



CLIMATE^{AND}
HEALTH
ALLIANCE

ANNUAL REPORT

2011-12

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MESSAGE FROM CAHA CONVENOR



In our first annual report last year, we signaled the intention to reach out further into the community as well as make some progress on supporting the health sector to reduce its environmental footprint. There has been some great progress on each of these goals and there are very exciting initiatives underway in both areas.

Along with the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association, we have kickstarted an important initiative around sustainable healthcare. Through outreach to the community and the health care sector by speaking at conferences, workshops, seminars and forums, holding events at festivals, and producing a number of publications, CAHA is acting on its commitment to citizen engagement.

Despite an extremely broad advocacy agenda, CAHA has been active across all thirteen of its priority areas, contributing to national policy consultations and discussions about energy, water, population, research, adaptation, biodiversity, food and agriculture, and health system performance. Through the report produced with partner The Climate Institute, *'Our Uncashed Dividend: The Health Benefits of Climate Action'*, CAHA has advocated for policy to reduce emissions in the health, energy, transport, built environment, food and agriculture, and land use sectors.

We have worked with the Australian Government and international groups to develop policy positions to recognise health in the international climate policy negotiations as part of our commitment to global justice.

CAHA has been more visible in the media this year, with articles by or about CAHA appearing in major metropolitan and regional newspapers, influential online forums, social media sites, national and regional radio and television.

We hope over the next twelve months to engage even more widely within the health care sector and the community through innovative media strategies, education and engagement initiatives to build awareness about the opportunities for health from environmental protection.

Much more needs to be done of course, and the next twelve months promise to be just as fruitful and dynamic as the health community that makes up the Climate and Health Alliance builds further momentum in its efforts to support and encourage effective responses to climate change and ecological degradation from policymakers, business, the community, and the sector itself.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON



Professor David De Kretser, former Governor of Victoria, is the Patron of the Climate and Health Alliance.

"The Climate and Health Alliance has continued its energetic and important contribution to advocacy and awareness about the health implications of climate change this year.

Since its establishment just two years ago, CAHA has emerged as a respected organisation with a wealth of expertise across its membership, enabling the Alliance to speak with authority and credibility across a broad range of issues.

The risks to health from climate change are significant, and it is heartening to see groups of health professionals, health care providers, and health institutions working together to lend their voice and their efforts to the challenge this creates.

Collaborative partnerships can be very powerful, and when it come to complex and systemic issues such as climate change, they offer ways to help tackle these climate problems through the benefits of an interdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder lens.

CAHA has demonstrated an ability to work not only as a national coalition of groups, but also with many other stakeholders, including government, and its international partnerships offer the benefits of a global view to this very global of problems.

A highlight of this year for CAHA was the release of its report with its partner, The Climate Institute: Our Uncashed Dividend: The Health Benefits of Climate Action, which offers an accessible and compelling overview of the evidence that climate action is indeed good for health.

I wish CAHA all the best for the coming year and urge the health sector to respond to this important example of leadership through supporting the Alliance's work through actions to advocate for climate action and by implementing the many possible initiatives to improve sustainability in healthcare."

David de Kretser

GOVERNANCE

The CAHA Committee of Management (CoM) 2011-12 includes:



Fiona Armstrong, CAHA Convenor and President



Associate Professor Erica Bell, CAHA Vice-President (Australian Rural Health Education Network)



Dr Lance Emerson (Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth)



Dr Bret Hart (Alliance for Future Health)



Dr Liz Hanna (Australian College of Nursing)



Michael Moore (Public Health Association of Australia)



Kristine Olaris (Women's Health East)



Elizabeth Reale (Australian Nursing Federation)

NEW COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2012-13

The CAHA Annual General Meeting in October saw seven members re-nominating for the CAHA Committee of Management, so we are pleased to welcome back:

Erica Bell (Australian Rural Health Education Network)

Bret Hart (Alliance for Future Health)

Michael Moore (Public Health Association of Australia)

Julia Stewart (CRAN*plus*)

Kristine Olaris (North Yarra Community Health)

Elizabeth Reale (Australian Nursing Federation)

Liz Hanna (Australian College of Nursing)

CAHA farewells Lance Emerson from Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) and Ursula King from Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM).

CAHA welcomed new Committee of Management member Brad Farrant (ARACY), Catherine Pendrey (Australian Medical Students' Association - AMSA) and Kerryn Lester-Smith (Friends of CAHA).

EXPERT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CAHA is extremely fortunate to have a highly credentialed group of experts with international reputations in climate change and health on the CAHA expert advisory group.

