

**From:** Hunter Cancer Research Alliance <hcra@newcastle.edu.au>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 11 July 2019 10:47 AM  
**To:** HCRA  
**Subject:** HCRA Vision and Strategy Review: Overview

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Hunter Cancer Research Alliance is committed to a culture of continuous improvement and as such, the new HCRA Director, Laureate Professor Rodney Scott has engaged **Seed People Consulting** to undertake an independent review of the HCRA vision and strategy.

The review is an opportunity for HCRA, after seven (7) successful years of operation, to look at how we approach the future. The review process will provide members with many opportunities to share your opinions on where we should focus our energy and funding in years to come.

To undertake a successful review of HCRA's vision and strategy, there will be three member engagement phases – outlined below.

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## PHASE 1, PART 1 STARTS NOW

This discovery phase via an online survey and one on one interviews will seek to gain a baseline appreciation for members views and understanding of HCRA's vision and strategy as it currently stands.

## **Member survey**

To begin, we need feedback from all members regarding what you feel is working well, what could be improved, and what requires further attention.

Seed People Consulting will be sending a survey to all HCRA members, inviting you to provide us with your confidential and anonymous feedback.

The member survey will include about 10 questions and should take around 5-7 minutes to complete.

The survey will be distributed to members within the next few weeks. If you **DO NOT** wish to receive the survey, please click below to opt-out. Please note that if you do not opt-out, your email address will be provided to Seed People Consulting for the purposes of this survey only. It will not be used for any other purpose or provided to third parties.

**Opt-out must be received by Wednesday 24 July 2019.**

## **OPT-OUT OF MEMBER SURVEY**

## **PHASE 1, PART 2 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2019**

### **One on one interviews**

Following the completion of the member survey process, one on one interviews will be conducted by Seed People Consulting with up to 20 research group leaders, selected by the HCRA Directors, representing all HCRA Flagships. A review update will be sent to all HCRA members listing these invited research group leaders. We encourage all members to discuss your thoughts/suggestions with these nominated spokespeople prior to their one on one interviews, so that their feedback can be representative of the broader membership.

These interviews will seek to provide an understanding of what has been done well, what has been done poorly and what has been an 'average' output. They are also an opportunity to dive deeper into themes raised from the member survey and begin planning for the future vision and strategy.

## **PHASE 2**

### **OCTOBER 2019**

#### **2 x half day workshops with members**

All HCRA members will be invited to participate in a workshop that is expected to explore and expand upon:

1. The current state of the vision and strategy
2. Visioning for the future, including questions such as:
  - Where are we going?
  - What do we want our 'value drivers' to be in the future?
  - How do we maximise internal collaboration in a 'competitive funding' environment?
  - What could future collaboration with external TCRCs look like?

## **PHASE 3**

### **NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019**

#### **3 x half day workshops with a working group**

A working group of key stakeholders and members from HCRA (selected by HCRA Directors) will be invited to participate in workshops with the aim of outlining the future vision of HCRA.

The working group will consist of key decision makers, advocates and leaders from throughout the Alliance who have both the access and capacity to speak on behalf of, and deliver information back to, a broad number of members. A review update will be sent to all HCRA members listing the nominated working group representatives. We encourage all members to be aware of these representatives and communicate with them prior to the workshops, so that any feedback can be representative of the broader membership.

Following the workshops, the working group will be responsible for taking the output from the session back to the HCRA membership, discussing the vision and proposed strategy, structure and governance, compiling constructive and future-focussed feedback on the work done thus far.

# PHASE 4

## EARLY 2020

### Roll out

At the completion of the review, Seed People Consulting will provide HCRA with a consolidated feedback report that includes recommendations for actions and change.

The consolidated report will underpin:

- a revision of the HCRA Strategic Plan
- an Operational Action Plan to support the Strategic Plan
- the 2021 application for the CINSW Translational Cancer Research Centre Grant
- what HCRA's future funding priorities will be.

More information about the HCRA Vision and Strategy Review:

**Regular updates will be circulated to HCRA members regarding the progress of the review, notifying when and how members can contribute and participate.**

If you feel you have questions outside of these regular updates, please contact:

Ann Thomas, Research Operations Manager  
4042 0856 or [Ann.Thomas@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Ann.Thomas@newcastle.edu.au)

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