



RAAMC Association (Incorporated)  
C/- HSAR-NSW  
Victoria Barracks  
PADDINGTON NSW 2021

## **Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

### **Present**

S. Badami	B. Collins	S. Fletcher
C. New	F. Lander	
T. Dechaufepie	D. Cannon	
D. Czerkies	J. Smith	
J. Straskye	G. Cant	

### **Apologies**

T. Delaney	A. Curry
J. Overton	L. Farrugia
C. Ramsten	T. Carter

### **Meeting Opened**

1. The meeting was declared open at 1815h by the co-hosts.

### **Statement of Intent**

2. The co-hosts, led by J. Straskye, provided the meeting with a statement of intent incorporating the background to the formation of the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) and the reasons why the Association is considered necessary. A copy of the draft constitution of the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) was provided to all those present for consideration.

3. Particular points of note covered were that the RAAMC Association was formed as a result of a Royal Australian Army Medical Corps Corps Committee minuted action item to the Deputy Heads of Corps in 2006. This Corps Committee minute recognised that there was no overarching national Corps-based body to whom regional and unit based Association could defer to for information transfer or advice and that there was no single conduit into the Corps Committee from the various disparate organisations.

4. It was noted that previous attempts to raise an overarching national coordination body have failed due to requirements to manage money and competing egos within the various groups.

5. The meeting was advised the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) was established as a legally recognised non-profit organisation which had as its stated aim to:

*“act as a conduit of information for all serving and ex-serving members of the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps and associated personnel and groupings.”*

6. S. Badami, on behalf of those present, thanked the co-hosts for their efforts and offered his personal endorsement of the RAAMC Association (Incorporated).

7. S. Fletcher advised the meeting that incorporation of the Association within NSW provided legal protection for the term RAAMC, and therefore misuse of the term RAAMC by external organisations was now subject to potential litigation.

### **General Discussion**

8. T. Dechaufepie spoke about declining numbers of personnel marching in Corps-based Associations on ANZAC Day. This led to general discussion of the importance of the information transfer role which the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) had to maintaining the viability of Corps-based Associations and to the generation of increased esprit-de-Corps among all personnel who have served in the Corps. A particular success of RAAMC Association (Incorporated) to date has in information transfer has been the assistance provided to J. Smith in establishing the 11 Fd Amb Association and in assisting with the reunion being organised in Brisbane for later in 2008. J. Smith was acknowledged and congratulated for his personal efforts generating this new group.

9. J. Straskye raised the issue that the DGHR-A is keen to establish linkages between current Army Medical Corps units, especially the current CSSB Health Companies and their Fd Amb ancestor organisations and Associations. J. Smith built upon this discussion by referring to the need to recruit younger soldiers into existing organisations by offering something to them. This will ensure continued viability of the various unit and Corps-based Associations. S. Badami reinforced this point.

10. J. Smith then asked how the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) could assist the existing organisations to get their messages out to the younger members of the Corps in order to facilitate recruitment of new members into existing Associations. S Fletcher suggested the best method was to utilise the existing Corps Committee structure, in particular to have the HON COL's pass on their messages and concerns to the REP HON COL for his tabling within the Corps Committee. The key role of the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) was reinforced as an information conduit rather than a new body or organisation which people could opt to join.

## **Construct of the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) Committee of Management**

11. J. Smith requested the co-hosts provide details of the proposed Committee of Management of the RAAMC Association (Incorporated), henceforth referred to as the Trustees.

12. Co-hosts J. Straskye and S. Fletcher provided the following nominations:

- a. J. Overton;
- b. T. Delaney;
- c. S. Badami;
- d. J. Straskye; and
- e. S Fletcher.

13. Following a short period of discussion, D. Czerkies proposed the following motion:

**Motion:** "That the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) Trustees proposed by the co-hosts be accepted as the inaugural Board of Trustees"

**Seconded:** G. Cant

**Outcome:** Motion Carried

14. Discussion then turned to whether it would be advantageous to form state/territory based sub branches or have a series of state/territory delegates who can assist with information transfer. After much consideration, it was decided to keep the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) structure as simple as possible and offer every encouragement to individual states and territories to pursue their own best path.

15. Following-on from this discussion, those present not elected to the Board of Trustees decided to undertake a coordination role for the various unit and Corps-based Associations within the state of NSW.

### **Maintenance of the raamc.com.au Website**

16. Responding to a question on how the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) website was maintained J. Straskye described how the website was established and how it was maintained.

### **Next Meeting**

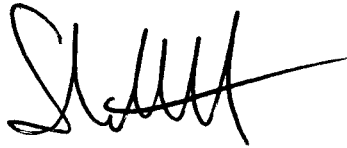
17. The next meeting of the RAAMC Association (Incorporated) was decided to be held in the same venue commencing at 1800h on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep 2008.

**Meeting Closure**


18. After requesting all present to read and provide comments on the draft Constitution before the next meeting, and a plea for all present to "get the word out" about the RAAMC Association (incorporated), the elected Trustees present declared the meeting closed at 1927h.



**J. STRASKYE**  
Trustee



**S. FLETCHER**  
Trustee



**S. BADAMI**  
Trustee