This group is extremely generous with their time and provides a hugely valuable service in support of CAHA in sharing their expertise in an honorary capacity, which ensures CAHA public statements and published papers are based on the best available scientific evidence and are highly credible.

While not a formal member of the CAHA expert advisory committee, Professor Tony McMichael, who is one of the world's leading authorities on climate change and health is also extremely generous with his time and provides CAHA with invaluable support and advice.

The CAHA Expert Advisory Committee comprises:

- Associate Professor Erica Bell, University Department of Rural Health, University of Tasmania
- Professor David Karoly, Federation Fellow in the School of Earth Sciences, University of Melbourne
- Professor Stephan Lewandowsky, School of Psychology, University of Western Australia
- Dr Peter Tait, Convenor, Ecology and Environment Special Interest Group, Public Health Association of Australia
- Associate Professor Grant Blashki, Nossal Institute for Global Health
- Professor Anthony Capon, Discipline of Public Health, Faculty of Health, University of Canberra
- Professor Simon Chapman, Professor of Public Health, University of Sydney
- Dr Susie Burke, Public Interest, Environment & Disaster Response, Australian Psychological Society
- Dr Marion Carey, Public Health Research Fellow, Monash Sustainability Institute (Oct 2011-Oct 2012)
- Associate Professor Colin Butler, College of Medicine, Biology and Environment, Australian National University
- Professor Garry Egger, School of Health & Human Sciences, Southern Cross University

All members of the expert advisory committee offer unique and informed perspectives on climate and health issues and CAHA is grateful for their willingness to contribute.

MEMBERS

There are twenty seven organisations representing health care professionals from a range of disciplines, health care service providers, institutions, academics, researchers and consumers that are members of the Climate and Health Alliance in 2011-12.



These include:

Alliance for Future Health
Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW)
Australian College of Nursing (ACN)
Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACRRM)
Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)
Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA)
Australian Health Promotion Association (AHPA)
Australian Institute of Health Innovation (AIHI)
Australian Research Alliance of Children and Youth (ARACY)
Australian Women's Health Network (AWHN)
Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA)
Australian Nursing Federation (ANF)
Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA)
Australian Psychological Society (APS)
Australian Rural Health Education Network (ARHEN)
CRANApus
Doctors Reform Society (DRS)
Friends of CAHA
Health Consumers' Network (Qld)
Health Issues Centre (HIC)
Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA)
Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP)
North Yarra Community Health (NYCH)
Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH)
Women's Health East (WHE)
Women's Health in the North (WHIN)
World Vision

New members of CAHA since the last annual report include Health Issues Centre, Women's Health East, Australian Physiotherapy Association and Australian Medical Students Association.

The organisation *Friends of CAHA* is for individuals. Its members include senior academics and health professionals with considerable expertise in environmental health and climate and health issues.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Climate and Health Alliance's Statement of Purpose and Objectives were revised in 2012 to reflect a commitment to highlighting the fundamental interdependencies of health and environment. This revised Statement appears on the CAHA website under Governance and is reproduced below:

Aim

The Alliance's aim is the restoration of a healthy and ecologically sustainable natural environment for all species, including humans.

Purpose

The Alliance's purpose is to promote the protection of the natural environment to enhance sustainability and health and wellbeing for all species, including humans.

Objectives

In particular, the Alliance will:

1. **Advocate** for effective public policy and community responses to promote a healthy ecology and society through the prevention of environmental degradation, including from climate change and from threats to air and water and soil, in order to protect and promote the health and wellbeing of the community and of biodiversity upon which humans depend;
2. **Collaborate** with others to identify and remove structural barriers to the protection of a healthy environment, including effective responses to climate change and the preservation of biodiversity; and to support the development of environmentally responsible and sustainable practices in health care;
3. **Engage and inform** health professionals, policy makers, and the community through the provision of information and education about the importance of environmental protection for health and wellbeing, including with regard to the risks from climate change and in relation to appropriate responses to protect and promote ecosystem and human health;
4. **Share** information and resources about health and the natural environment and climate issues through a network of individuals and organisations;
5. **Establish and maintain** a public fund to be called **Healthy Futures Fund** for the specific purpose of supporting the environmental objects/purposes of the Climate and Health Alliance.

CAHA PRIORITIES

CAHA thirteen Policy Priorities range across a broad landscape of issues - all connected to human health and wellbeing: Health; Research; Energy; Transport; Built Environment; Food and Agriculture; Education; Water; Sustainable Population; Citizen Engagement; Global Justice; Biodiversity; and Adaptation.

