



**MONTHLY MEMO**  
**March 2023**

***FROM THE CEO, BRAD HANNAGAN***

The **Strategic Plan** that was presented to the Board in February was presented to the Member Representatives for review and approval. I am pleased to report that after some minor recommendations, the Member Representatives unanimously approved the Strategic Plan. The EFCL Team will now turn its attention to operationalising this plan. The 2023/24 Budget is our next focal point.

March has been extraordinarily busy on the staffing front. The following staff were placed to assist our Service Partners: Sonia Thorpe joins us as a Health and Wellbeing Coordinator; Carrie Philpott joins us a Community Coordinator; Glenn D'Souza took up an additional two days as a Director of Operations. We are also actively recruiting for a Business Manager and another two Health and Wellbeing Coordinators.

Internally, and after deep discussion and consultation, Rosemary Young (Shared Services Manager) concluded that it is just not possible, given the rapid growth of our organisation, for her to continue to perform the role of Shared Services Manager part-time, three days per week.

Commendably, Rosemary has rarely worked the three days per week she was engaged for and has given EFCL far above this agreed number of hours regularly. However, Rosemary was not looking for a full-time role and it has rapidly become that. Rosemary has done an extraordinary job, in a period of time, where the organisation has changed and grown very rapidly.

Rosemary will remain with us in the short-term as she is committed to ensuring a smooth handover to a new Shared Services Manager and I am pleased to advise that we have appointed Aaron Evans to the role. Aaron brings to EFCL broad experience across the Mental Health, Disability and Aged Care sectors and commences with EFCL on Monday 17 April. We are excited to have Aaron join the EFCL Team. Rosemary and Aaron will work side-by-side for some time to ensure a smooth handover of responsibilities. Rosemary will not be lost to EFCL as she wishes to remain involved in the longer term.

***FROM THE TRANSITION MANAGER***

Following our Zoom meeting at the end of January with religious who have broad connections to numerous religious institutes, we held a Zoom in March for religious and lay colleagues interested in the provision of canonical governance through a canonical delegate and

consultants. We are now planning for those interested to gather to workshop their Terms of Reference and procedures. We hope in this way to create a structure that supports institutes seeking canonical governance as well as the individuals who will take up the responsibility of canonical governance.

Attached to this *Monthly Memo* is an invitation to the May workshop days for our service partner religious institutes, our EFCL staff who provide services in religious institutes, and any interested leadership team members. It was envisaged at the initiation of Emerging Futures that everyone connected to Emerging Futures would experience *communio*, collaboration, inter-connectedness; share experiences and learnings; participate in formation and find support and this year we have the opportunity to do this in person. These days are structured round three sessions: one formation session with Elizabeth Dowling rsm in Melbourne and Dr Janine Luttick in Sydney; one session where service partner leaders share their experience of engaging with Emerging Futures and an afternoon session structured as a Market Place where there will be short snippets of input and then the opportunity to select different themes with which participants would like to further engage. The whole day is very participative. The two days are

- in Melbourne at the Treacy Centre in Parkville on **Monday May 8**, and
- in Sydney at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney on **Monday May 15**.

All our service partner leadership teams, planning groups and staff are registered to participate, along with EFCL staff and Member Representatives and Board Directors of EFCL. As well, we invite you to invite any lay colleagues who would be interested to learn more about EFCL. We invite members of religious institutes who may be interested in not just hearing about Emerging Futures but meeting and having an opportunity to talk with current service partners. We strongly believe that we have much to learn from each other and that's why we have entitled the day **Building A Living Network**. Please do come along and join us for what we believe will be inspiring days. **Registrations close on April 21**.

The Transition Team is undertaking more work out in the religious institutes this year. Even though we have been able to do much of our work on Zoom, it is rewarding to be in the room with our service partners to continue to work towards our goals. In the past month members of the Team have worked on site with the FCJ Sisters, the Wagga Presentation Sisters, the Poor Clare Sisters, the Dominican Sisters at Strathfield, the Patrician Brothers, the Dominican Sisters New Zealand and the Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta.

We have been fortunate to receive from our US contacts a new and unpublished paper by Sandra Schneiders ihm entitled *Living the Present with Passion*. In the next few days you will find that paper on the Resources page of our website and I recommend it to you: it is an interesting read!

**A date to diarise:**

**Tuesday November 7 CHANGED DATE:** Zoom event for all interested participants from 11am-1pm AEDT.

We offer our very best wishes to all our readers for every blessing in Holy Week and a joy-filled Easter.

Sharon Price rsm  
Transition Manager  
April 3, 2023