



## 2025 PANZA AGM

### Minutes

#### 1. Welcome & Centering

PANZA committee member Leanne led the group in a warm welcome

#### 2. Participation

Present: Dale Wiren, Tania Tanfield, Kim Frances, Leanne Flavell, Angela Mellish, Jerry Stewart, Delwyn Mcphun, Beverley Holt, Megan Caitcheon, Minh Truong-George, Peter Crowe, Philip Symonds, Vaughan Jones, Catherine Russell.

Apologies: Matthew Steen, Fiona Mackay, Trisha Glover, Avrael Semple

Proxy Votes: 9 Proxy votes received as follows

Kim (3) - John Kingston, Peta Kingston, Hua Dai,

Tania (2) - Claire Virtue, Christa Carfrae

Dale (3) - Bernarda Shepherd, Meg Carbonatto, Nichola Beamish

Leanne (1) - Chieko Mcgee

#### 3. Minutes of 2024 AGM

Motion: Acceptance of minutes as true and correct:

Moved by Kim, Seconded by Dale **Passed (Y)**

Matters arising - Nil

#### 4. Report from the Chair – Kim Frances

**Please see Appendix 1 for copy of report**

Motion: Acceptance of chair report to the minutes:

Moved by Tania, Seconded by Angela **Passed (Y)**

## 5. Report from the Treasurer – Dale Wiren

[Financial Report of 2024/2025 \(PDF\)](#)

Motion: Acceptance of report as true and read

Moved by Leanne, Seconded by Vaughan **Passed (Y)**

## 6. Committee Membership

Affirmation of continuance in current roles

Chair - Kim Frances

Treasurer - Dale Wiren

Secretary - Tania Tanfield

Committee members - Angela Mellish, Leanne Flavell

Invitation for additional member/s – ethics / IT / newsletter. None forthcoming.

Motion: To accept current committee membership and roles

Moved by Kim, Seconded by Megan **Passed (Y)**

## 7. General Business

### 7.1 Proposed Alteration to membership range - s. 13.2, PANZA Society Rules

Introduction / Description by Committee Member – Angela Mellish

See Appendix 2 below for introduction and notes from ensuing conversation

### 7.2 Proposed Discontinuation of PANZA Complaints Process July 2025

Introduction / Description by Committee member – Dale Wiren

See Appendix 3 below for introduction and notes from ensuing conversation.

Motion: To discontinue the PANZA complaints procedure

Moved by Dale, Seconded by Leanne **Passed (Y)**

Motion: To investigate the possibility of PANZA offering some sort of supportive holding for members (and their Supervisors) who find themselves respondents of a complaint laid with another professional

or consumer rights body.

Not completed

### 7.3 Professional Development

Introduction and Description by Committee Member

- What are you enjoying?
- What is on your 'wish list'?

Not completed

### 7.4 Other Business / Sharing

## 8. Meeting Closure

Thank you to all those who attended, if any members have any feedback with regards to any of the points raised during the AGM, or regarding PANZA's professional development for the coming year, or anything else that you would like to share, please email [secretary@panza.org.nz](mailto:secretary@panza.org.nz)

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## Appendix 1

### Chair Report

*Good Evening*

*I am privileged to offer this reflection on the activities and priorities of the PANZA committee – we who work together on your behalf to keep our professional association not only legislatively compliant, but a vibrant and generative context for members.*

*Psychosynthesis counsellors and psychotherapists, and the maps and models shaping our practice are a unique and meaningful presence in the wider therapeutic community, and more generally, in those contexts we refer to as community, society, culture, country, humanity and the more-than-human world.*

*Therefore, I invite you, us, into a recognition of the preciousness of our capacity to know ourselves as psychospiritual beings – of both immanent and transcendent aspect. And as this, recognition of the preciousness of being in this community of like-knowing beings. It is surely a grace that we are thus enabled to attend to our brothers, sisters, siblings – our clients, each other, nestled in an identity inclusive of and exceeding the deep challenges of our time.*

*Thank you for being here tonight and thank you to our proxy voters who send their intentions. I also give thanks to our members and the wider PS community not able to be with us tonight but whose existence helps keep Psychosynthesis alive.*

*I am pleased to report a successful 12 months in terms of professional development events.*

*Workshops have included a focus on the Health and Disability Commission's complaint processes with Sarah Calvert, the potential of/within psychological spaciousness with Peter Hubbard, recognition of the neurodivergent client with Karen Rawden – a two workshop affair, the therapeutic use of psychedelics with Nichola Beamish and a community gathering at Matariki with Nicolas Williams. A hearty appreciation of our presenters and their enlivening offerings.*