Through its publications and policy advocacy agenda, CAHA seeks to highlight the fundamental links between environment, climate and health and to encourage that the implications for health be reflected in the development of policy in each of these priority areas.



These CAHA Policy Priorities were agreed at CAHA's inception in 2010. The ongoing intention is to develop formal Policy Position Papers on each of these.

This remains a work in progress but CAHA has certainly been engaged in developing positions and providing policy advice on water, health, research, energy, population, biodiversity, food and adaptation through submissions to various government inquiries – and has developed policy recommendations on transport, built environment, food and agriculture in our report on the health benefits of climate action ***Our Uncashed Dividend***, and global justice is an underlying theme in conversations with Australian Government climate negotiators.

Citizen engagement has been addressed through our work in outreach, through initiatives such as our Climate and Health Clinic at the Melbourne Sustainable Living Festival and presentations to health and community groups and conferences. Education has been raised in submissions on adaptation, highlighting a lack of 'climate literacy' among health professionals and the need for

So despite this broad policy agenda, it is clear that CAHA is advocating across the entire spectrum of policy priorities that were established when CAHA was formed in 2010.

PARTNERSHIPS

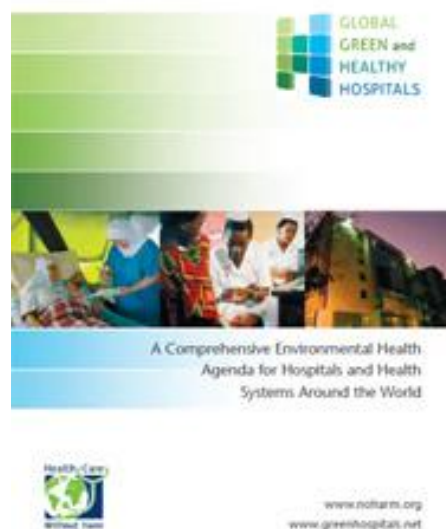
In 2012, CAHA received an invitation to become a strategic partner for Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) in Australia. This partnership reflects the relationship developed with Health Care Without Harm as partners in the Global Climate and Health Summit in Durban South Africa in December 2011 (held in parallel with the global climate negotiations) and joint promotion of the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals Network, developed by Health Care Without Harm.

HCWH is an international coalition with over 483 member organizations in 53 countries, working to transform the health care sector worldwide so that it is ecologically sustainable

and no longer a source of harm to public health and the environment. More recently they have become involved in climate and health advocacy and it is in relation to these two issues that CAHA and HCWH now work on together.

A Memorandum of Understanding between HCWH and CAHA reflects a common agenda to: raise awareness about the health effects of climate change and the health benefits of climate action; mobilise the health sector to respond effectively to climate change; and promote sustainable practices in health care to reduce the sector's environmental footprint.

This arrangement means CAHA has become part of the HCWH global community and facilitates CAHA's collaboration with other HCWH members internationally and provides support for CAHA to promote programs such as the [Global Green and Healthy Hospitals](#) (GGHH) as well as its work on advocacy for climate action to protect health.



CAHA Convenor Fiona Armstrong attended the HCWH global team meeting in Brazil in June 2012 to meet other HCWH members and contribute to discussions re HCWH strategic directions.

CAHA is a member of a number of networks and alliances that share environmental, climate and health concerns. These include:

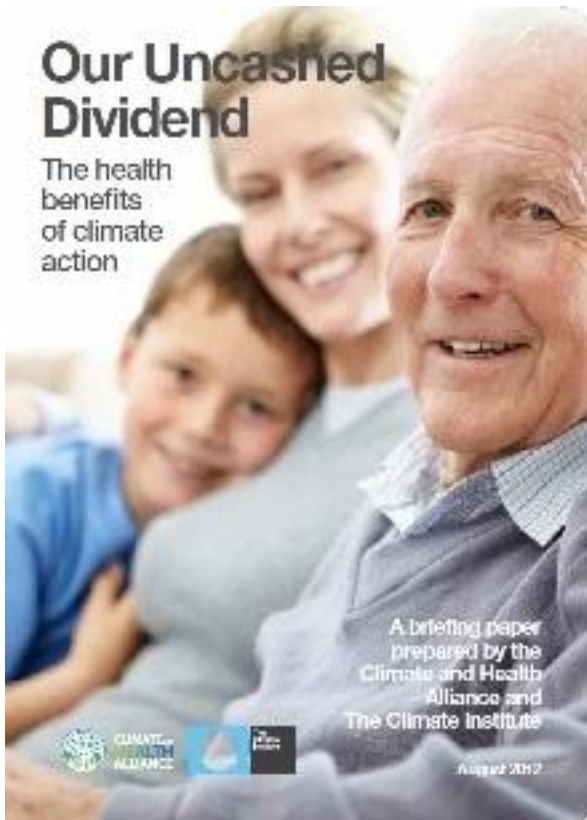
Climate Action Network Australia: CAHA is a member of the Climate Action Network Australia (CANA - a network of regional, state and national environmental, community development, and research groups and is the Australian arm of Climate Action Network International. Membership of CANA allows the Climate and Health Alliance to share its expertise on climate and health issues, and help inform and influence the advocacy agenda of other groups to highlight the implications for human health from climate change and the health benefits of climate action.

