

PRESS RELEASE

In the spotlight – good governance and the Board of Directors

The governance of an organisation refers to its direction, control and accountability, and is distinguished from the management of the organisation. Particular legal obligations apply to the governance of organisations, which is undertaken by a Board of Directors; the Board makes strategic decisions that are then actioned by the organisation's management, staff and volunteers.

Manuel Maszeros has been a member of the Board of Directors of McLean Care® since 2014, and was elected as Chair in October 2016. Mr. Meszaros holds a Diploma of Financial Services (Financial Planning) from the Financial Institute of Australia, and a Bachelor of Business (Accounting) from Charles Sturt University, and is also a Principal of Skybridge Financial, a leading and well-respected financial services firm in the New England & North Coast regions.

“Good governance means complying with the law and legal duties, and carrying out the governance role in the best interests of the organisation. It is embedded in the good behaviour and the good judgement of those who are charged with running McLean Care® Ltd, and offers excellence in organisational strategies and plans, improved operational effectiveness, prudent regulatory compliance, financial and risk management, improved member and stakeholder engagement and communication, and ensures that McLean Care® Ltd delivers on its purpose.” says Chairman of the McLean Care® Board, Manuel Meszaros.

An effective Board of Directors offers excellence in governance, and ensures that the organisation delivers on its purpose. The basic precepts of good governance are fundamental to all organisations – having a board charter, well defined roles and responsibilities for board members, appropriate financial knowledge, accountability and transparency to members, shareholders and stakeholders.

“The McLean Care® Board of Directors is a strong, high-functioning work group whose members trust and challenge one another, and engage directly with senior managers on critical issues facing the organisation. The Board plays a critical role in our organisation achieving its outcomes, and members are charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the best interests of the organisation are our highest priority; Directors are chosen for the relevant skills, knowledge and experience needed to achieve our organisation's purpose.” continued Mr. Meszaros.

The law requires directors and ‘officers’ of a Board of Directors to meet certain standards of conduct while managing the affairs of the company. Decision that are made by the Board cannot be made by any one Director; all decisions must be made as a collective, after determining relevance and that the decision is in the best interest of the organisation. These decisions may also not be made without legal advice. Good governance must be part of a director's mindset when discharging his or her functions, therefore getting the right mix of Board members is essential to setting up an organisation for success.

“The McLean Care® Board of Directors is made up of a group of individuals who have the necessary skills and experience to deliver good governance for the organisation, to ensure that we deliver on our purpose. They have a duty to act in good faith and for proper purpose, to act with reasonable care, skill and diligence, to not misuse information or position, and duties of disclosure.” added Sue Thomson, McLean Care® CEO and Company Secretary.

“It is vital that they conduct regular evaluations of the structure of the Board, which assists our organisation in identifying future needs; the structure of the Board is refreshed when we believe that our strategic direction warrants such change. Manuel Meszaros is a well-respected Director of the McLean Care® Board, and has brought valuable skills and experience which see him as fit for this purpose.”

Good governance goes hand in hand with a Director’s role. It may be a manifestation of how a director’s duties are fulfilled, and a framework to support directors in fulfilling these duties.

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