

## **AMPJP achieving more with videoconferencing**

Australia's Association of Ministerial PJs (AMPJP) gathered online on 25 August 2020 for their AGM which recalled a year of achievement.

AMPJP Council Chair, Eva Skira AM said:

*“One of the blessings of the past year has been the discovery that we can still achieve a great deal by meeting online. It is so convenient for participants to join via videoconference either a meeting or a formation session. Video conferencing has provided a platform for stronger engagement among the councillors who are located across the nation.”*

Eva further reflected:

*“AMPJP finished 2019 with a renewed sense of clarity and energy. This was threatened by the COVID-19 social distancing restrictions in 2020 that meant that we could not meet face-to-face. We transferred our occasional face-to-face meetings to videoconferences and in the process found greater participation, understanding and community.”*

Some of the AMPJP 2019-2020 achievements were:

- 20 representatives gathering for the AMPJP planning meeting in Melbourne, Nov 2019. Over 3 days we shared our hopes and expectations for this wonderful new ministry of governance predominantly by lay people of the largest Catholic health, aged care, community and education ministries in Australia;
- The publication of the AMPJP Strategic Direction 2020-2023;
- The 2019 Annual General Meeting in Manly NSW with the participation of the ACBC President, CRA President and NATSICC Chair and representatives of Catholic Church Insurance;
- The contribution of AMPJP nominees: Susan Pascoe AM to the national Steering Committee for Safeguarding and of Danielle Cronin to the Implementation Advisory Group;
- MPJP Trustees: John Honner and Carmel Ross contributing to Plenary Council Discernment and Writing Groups;
- Commencing regular formation sessions via videoconference. The first being a presentation on ethics and COVID-19 with Rev Dr Joe Parkinson; and
- The establishment of the Committee of Religious Institute and MPJP School Authorities Australia (CORMSAA).

A copy of the [AMPJP Annual Report 2019-2020](#) is available on the [AMPJP website](#)

At the conclusion of the AGM, AMPJP Councillors agreed to retain the existing leadership positions for the next 12 months of:

- Chair - *Eva Skira*
- Deputy Chair – *Moira Najdecki*
- Treasurer - *Peter Steane*

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