Lifeblood Alliance: CAHA is part of the Lifeblood Alliance - Voices for the Murray Darling, a national alliance of concerned groups and community members seeking the restoration of environmental flows to the Murray Darling Basin to restore healthy river ecosystems. CAHA's contribution helps raise awareness about the links between human health and health ecosystems and to highlight the risks to the health of the community from a failed river system.

Global Climate and Health Alliance: This emerging global alliance builds on the networks established following the Global Climate and Health Summit in Durban in December 2011. This loose network of groups works together on international climate and health policy.

PUBLICATIONS

CAHA has produced a two reports and one briefing paper in 2012: a joint report with The Climate Institute on the health benefits of climate action; a report on a novel health promotion initiative: the Climate and Health Clinic; and a Briefing Paper on Water.



The report [Our Uncashed Dividend: The Health Benefits of Climate Action](#) was published in August 2012.

This publication was produced in partnership with The Climate Institute (TCI), an independent research and policy organisation.

This report chronicles the evidence about the health benefits of emissions reductions across a range of sectors, and outlines the significant improvements to health and substantial economic savings possible from the implantation of strategies to reduce emissions.

The report's release received considerable media coverage, with articles published in The Australian, Sydney Morning Herald, Canberra Times, The Guardian (UK) and many local regional papers. Report author Fiona Armstrong appeared on Channel Ten's Today Show and was interviewed on ABC Radio National by Fran Kelly.

It is hoped that this report will help build public support for effective climate policy as it demonstrates tangible, health benefits from emissions reductions.

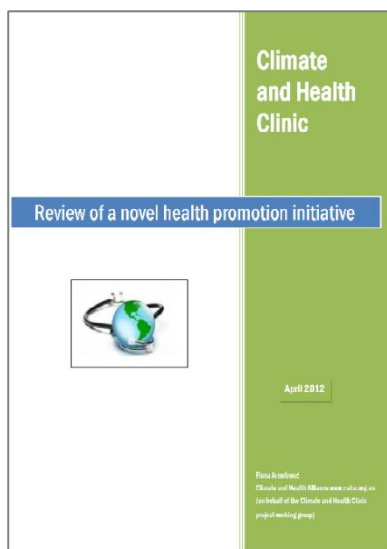
The report's release was welcomed by the Australian Medical Association (AMA), the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA), and the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA).

The report is available here: <http://caha.org.au/resources/reports/>



Watch a video of the report launch in Canberra featuring Professor Tony McMichael, Professor Tony Capon, PHAA CEO Michael Moore, TCI CEO John Connor, AMA President Steve Hambleton and report author, CAHA Convenor Fiona Armstrong here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xemT-gzSlok>

Climate and Health 'Clinic' report



[The report documents a novel health promotion initiative](#) at the 2012 Melbourne Sustainable Living Festival, where a 'pop-up' Climate and Health Clinic, staffed with volunteer 'health promoters' offered people the opportunity to develop their own 'prescription' for health and climate, using a tool designed for the event.

The project working group that conceived the initiative and developed the materials included the Climate and Health Alliance, Kooweerup Regional Health Service, Australian Psychological Society, and Women's Health in the North, with additional support from Deakin University School of Health and Social Development.

The Clinic had two overarching aims: firstly to raise awareness of the health benefits associated with strategies to cut emissions, and secondly to help people identify actions they could take in their own lives that would help reduce their emissions and improve their own and population health at the same time.



The [Prescriptions for a Healthy Life and a Healthy Planet](#) developed for this event highlight some of the health and climate benefits of strategies to cut emissions and are designed to help people identify actions they could take to cut emissions and improve their own and population health.

The purpose of the prescription was to create a health promotion tool that could be used by health promotion practitioners, primary health care professionals, community health practitioners and the general public to demonstrate the links between high emissions lifestyles and human health.

