

## **NEW HOSPITAL BOARD ANNOUNCED**

Wimmera Health Care Group has announced its new Board structure following renominations and retirements. The Board is very pleased to announce that appointment of Ms Bonnie Thompson as its new president and chair. The Board appointed Ms Thompson to the role at their July meeting.

Ms Thompson replaces Mr Pawel Wajszel in taking on this important role. She said that Mr Wajszel had done a fantastic job in leading the Board over the past three and a half years.

“There have been many substantial outcomes for Wimmera Health Care Group under the leadership of Mr Wajszel. He has done a fantastic job during his time as President and should be extremely proud of what has been achieved” she said.

Ms Thompson joined the Board of Wimmera Health Care Group in November 2006. She brings extensive experience in public administration to the position through previous roles with the University of South Australia, the Australian Craniofacial Institute, South Australia’s Royal District Nursing Service Foundation and her current directorship with GWM Water Corporation Board.

At the same meeting, Ms Leigh-Anne Sharrock was returned as the Board’s Senior Vice President, whilst Mr Philip Sabien joined the executive as Junior Vice President and Mr Mark Williams was again returned as Treasurer. Other Board members are Mr Ted McCabe, Ms Rhonda Tursi, Ms Jo Saxton and Mr Pawel Wajszel.

Ms Thompson said that it was an honour to take on this very important role in serving our community.

“I come to the position knowing that Wimmera Health Care Group is financially sound, with high quality and respected staff, who are ready and willing to take on new challenges. It is because of these special people that the organisation is able to very successfully deliver outstanding service to patients in a safe and caring environment.”

“As the major sub-regional acute referral hospital in this part of Victoria, it is essential that continuity of leadership and future direction of the service is not disturbed. We need to meet the demands on our resources and rise to the challenges ahead” she said.

Ms Thompson said that the Board had a broad range of skills, experience and knowledge, enabling them to provide sound governance and leadership to the organisation. “We will work together with management to drive forward the health needs of this community. These are exciting times for Wimmera Health Care Group and we are up to the challenge” she said.

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Chris Scott  
Chief Executive  
Ph. 5381 9200

