

July 30, 2014

ICA welcomes inaugural Code Governance Committee members

The Insurance Council of Australia (ICA) today welcomes the inaugural members of the Code Governance Committee (CGC), the new independent body that will oversee the revised General Insurance Code of Practice and ensure Code compliance is effectively monitored and enforced.

The CGC is appointed by the Code Governance Association (an incorporated association under NSW law), and it replaces the former Code Compliance Committee. The CGC is a separate and independent entity from the ICA and Code signatories.

The inaugural members of the CGC are Lynelle Briggs AO as independent chair, Julie Maron as consumer representative and Ian Berg as insurer representative.

ICA CEO Rob Whelan welcomed the CGC members, noting the breadth and relevance of their experience.

“The revised Code sets a benchmark for industry self-regulation in Australia, and the members of the Code Governance Committee set their own benchmark in terms of the skills they bring to their roles,” Mr Whelan said.

“Lynelle Briggs worked with the Australian Public Service for more than 30 years. She was chief executive of Medicare from 2009 to 2011 when Medicare was integrated into the Department of Human Services, and was an Australian Public Service Commissioner for five years.

“Ian Berg recently retired as Vice President and Operations Manager Australia for FM Global after 35 years with the group, and spent five years as a director on the ICA Board.

“Julie Maron, senior solicitor with Legal Aid NSW, was the consumer representative on the former Code Compliance Committee and represented consumers on the Code Advisory Panel, which worked with Ian Enright during his independent review of the Code.”

The duties of the CGC are set out in the Code and the CGC charter, and include:

- Receiving reports of alleged Code breaches from consumers
- Receiving reports of possible Code breaches from the Financial Ombudsman Service
- Investigating reports of alleged Code breaches and making determinations
- Agreeing with Code subscribers on any corrective measures to remedy Code breaches and monitoring their implementation

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- Imposing sanctions on Code subscribers in certain circumstances
- Receiving compliance reports from Code subscribers
- Publishing an annual report on the activities of the CGC
- Providing any recommendations on Code policy improvements in its quarterly reports to the ICA Board

The revised General Insurance Code of Practice came into effect on July 1, 2014. ICA members and other Code participants have 12 months to transition to the revised Code, with all signatories to be compliant by July 1, 2015.

For further information on the General Insurance Code of Practice:

www.codeofpractice.com.au

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Editor's note

Bios and pics of CGC members are attached.

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Code Governance Committee – Bios of committee members

Lynelle Briggs AO



Lynelle worked as a public servant with the Australian Government for 31 years, during which time she was the CEO of Medicare Australia, Australian Public Service Commissioner and Deputy Secretary in the Department of Transport and Regional Services. She also served in the Departments of Social Security, Treasury, Health and Ageing, and the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Since her retirement from the public service, Lynelle has chaired several committees and conducted various reviews and inquiries. She is a company director of the Australian Rail Track Corporation, chairs ASIO's Audit and Risk Committee, and is also the Independent Project Facilitator for the Millers Point Accommodation Project. She also works with the Victorian Department of Human Services on child protection issues. Lynelle received the Order of Australia in the General Division in 2013 for her distinguished service to public administration, in particular for leadership and professionalism.

Julie Maron



Julie, a Senior Solicitor with Legal Aid NSW for the past six years, specialises in financial hardship issues affecting vulnerable Australians. She was the consumer representative on the former Code Compliance Committee and consumer advisor to Ian Enright during his independent review of the Code. Based in Wagga Wagga, Julie advises clients on insurance-related issues and represents Legal Aid at designated disaster centres across the state. Prior to joining Legal Aid NSW, Julie was in-house counsel at the Australian Sports Commission and in private practice at Mallesons Stephen Jacques, both based in Canberra. Julie is also on the ICA's National Consumer Reference Group.

Ian Berg



Ian retired from FM Global Australia's operations in March 2014 after 35 years with the group. He was Vice President and Operations Manager for Australia, Chief Executive Officer for FM Global in Australia and a director of FM Insurance Co. Ltd. Ian spent five years as a director on the ICA Board. Starting his career as a loss prevention engineer, Ian has worked in engineering, business development, marketing, underwriting and management positions for FM Global in Australia, the UK and the US. Ian is a qualified engineer, a Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute, a Member of the Institution of Engineers and a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.