CAHA's Briefing Paper No. 4: *Water for the Murray-Darling – Healthy Rivers, Healthy People*

outlines concerns for human health from the failure to restore adequate environmental flows to the Murray Darling. This was produced to support ongoing efforts to develop a national water policy in the form of a plan for the Murray Darling Basin and to highlight the importance of healthy ecosystems as the foundations for human health and wellbeing.

The paper calls for:

- health impact assessments to be undertaken to guide the development and implementation of the Basin Plan;
- for decisions as to the quantity of water being allocated to be made on the basis of credible scientific evidence;
- improvements to water efficiency infrastructure and strategies to improve retention of water in soils to be developed and implemented in order to use Australia's limited water resources more efficiently;
- investigation into the risks to groundwater quality from coal seam gas mining and discharge of mining wastewater to public health and to the health of the rivers and wetlands in the Murray Darling Basin;
- support for communities to explore opportunities to create secure socioeconomic futures and substitute existing industries dependent on unsustainable water use;
- plans for national water reform to take account of, and prepare for, a changed climate future.

SUBMISSIONS



CAHA has made the following submissions to government and parliamentary Inquiries:

- [Submission to the Climate Change Authority Review of the Renewable Energy Target \(RET\)](#) - September 2012
- [Submission in response to the National Food Plan Green Paper](#) - September 2012
- [National Health Performance Agency Strategic Plan Review](#) – August 2012
- [Productivity Commission Draft Report](#) from its Inquiry into barriers to climate change adaptation – June 2012
- [Australian Government Draft Energy White Paper 2011 – Strengthening the Foundation for Australia's Energy Future – March 2012](#)
- Submission and presentation to public hearing for the Inquiry into Australia's biodiversity in a changing climate - July 2011

CAHA's submission to the review of the renewable energy target sought to raise awareness of the importance of transitioning to clean renewable energy and the effectiveness of the Renewable Energy Target in delivering low cost renewable energy.

CAHA also contributed to the national food plan green paper and encouraged the [National Health Performance Agency](#) to develop indicators in relation to sustainability so they can be included in evaluation of health system performance.

CAHA also made a submission and a presentation to the public hearing for the Inquiry into biodiversity and climate change; responded to the federal government's draft energy white paper; and made a submission and a presentation to the public hearing for the [Productivity Commission](#) Inquiry into barriers to climate change adaptation.

All submissions are available on the CAHA website: www.caha.org.au

EVENTS

CAHA partnered with [Health Care Without Harm](#) in the [Global Climate and Health Summit](#) in Durban in December 2011. This event was held in parallel with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 17th Conference of the Parties (COP 17).

CAHA joined international health colleagues in advocating for health in the international negotiations. This was the largest ever health presence at any COP.

SAVE THE DATE
DEC. 4, 2011
Durban, South Africa
Tropicana Hotel

climateandhealth
SUMMIT Dec. 4, 2011 Durban, South Africa

The First Global Climate and Health Summit, takes place parallel to the COP 17 climate negotiations. It aims to bring together key health sector actors to discuss the impacts of climate change on public health and solutions that promote greater health, as well as economic equity between and within nations.

PARTNERS:

- World Health Organization
- World Medical Association
- Public Health Association of South Africa
- International Council of Nurses
- International Federation of Medical Students Associations
- groundWork, South Africa
- Health and Environment Alliance, Europe
- Climate and Health Alliance, Australia

CO-ORGANIZERS:

- Health Care Without Harm
- Climate and Health Council
- World Federation of Public Health Associations
- Nelson R. Mandela School of Medicine
- University of KwaZulu-Natal

For more information, and to register contact: globalclimate@hcwh.org

The health delegation held a [successful joint press conference](#) at the COP with WHO, Health Promoting Hospitals, the World Medical Association, University College of London, and Climate and Health Alliance all calling for urgent action on climate change to protect health.

There was considerable media coverage of this event, with the African media extensively covering the health aspects of climate change and articles about Durban in both the *British Medical Journal* and *The Lancet* medical journals. The official press release for the Summit was picked up more than 220 times and there were some very unequivocal statements from health care leaders, with Dr Maria Neira from [WHO](#), declaring a “global health alert.”

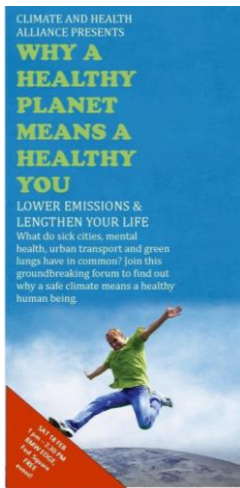
CAHA at the Melbourne Writers Festival

CAHA was part of the 'New News Conference' at Melbourne Writers Festival in 2012 with a workshop called [Crowdsourcing a new publication](#). An expert panel featured internet start up guru [Daniel May](#), former editor of the Age, [Paul Ramadge](#), social media expert [Bronwen Clune](#) and CAHA Convenor Fiona Armstrong. A reference group is working on developing the idea further.

