



## Advocacy News

Issue 3, December 2016

Welcome to the third issue of *Advocacy News*. This newsletter will keep you up-to-date with what's happening in the transition from TIP (Training and Information Program) to the ATDP – the Advocacy Training and Development Program.

In this edition we announce the new ATDP Regional Managers and Administration Support Officers, review progress over the last year and answer your Frequently Asked Questions.

### Regional Management Groups

ATDP is very pleased to announce the appointment of the three new Regional Managers and Administration Support Officers (ASOs):

#### Region 1 – Queensland & Northern Territory

Manager: Peter McNamara  
ASO: Dianne Callaghan

#### Region 2 – New South Wales, Western Australia & Australian Capital Territory

Manager: Allan Thomas  
ASO: Brian Morelli

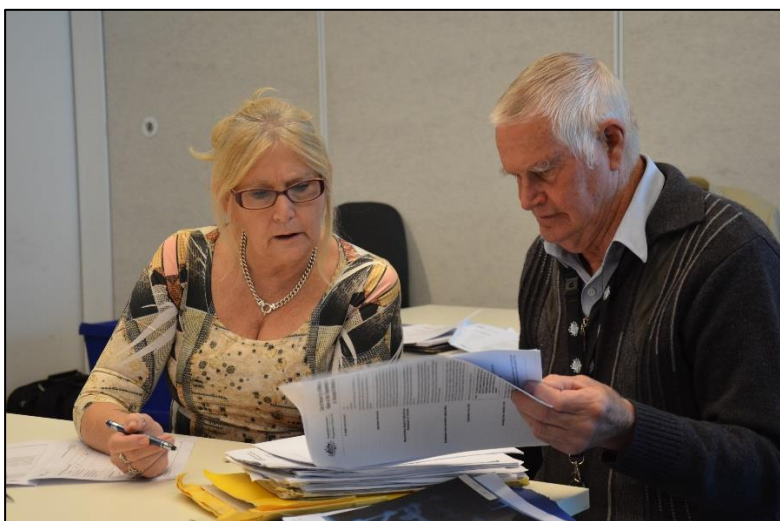
#### Region 3 – Victoria, Tasmania & South Australia

Manager: John Printz  
ASO: Phil Boys

ATDP also warmly thanks the interim regional managers for their passion and dedication in steering the implementation of the new program and for the progress made to date.

Attached is a diagram to show you how the regions fit in with the other parts of the ATDP structure. Please continue to use the [ATDPenquiries@dva.gov.au](mailto:ATDPenquiries@dva.gov.au) mailbox while each region is setting up its new administrative arrangements and contact details.

### The year in review



Helena Smith (VVAA Sunshine Coast) reviewing John Methven's case portfolio as part of his recognition of prior learning. John is with the Phillip Island RSL and is a VVAA advocate.

One hundred trainees have started the online and on-the-job aspects of the ATDP Compensation and/or Welfare Level 1 training courses with the support of their ex-service organisation and an experienced advocate as their mentor.

The face-to-face component of this training, called 'consolidation', will be available in early 2017.

Another 107 people have successfully completed a mentor workshop and their ATDP Level 2 'recognition of prior learning' assessment – 72 in Compensation and 35 in Welfare.

Forty of these have also had Assessor Skill Set training, which means they are on the path for being qualified to run ATDP consolidation courses and assess trainees for ATDP accreditation.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **How do I apply to do an ATDP training course?**

Currently, your ex-service organisation can nominate you for ATDP Compensation Advocate Level 1 and Welfare Advocate Level 1 courses through the ATDP website: [www.atdp.org.au](http://www.atdp.org.au) ATDP Level 2, 3 and 4 courses will be available in the second half of 2017. When nominations are open you will be notified by information in this newsletter.

If you are already an experienced practitioner, compensation or welfare officer or advocate, you can apply for 'recognition of prior learning' (RPL) and/or the mentoring course by filling out the form on the ATDP website: <http://www.atdp.org.au/applications/eois.php> Once your nomination for a course or RPL is received, you will be sent an email with instructions about what to do next.

### **How do I know if I need ATDP accreditation to continue providing services to veterans and their families?**

ATDP accreditation is required for members of ex-service organisations who provide information, options and/or advice about accessing entitlements, benefits and services. Any activities that do not involve providing information, options and/or advice—such as driving, hospital and home visits, social activities, domestic assistance and home maintenance—do not require ATDP accreditation.

Attached is a checklist of the typical services that ex-service organisations provide, showing which ones do and don't require ATDP accreditation.

### **Contact us**

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about ATDP, please send me an email at [ATDPenquiries@dva.gov.au](mailto:ATDPenquiries@dva.gov.au)

For more information about ATDP, visit the DVA website ([www.dva.gov.au](http://www.dva.gov.au)) and search for 'advocacy training'.

Please share this newsletter with anyone you know who may be interested, and let me know if you would like to be added or removed from this email list.

On behalf of all the ATDP team, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a very happy festive season.