*The workshops have been well attended and valued. Several are available for viewing via our PANZA website.*

*We are so very grateful to those brave souls who put themselves forward to teach and facilitate insight and connection. Thanks must also go to the committee members who in their turn take responsibility for liaising with speakers and organising the marketing material.*

*Next month we are looking forward to a presentation by Minh Truong-George – a psychosynthesis psychotherapist on the quest for belonging and the terror of coming home to Self.*

*In October we hope to bring you an interactive workshop with Helen Palmer – the theme likely to be around the map of chakras and the wounded healer.*

*We are in discussion with the authors of Nga Kuaha – a book published this year about 'voices and visions in Maori Healing and Psychiatry'. We hope for a September or November event in this regard.*

*As I talk of PD events, I want to acknowledge the ongoing work of our IT administrator Jerry Stewart. He publishes our flyers, administers event registrations, and sends links. He hosts events – having been in communication with each presenter and preparing for the technical demands of each event. He edits and uploads recordings and any accompanying resources. Throughout all of this he makes himself available to us, often at ridiculously short notice, to meet our needs and answer our queries.*

*Jerry is also responsible for managing our website and running our membership renewal process.*

*Whilst Jerry does all this, he has built an automated 'back-end' to our website which will be of service to PANZA for many years to come.*

*Jerry, ngā mihi nui ki a koe – our very many thanks to you.*

*Earlier this year we invited members to an online discussion regarding the possibility of an in-person membership gathering – possibly for early 2026 next. To say the event did not draw a crowd would be an understatement! Cue the sound of crickets, a dry wind and rolling tumbleweed. Nevertheless, the committee remains responsive to any support for this idea. Perhaps this is something we could chat about later in this meeting.*

*Ah yes, the committee – I would like to offer thanks to the committee for its work since the last AGM. At the start of this year, Claire Virtue resigned after a sustained period on committee and in sub-committee. I thank her for all her spirited and encouraging efforts.*

*We are fortunate to have had Angela Mellish join us. She brings with her extensive relationship management experience, and we benefit from her clear, organisational thinking as well. She drafted PANZA committee's submission to the Treaty Principles Bill and this became the basis of an additional submission concerning the Regulatory Standards Bill.*

*Tanya Tanfield continues in her role as Secretary – doing a sterling job of producing and filing minutes and hosting our Zoom meetings. I appreciate her sustained service to the committee – we have a sense of continuity and order because of her work.*

*Dale Wiren continues in the role of Treasurer – a job he does diligently, competently and reliably. He is very attentive to arranging koha for our presenters – an act of thanksgiving on all our behalf that he does with grace and care.*

*Leanne Flavell is a most valued member of the committee. She offers valuable reflection and insight. She was most helpful as we negotiated the committee's indemnity insurance rates – saving us money. Her commitment to the nourishment and wellbeing of our community is held front and centre in her deliberations – something I can say for all the members I have mentioned.*

*It is truly a pleasure and a privilege to work with you all.*

*At the last AGM I spoke at some length about our anticipated engagement with Psychosynthesis South Pacific and our duty to engage with them in a recognition process. Our current understanding is that PSP's work toward PBANZ registration is ongoing. We look forward to learning more about their programme and the infrastructure that supports it when this material is available.*

*Tonight, we need to attend to some ordinary orders of business – the financial report for instance, and committee nominations and ratification, and in general business we have some tasks relating to membership categories, and the PANZA complaints process and I ask for your participation in this.*

*We will hopefully have time to open the floor to general sharing before the end of the meeting. If so, we, the committee would appreciate hearing your reflections on and wish list for our professional development programme. And of course, anything else on your mind.*

*Thank you.*

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## **Appendix 2**

### **Proposed Changes to Membership Categories**

*Recently established non-clinical membership category to acknowledge and include those with some foundational psychosynthesis training.*

*Came about from being mindful of the need to foster and enrich our psychosynthesis membership community.*

*Non-clinical includes for example, the prior Institute's Foundation Year training and Psychosynthesis South Pacific (PSP)'s Integration Year training. This has not been formally reflected in our rules. In looking at this, we have taken the opportunity to consider our membership categories more broadly.*

*New(ish) non-clinical:*

*propose that non-clinical subsumes existing associate and trainee membership categories.*

*Associate:*

*same low price*

*voting rights 2 to 1*

*includes retiree members: ex-clinical members can be enabled to attend clinical workshops*

*Trainee:*

*trainee membership option in our rules that has lain effectively dormant since the NZ Institute closed propose that this category be removed.*