MELBOURNE WRITERS FESTIVAL
PRESS CLUB
NEWS QUILLS PEEKS AWARDS ABOUT

new news

Crowdsourcing a new publication
27 August 2012



Forum: Why a Healthy Planet Means a Healthy You

This CAHA forum was held in one of Melbourne's most prominent public spaces, BMW Edge at Federation Square, at the 2012 Melbourne Sustainable Living Festival, in one of the festival's peak event times.

The forum featured healthy neighbourhoods expert, Dr Billie Giles-Corti; CAHA expert advisory committee member and climate change psychology expert, Dr Susie Burke; Professor Mardie Townsend, researcher on the health benefits of nature; and Dr Gary Sacks from Deakin University on the common causes of high emissions lifestyles and lifestyle diseases.

Greening the Health Sector Policy Think Tank: AHHA and CAHA

CAHA, together with our member the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association, has taken some important steps towards realizing its commitment to reducing the environmental footprint of the healthcare sector with our joint '**Greening the Health Sector Policy Think Tank**' in Sydney in August 2012 August.



This event also featured the Australian launch of the [Global Green and Healthy Hospitals Agenda](#), the new tool for health care settings around the world, developed by the Climate and Health Alliance's international partner, [Health Care Without Harm](#).

This forum featured Dr Peter Orris, international advisor to Health Care Without Harm; Professor Tony Capon from CAHA's expert advisory group, *Friends of CAHA* member and sustainability in healthcare champion Dr Forbes McGain, Dr Kate Charlesworth, who has been working with the Sustainable Development Unit in the UK, and Glen Hadfield, Sustainability Manager at Western Sydney Local Health District.

The Think Tank discussed how the Australian healthcare system can be strengthened through the promotion of greater sustainability and environmental health.

The event attracted over 50 healthcare leaders from around the country. Roundtable discussions among participants contributed to the developed a joint report and informed the development of a comprehensive advocacy agenda for CAHA and AHHA.

The report from the event is available [here](http://caha.org.au/campaigns/green-healthcare/): <http://caha.org.au/campaigns/green-healthcare/>

WEBSITE



The CAHA website provides an important 'shop front' for the organisation. It allows CAHA to be 'visible' and enables the organisation to communicate to the media, the public and policy-makers, and as a place to display and share resources.

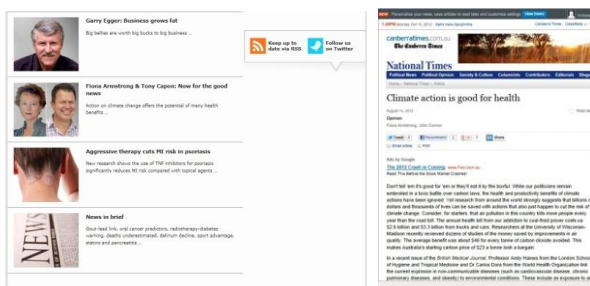
Website statistics indicate the site receives more than 2,000 visits per month, with web traffic peaking in August 2012 with the release of the report, *Our Uncashed Dividend*.

In August with the number of website hits peaked at 60,000 in August with over 240,000 visitors for 2012 by October.

COMMUNICATIONS

In keeping with CAHA's objective to engage and inform health professionals, policy makers, and the wider community, CAHA produces a regular newsletter which covers the latest climate and health and sustainable healthcare news as well as being a vehicle to report on what CAHA is doing.

In addition, CAHA produces regular media releases and opinion pieces.



CAHA has featured in media stories in major metropolitan newspapers, national and regional radio, and commercial television throughout the year. Opinion articles featuring CAHA contributors were published in *MJA Insight*, *The Canberra Times*, *Climate Spectator*, *Croakey*, and *The Conversation*.

SOCIAL MEDIA

CAHA has a growing presence on social media with its Twitter account @healthy_climate with over 300 followers, and messages regularly re-tweeted by others. In January 2012, for example, a story in the Fairfax media about the Climate and Health Alliance Position Paper on Wind was re-tweeted to over 30,000 people on Twitter.

CAHA also communicates regularly with hundreds of people signed up to its Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Climate-and-Health-Alliance/127766793964456>

CONFERENCES

CAHA has been invited to attend or to speak at lots of conferences during the last twelve months.

