

Supporting statement for election as APA Member Director

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Advanced Practice Physiotherapist | Clinician Researcher | Healthcare Leader

The Australian Physiotherapy Association has been central to my career journey, supporting my development and providing opportunities to contribute to our profession. I am seeking election as a Member Director because I believe I can help guide the APA through a period of significant opportunity and change, ensuring it remains a strong, influential and member-focused organisation.

Over more than 25 years, I have worked across Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom in private and public practice, advanced practice physiotherapy, research, health service leadership and service innovation. Today, I lead major healthcare improvement initiatives within a large tertiary health service, working with clinicians, executives, consumers, researchers and policymakers to improve patient outcomes and drive system-wide change. These experiences have strengthened my ability to think strategically, navigate complexity, manage risk, oversee resources and build consensus around shared goals.

For the past seven years I have been a member of the **National Advisory Council**, most recently as **Victorian Branch President** from 2023. Through these roles I have developed a deep understanding of the APA, its governance responsibilities, and the diverse needs of physiotherapists working across different sectors, practice areas and stages of their careers.

As Victorian branch Vice-President and President, I am proud to have been involved in the development of the **APA LGBTQIA+ committee** and more recently leading the **Equity Diversity and Inclusion pitch**. These initiatives reflect my strong belief that our profession is strongest when every member feels welcomed, represented and able to contribute.

From 2020-2022, I served as **National Chair of the APA Advanced Practice Physiotherapy Group**. During that time, I led the transformation



Leadership values

Equity, diversity and inclusion

Integrity and honesty

Respect and collaboration

APA leadership experience

APA National Advisory Council (NAC) member
2020-present

Victorian Branch President
2023-present

Victorian Branch Vice President
2019-2022

Victorian Branch Councillor
2015 – present

Advanced Practice (including Emergency Department) National group chair
2020-2022

ED network Victorian chair
2017-2021

ED network committee member
2014-2021

Advanced Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Advisory panel member,
2019-2023

First Contact Practitioner Expert Panel member
2021-2024

of the group from a relatively small professional network into a nationally recognised and engaged community of practice. By fostering collaboration, supporting emerging leaders and creating opportunities for professional engagement, we strengthened the group's influence and improved the profile of the APA amongst public health physiotherapists.

Alongside my APA leadership roles, I have led complex health service reform and workforce innovation initiatives, secured and managed million-dollar grant funding, developed business cases and overseen major projects in highly regulated healthcare environments. These experiences have given me strong capabilities in strategic planning and governance, financial stewardship, organisational performance and risk management.

To further strengthen my governance capability, I completed the **Australian Institute of Company Directors Foundations of Directorship** through an APA scholarship. This formal training deepened my understanding of fiduciary responsibility, financial oversight, organisational sustainability and contemporary governance practice.

After more than a decade of service to the APA through branch leadership, national advisory roles, professional group leadership and member engagement initiatives, I believe I can make my greatest contribution at Board level. I am seeking election because physiotherapy is entering an exciting period of opportunity. The APA's **Towards 2030** strategy has a vision of empowering physiotherapists to thrive while strengthening the profession's role within Australia's healthcare system. If elected, I am committed to helping translate this vision into meaningful outcomes for members and the communities we serve.

Looking ahead: Priorities for the APA

I believe the Association has a unique opportunity to strengthen the profession's influence, support members through change and invest in the next generation of physiotherapy leaders. My own leadership experience has reinforced the importance of three strategic priorities that closely align with the APA's Towards 2030 vision.

Qualifications

Bachelor of Physiotherapy,
Latrobe University

Masters of Musculoskeletal
Physiotherapy, Latrobe
University

Doctorate of Philosophy
(PhD), Monash University

Advocacy in the media

Transport Accident
Commission Parliamentary
Inquiry (The Age, August
2026)

Beyond the knife: how
public hospitals are
diverting patients away from
surgery and into therapy
(The Age, June 2025)

Further information

[LinkedIn Profile](#)

[Link to Google Scholar
Profile](#)

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Strengthening the influence of physiotherapy within healthcare reform

The APA's strategy highlights the importance of elevating physiotherapy's voice and value within Australia's healthcare system. Throughout my career, I have worked at the intersection of clinical practice, advanced practice, research and health service reform. I have led innovative models of care, workforce redesign initiatives and healthcare improvement programs that demonstrate the value physiotherapists bring to improving patient outcomes and system performance.

As National Chair of the Advanced Practice Physiotherapy Group, I advocated for the growth and recognition of advanced physiotherapy roles and helped strengthen a national voice for physiotherapists working in emerging models of care. Through my leadership roles within both the APA and the health sector, I have seen firsthand the opportunities for physiotherapists to play a greater role in healthcare reform, prevention, chronic disease management, rehabilitation and advanced practice. I believe the APA must continue to advocate strongly for the profession's place at the centre of these conversations and ensure physiotherapists are recognised as essential partners in the future of healthcare.

Supporting members to thrive in a changing professional environment

A significant part of my career has focused on supporting clinicians through organisational change, implementation of new models of care and workforce innovation. Within the APA, I have worked to create opportunities for professional growth, leadership development and member engagement through my roles on the National Advisory Council, as Victorian Branch President and as National Chair of the Advanced Practice Physiotherapy Group.

I believe the APA has an important responsibility to ensure members have access to the advocacy, education, networks and leadership opportunities needed to build rewarding, sustainable and future-focused careers. Supporting members to thrive must remain at the heart of everything we do.

Building a strong, inclusive and future-focused profession

The APA's commitment to empowering people, embracing inclusion and cultural respect, and fostering a sustainable future strongly resonates with my own leadership values. Strong professions are built by developing leaders, embracing diverse perspectives and creating opportunities for all members to contribute and succeed.

One of the achievements of which I am most proud is helping establish the APA LGBTQIA+ Group, creating a space for connection, representation and inclusion within our profession. Similarly, through growing the Advanced Practice Physiotherapy Group from a small network into a nationally recognised community of practice, I experienced firsthand the impact that engaged members and emerging leaders can have on shaping the future of physiotherapy.

Effective governance requires both collaboration and constructive challenge. Throughout my career I have demonstrated an ability to work respectfully with diverse stakeholders while also asking difficult questions, examining evidence and providing independent judgement when required. I believe strong boards are built on trust, transparency, accountability and a willingness to thoughtfully challenge assumptions in pursuit of better outcomes.

I am committed to helping the APA realise its **Towards 2030** vision by strengthening the profession's influence, supporting members to thrive, advancing inclusion and leadership, and ensuring the Association remains a trusted, sustainable and future-focused organisation.

Having served members through advisory, national group and branch leadership roles, I am ready to bring that experience to the Board and help shape the next chapter of the APA.

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Victorian Branch President, Australian Physiotherapy Association