*In looking to a future we hope to be able to recognise graduates of clinical training, such as that proposed by PSP. Trainees will remain eligible for the non-clinical membership, which is effectively the same as what the trainee membership has been in the past:*

*Eligibility to attend prof development events that are open to non-clinical members*

*Same lower price*

*Voting rights same as they were in previous trainee category – 1 vote (relative to 4 votes clinical).*

*Acknowledge the Honorary: Fellow and Life membership categories that were not previously reflected in our rules.*

*Comments 'from the floor':*

*Associate member is currently reflective of members who practice overseas*

*Non-clinical category would not fit for these members*

*Clinical membership may apply to members who have trained in NZ, and practice overseas*

*Which category would members who have trained overseas but practice in NZ be eligible for?*

*What privileges does each category have; ie voting rights?*

*Does a non-clinical membership cover a trainee, who covers the trainee for complaints processes - their training institute? Would non-clinical be accurate? And which PD sessions are they eligible to attend?*

*The Committee decided to do further work to incorporate the feedback received by PANZA members, and will bring it back to members for decision at a later date.*

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## **Appendix 3**

### **Complaints Process**

*As background, let's begin from the beginning....*

*Psychosynthesis Aotearoa New Zealand Australia (PANZA) was established in 2011 in order to:*

- *Further the professional development of those working as Psychosynthesis counsellors and psychotherapists, through organising activities such as workshops, seminars, conferences, and through the creation of a Journal publishing research and articles.*

- *Enable representation of Psychosynthesis counsellors and psychotherapists in their wider professional context, through developing relationships with relevant organisations and advocating on behalf of the interests of members where appropriate.*
- *Provide a register of members, and to make available to the public a list of Psychosynthesis counsellors and psychotherapists.*
- *Provide opportunities for members to further develop community with one another.*
- *Play a role in expanding the knowledge of Psychosynthesis as a tool for individual and social change within the wider community.*
- *Disseminate information about Psychosynthesis training courses, events, workshops and conferences in our two countries, as well as relevant international activities such as conferences, publications, research and websites.*

*PAnZA is a voluntary organisation (i.e. an incorporated society) with an executive committee elected at annual general meetings.*

*And of course, PAnZA does have a Code of Ethics that all members must adhere to.*

*In December 2022, PAnZA received its first and only complaint against one of its members. The complaint was initially lodged with NZAC, and as per our Complaints Process procedures we chose to allow them to conduct the process because they have a greater capacity to do so.*

*Through engagement with this complaint, we discovered several important things.*

*Firstly, that we are not a regulatory body. Both The Health and Disability Commission and Psychotherapy Board of Aotearoa New Zealand exist to ensure that health practitioners comply with Professional Codes of Ethical Practice. In doing so, their primary goal is to protect the public by ensuring health practitioner compliance with respective Codes of Ethics. They have the legal mandate to do so and can take action to ensure compliance.*

*By comparison PAnZA, NZCCA and NZAC are self-regulating associations for counsellors in Aotearoa New Zealand, operating more like a peer-led quality assurance bodies than as government regulators. Each sets its own code of ethics, registration standards, and complaint procedures. Their professional credibility is recognized by agencies like ACC.*

*As such, none are regulated under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act (HPCA Act) and none have any legal authority to enforce standards. And, none have legal authority to enforce standards across the entire counselling profession.*

*PAnZA is also a small organization within which there are many instances of multiple roles amongst its members, and therefore many potential conflicts of interest. We do not have the breadth of membership and internal resources to be able to convene an Ethics Panel where these are not present, and as such leave us open to accusations of partiality by the Complainant.*

*The Committee therefore recommends that we no longer have a Complaints Process, knowing that there are more appropriate avenues for complaints by the public to be adjudicated and resolved.*

*If we had no active role in investigating complaints, it would then leave us free to support any of our members against whom a complaint has been made. It is a highly impactful and stressful situation to be in, and without an adjudicating role we would be free to be able to support any respondent as appropriate.*

*Comments 'from the floor':*

*What would happen if a complaint came in, how/who is it redirected to? The governing body for that person.*

*Would the Disputes Resolution Process cover issues between members which include clients? no.*

*The Disputes Resolution Process covers issues between members; this process has not been used by PAnzA at this time.*

*Would it be possible to have a complaints process without the authority to have a disciplinary action, if disciplinary action is required it would be passed on, if not then would PAnzA be able to continue a disciplinary action - probably not.*

*PAnzA does not have the capacity to manage a complaint appropriately.*

*There were reservations from the members present which included the above, the motion was then carried by a majority vote.*