These include:

- the **Transforming Australia Summit** in October 2011
- **Workshop on Whole System Change** at the Victorian Climate Action Convergence in February 2012
- Workshop on **Transforming Economics and Governance for Better Health** (Dr Peter Tait from CAHA's expert advisory group; Bob Douglas, former head of NCEPH, and CAHA Convenor Fiona Armstrong ran this workshop as a side event to the **Population Health Congress** in Adelaide) in September 2012
- **Creating Healthy Sustainable Societies** run by Melbourne Sustainable Societies Institute at University of Melbourne in November 2011. CAHA will give a keynote address on **Transforming Policy** at the November 2012 event
- Presentation to **Australian Nursing Federation Federal Executive** in February 2012
- Presentation to **NSW Nurses Association Committee of Delegates** in Sydney in May 2012
- Workshop at **Australian Climate Action Summit** in Sydney in April 2012 on communicating about climate change using the health frame (with Dr Helen Redmond from DEA)
- **Coal and health forum** in Newcastle in August 2012
- Workshop run by CAHA member the Royal Australasian College of Physicians on **Climate Change Sustainability and Health** in Melbourne in August 2012
- Presentation on **Our Uncashed Dividend** at the Healthy Cities Conference in October 2012 in Brisbane
- **Improving Hospital Sustainability & Environmental Performance** in Melbourne in December 2012

Upcoming Conferences: CAHA will give presentations or run workshops at each of the following upcoming conferences:

- **International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology** *jointly with IV* International Conference on Sustainability Science in Asia - February 2013
- Keynote presentation at **7th Australian Women's Health Conference** in May 2013



JOINT CAMPAIGNS



End fossil fuel subsidies

CAHA has joined dozens of organisations calling for an end to fossil fuel subsidies. In addition to signing a joint statement, CAHA participated in a Twitter campaign during the 2012 Rio+20 Earth Summit calling on Australian and international governments to end fossil fuel subsidies. It became the top trending topic on Twitter during that campaign.

Repower Port Augusta

CAHA supports the Repower Port Augusta campaign, which proposes a blueprint to replace two coal fired power stations with solar thermal power stations, which is baseload (24/7) renewable energy. <http://repowerportaugusta.org/>

For further information see the CAHA website under Campaigns/Healthy Energy.

Lifeblood

CAHA continues to support the Lifeblood campaign to restore adequate environmental flows the Murray Darling Basin. For further information see the Water for Health campaigns page on the CAHA website.

OUR RIVERS
OUR LiFBLOOD
VOICES FOR THE MURRAY-DARLING

MEETING WITH CLIMATE COMMISSION



Professor Lesley Hughes, Professor Tim Flannery, Kathryn Cook and Fiona Armstrong at Western Health, Sunshine, Vic

CAHA was approached by the Australian Government Climate Commission in July to help facilitate a conversation with health professionals and groups in Victoria with the Climate Commission.

The Climate Commission were seeking to speak with a range of health professionals to discuss how better to engage the health sector on climate change.

The [meeting was hosted by Western Health](#) CEO Kathryn Cook at Western Health at the new Sunshine Hospital and made possible by *Friends of CAHA* and Doctors for the Environment member Dr Forbes McGain and Western Health, sustainability officer Catherine O'Shea. Commissioners Tim Flannery, Lesley Hughes, Roger Beale and Gerry Hueston attended the [meeting with around 25 people](#) including health professionals from medicine, nursing, allied health, psychology and public health disciplines, as well as health care services and policy people.

CAHA MEMBER SURVEY

Key findings: CAHA's Members Survey for 2012 demonstrates a high level of satisfaction among members (88%). 65% are extremely satisfied.

There is strong support for efforts to highlight the risks to health from climate change, with advocacy for policy on climate and health issues considered the Alliance's most important strategic issue (81%).

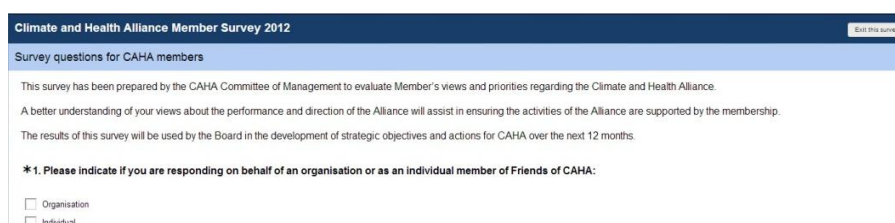
Achievements: In order of significance, the achievements members considered important were the development of policy papers, such as briefing papers and submissions (59%); an equal number (47%) thought media releases and opinion pieces were important as the efforts to help green the healthcare sector (47%).