**Caroline Quinn**

**Communications Manager**

Advocacy Training and Development Program  
Department of Veterans' Affairs



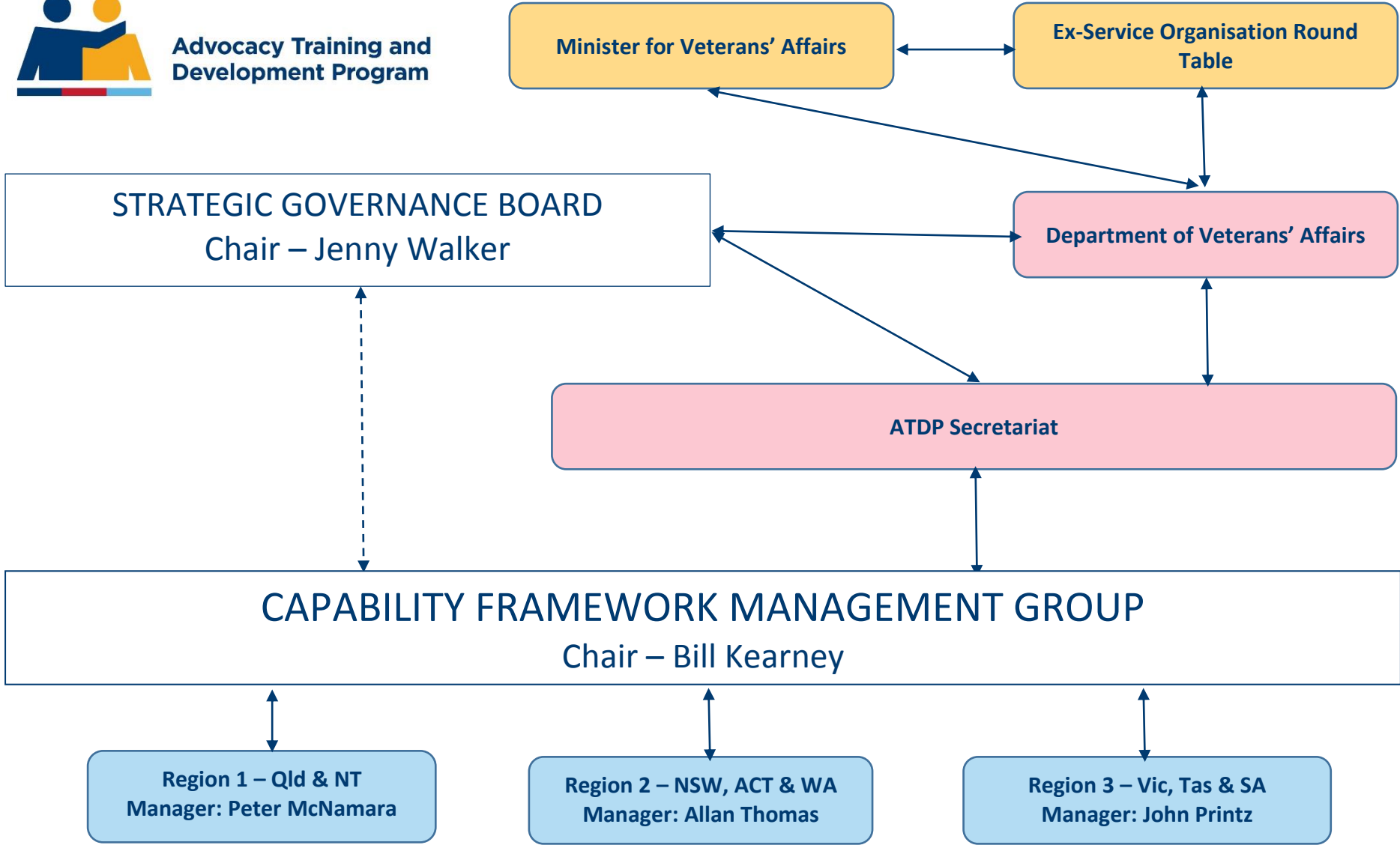
Darryl Proud, of Major Training Services, conducting a mentor workshop in Melbourne in November.



# GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



**Advocacy Training and Development Program**





## ATDP ACCREDITATION

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### Which activities require ATDP accreditation?

Activity	YES	NO
Prepare and/or lodge liability, compensation and income support claims	✓	
Prepare requests for review of DVA decisions	✓	
Prepare appeals for review by the Veterans' Review Board or the Administrative Appeals Tribunal	✓	
Provide information and/or advice about health, housing, transport, household assistance, education schemes, and other government or community services and benefits	✓	
Provide advice and information about government services for transitioning from the military to civilian life	✓	
Provide information and referrals for medical, financial, legal and police matters	✓	
Provide information and referrals for funeral arrangements and bereavement assistance	✓	
Visits to home, hospital and aged care facilities that do not include the provision of information or advice		✓
Services such as driving, shopping trips, domestic assistance, child care and home maintenance		✓
Administration, such as for ESO clubs, offices and day clubs		✓
Organising and conducting social, family and sporting activities		✓
Providing professional services on behalf of an ESO that require non-ATDP qualifications, such as counselling and sports coaching		✓
Providing or administering services and support on behalf of the ESO, such as financial support, scholarships, accommodation, welfare checks and mentoring children		✓
Training or instruction on behalf of the ESO, such as cooking, craft, gardening, and home and car maintenance		✓