied Health Manager - Canberra Health Services

2009 – 2020 - Physiotherapy Manager positions – Canberra Health Services

1999 - 2009 – Various clinical Physiotherapy roles across Emergency Departments, Outpatient musculoskeletal clinics, Rehabilitation facilities, Domiciliary care, Private musculoskeletal clinics, Amputee and Cardiac rehab, Domiciliary Locum, and leading community-based teams – NHS United Kingdom