

ACRS ACT Chapter

Chapter Meeting Minutes

Time 4PM AEDT (ACT Time)

Wednesday 19/2/25 Conference Room 0.031 480 Northbourne Ave, Dickson ACT and via Teams

Attendees:

In Person

Frances Stanford
Leanne Woolfe
Rod Katz
Lauchlan McIntosh
Kate Beck
Merryl Hinge
Hooman Alenoori
Andy Hughes

On line

Amanda George
Peter Hill
Kirsten Jongsma

Apologies:

Anne Napier
Steve Lake
Tricia Brown
Jen Woods
Steve Lake
Oleksandra Molloy
Cecily Michaels

1. Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Quorum

2. Minutes of last meeting

Kate MacDougal, who has been secretary of the Chapter since May 2024, has taken extended carers leave and unlikely to return. This is why no formal minutes were presented at this meeting.

Action taken following last meeting included writing to the incoming minister responsible for road safety, Tara Cheyne, and a meeting has been arranged for 12/3/25 at 3:30. This meeting was asked for views on what could be presented to the Minister, in addition to establishing the relationship and promoting the capabilities of the Chapter. Suggestions included:

- Need for a body of work to identify actions and model outcomes to achieve ultimate goals and interim targets. Distinguish action from rhetoric on road safety.
- Note requirement for cross border collaboration especially via police
- Support for ACT Government officers to attend ARSC in Perth

3. Discussion of Parliamentary Friends of Road Safety event

Six of the people attending the meeting had also attended the Friends event. A report on the event is [here](#). Discussion focused on what was encouraging about the event, the communication

styles used, and the challenges ahead in maintaining focus on road safety at the federal level. At this stage in the election cycle it is important to seek out commitments from the parties for the next term.

4. ACT Projects

There are a number of ACT Government funded projects underway. Updates were provided on these including:

- Amanda George noted that her project is now complete and the report is likely to be released shortly
- Steve Lake's project with respect to older drivers has received an overwhelming response following publicity through COTA.
- Oleksandra Molloy has a project on speeding behaviour, 30km/h speed limits and their possible application in Canberra settings. She has a survey out [here](#) and all members are encouraged to complete it.
- Rod is working on the Road User Assessment Program (RUAP) project. All members are invited to an upcoming forum to discuss how such a program can be operationalised. Tentative date for the forum is 9/4/25. Please mark your diaries.

5. ACT specific issues

- MH raised the issue of message boards on Barton Hwy. FS advised that requests for signage (e.g. Fog warnings) on these can be forwarded to her in the first instance.
- It may be appropriate to seek a meeting with Minister for Police and Emergency services (Marisa Paterson) to discuss role of policing for road safety.
- Kirsten noted specific bus issues including budget pressures (especially in VIC) preventing turnover of fleet to ensure latest safety features are rolled out. Also, a campaign to ensure that drivers have access to toilets is happening as this has been identified as having safety implications beyond driver comfort.

6. Other business

MH to attend a TfNSW forum for local government next month and will promote ACRS issues there.

If members can put together a case for support to get to the Perth ARSC, there is precedent for funding a registration.

Any member wishing to take up the very rewarding role of secretary, please let the Chapter Chair know!

7. Meeting Close

Next meeting proposed for 30/4/25.