

10. OTHER BUSINESS: Member Consultation with respect to Transitioning to a Branch of AMA Ltd

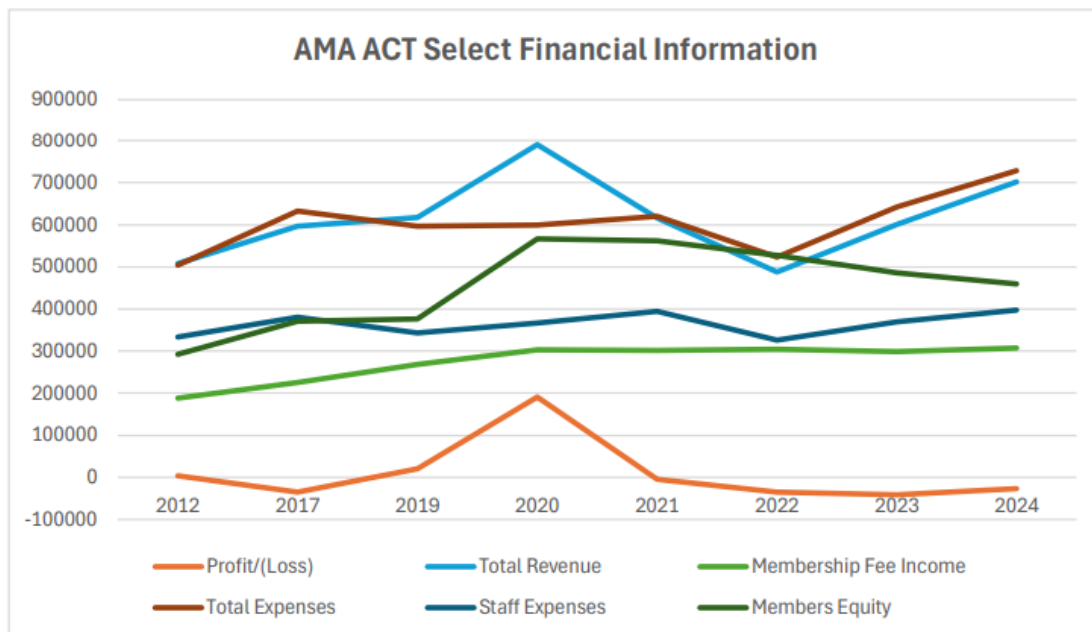
Background

Earlier in March 2025, the AMA ACT Board held a special meeting to consider options for a sustainable future for AMA ACT. The April Board meeting subsequently adopted a motion setting in train a member consultation with respect to transitioning to a branch of Federal AMA

Overview

AMA ACT, like many member-based organisations, is facing increasing financial, staffing, and compliance pressures. Despite a strong advocacy record, our small team is stretched thin, and member services are impacted by growing operational and regulatory demands. Membership levels remain flat, and the costs of remaining an independent legal entity are rising.

Set out below is a graph showing select financial information and below that, a Membership overview.



Comments on Graph: 2020 – Revenue - COVID support payments; 2022-2023 – Revenue – Drs4Drs ACT; 2024 Drs4Drs ACT and Tasmania

Membership Overview

- **Total members as of February 2025:** 541 (including 42 with nil subscriptions)
- **Total ACT registrants (as of June 30, 2024):** 2,745
- **Membership penetration:** 18.18%

Historical Trends:

- 2024: 495
- 2023: 496
- 2022: 493
- 2021: 509
- 2020: 528
- 2019: 525
- 2018: 504
- 2017: 502
- 2016: 428
- 2015: 378

In this context, the AMA ACT Board has commenced a consultation process with respect to becoming a branch of the Federal AMA (FAMA), following the successful example of AMA Tasmania.

What Is Proposed?

AMA ACT would wind up its current legal structure (AMA ACT Ltd) and become a formally recognised branch of FAMA. A draft set of Bylaws has been prepared to reflect this change and protect our local identity. AMA ACT would continue to exist in name, leadership, and purpose—but operate within the national AMA governance structure.

Why Consider This Change?

- **Reduced Administrative Burden:** Corporate functions (finance, HR, compliance, legal, IT) would be absorbed by FAMA, allowing staff and Council to focus on advocacy and member services.
- **Improved Support and Services:** Access to FAMA's broader resources would enhance media, legal, policy, and member support functions—particularly critical for IR and advocacy.
- **Stronger Local Focus:** AMA ACT would retain a local President, Council, and policy agenda tailored to ACT needs.
- **Safeguards:** Key protections—on budget delegation, staff continuity, and branding—will be negotiated and embedded.

What Would Stay the Same?

- The AMA ACT name and brand
- Local President and Council
- Member fees, benefits, and events
- Our focus on ACT-specific policy and advocacy

What Would Change?

- AMA ACT would no longer be a separate legal entity.
- Financial and legal responsibilities would be managed by FAMA.
- Staff would be employed by FAMA, not AMA ACT Ltd.
- Governance obligations under ASIC and the Corporations Act would cease.

What Comes Next?

Member consultation throughout May–August 2025:

- AGM on 28 May 2025
- In-person and online forums in July
- Straw poll of members in August

Following these steps, a formal vote at an Extraordinary General Meeting in late November 2025 would determine whether the transition proceeds. A 75% majority of votes cast would be required.

For information.

Dr Kerrie Aust
President
AMA (ACT) Ltd