Strategic issues: The most important strategic issues for CAHA over the next 12 months were considered to be: advocating for policy on climate and health issues (81%); engaging with the sector on climate and health (56%) and raising awareness about the health effects of fossil fuels (56%); while engaging with business and community (37.5%) was considered equally as important as greening the sector (37.5%). Forty percent (40%) of members considered collaboration with other organisations important.

Engagement: Engaging with the healthcare community is considered a priority for members, and 70% of members considered conferences most effective method of engaging with health professionals. Face to face workshops on climate change, sustainability and health also strongly supported (62.5%); 44% of members thought fact sheets were effective; while 37.5% support the use of webinars.

Sustainable healthcare: In terms sustainable healthcare initiatives, advocating for mandatory sustainability standards in healthcare accreditation schemes was a clear winner (81%); but there was also strong support for awards for exemplary environmental performance (69%); and encouraging the inclusion of climate change and sustainability modules in all curricula (62.5%) was equally popular with advocating for the establishment of demonstration hospital projects (62.5%).

Advocacy for policy: Advocacy for international policy was considered an important issue for CAHA members, with 67% of members supporting involvement in international policy. Participation in the Global Climate and Health Alliance was supported by 73% of members, and advocacy directed at Australian Government policy was also supported by 73% of members. Influencing other groups to advocate for health in the international agreements was also popular with 53% of members in support.



The screenshot shows the beginning of a survey titled "Climate and Health Alliance Member Survey 2012". It includes a header with the title and a "Edit this survey" button. Below the header, there is a section titled "Survey questions for CAHA members" which contains introductory text explaining the purpose of the survey and a question asking respondents to indicate if they are responding on behalf of an organisation or as an individual member of Friends of CAHA. Two radio button options are provided: "Organisation" and "Individual".

Climate and Health Alliance Member Survey 2012 [Edit this survey](#)

Survey questions for CAHA members

This survey has been prepared by the CAHA Committee of Management to evaluate Member's views and priorities regarding the Climate and Health Alliance.

A better understanding of your views about the performance and direction of the Alliance will assist in ensuring the activities of the Alliance are supported by the membership.

The results of this survey will be used by the Board in the development of strategic objectives and actions for CAHA over the next 12 months.

***1. Please indicate if you are responding on behalf of an organisation or as an individual member of Friends of CAHA:**

Organisation

Individual

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

CAHA's core strategies for the next twelve months fall into three main themes:

- **Engaging the sector** – CAHA is looking at the development of educational workshops and a webinar program for members and other health care stakeholders about the health effects of climate change, the health benefits of climate action, and the opportunities that exist for greening the health sector.
- **Greening the sector** – this will involve continuing and building onto work begun to promote sustainability in healthcare initiatives both through engaging with health institutions and organisations but progressing
- **Advocacy for health in all policies** including in international climate policy, with a particular focus on raising awareness about the implications for health from energy policy i.e. health effects of fossil fuels. This includes engagement with researchers, community, healthcare stakeholders, governments, and advocacy and policy organisations.

Projects being initiated include:

- a roundtable for healthcare stakeholders to discuss the implication for health from energy policy, and the development of a briefing paper to support this discussion;
- the establishment of a working group on education for sustainability to support professional organisations in advocating for education about climate change, sustainability, and health in all health professional curricula; and
- the development of an issues paper on research to highlight concerns regarding the lack of funding for, and recognition of the significance of, research on climate change and health in Australia's health and medical research programs.

CAHA will continue to support efforts of the Australian Government to raise the issue of health in the international climate change negotiations and particularly welcomes the development of the first ever submission from a government to the UNFCCC process specifically on health. The Australian Government submission to the Nairobi Work Program calls for the development of a technical report on climate and health and for this to inform UNFCCC processes and discussions. This will be debated in June 2012 in Bonn, Germany.



Qatar conference centre to host 2012 UNFCC negotiations

FINANCIAL REPORT

This financial report reflects the small budget with which CAHA operates. CAHA's membership fees help to cover some operating costs, including insurance. However much of CAHA's operations are funded through pro bono contributions and in-kind support.

CLIMATE AND HEALTH ALLIANCE INCORPORATED

ABN: 75 260 386 455

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 JUNE 2012

	2012	2011
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	4,523	
Receivables		3,206
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	4,523	3,206
TOTAL ASSETS	4,523	3,206
NET ASSETS	4,523	3,206
EQUITY		
Retained surplus	4,523	3,206
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>4,523</u>	<u>3,206</u>