



Message from the Chair

In the year under review 21 brothel licences were granted by the PLA after comprehensive inquiry and investigation by the staff of the PLA and the Prostitution Enforcement Task Force (PETF).

The PLA dealt with a range of issues this year. They included responding to the recommendations stemming from the review of the *Prostitution Act 1999* and contributing to the CMC's inquiry into the possible legalisation of escort prostitution services.

In response to the CMC's recommendations the Government introduced into Parliament the Prostitution Amendment Bill 2006. The year ahead will see the PLA implementing legislative amendments and non-legislative changes stemming from the Bill.

The PLA awaits with interest the final report of the CMC as to the possible legalisation of outcall prostitution services from licensed brothels. The final decision will be a policy matter for consideration by the Government.

In continuing its ongoing support for the industry the PLA released the resource *Guidelines for the Operation of Licensed Brothels in Queensland*, which provides a useful guide for licensees pursuing best practice.

Throughout the year I have met with many industry and Government representatives to discuss issues relevant to the development of the licensed sex industry. This will continue as issues arise.

I place on record the Authority's appreciation of the support given to it by the Minister, the Honourable Judy Spence MP. We also recognise the valuable assistance of the various departmental officers in the

Queensland Police Service (QPS), Queensland Health and the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR).

I extend my thanks to my colleagues on the PLA Board. They have a great wealth of experience and have greatly assisted my work as Chair.

I acknowledge the dedication and professionalism of our staff, so ably led by the Registrar, Ms Margaret Isaac.

Manus Boyce QC
Chair



Registrar's Report

Our fifth year of operation has passed swiftly and another busy year is immediately upon us. Significantly, the PLA has successfully chaired the first meetings of the Interdepartmental Working Group on Prostitution related matters and released the new *Guidelines for the Operation of Licensed Brothels in Queensland*.

The year closes with 21 licensed brothels now operating in Queensland. The licensed industry continues to be characterised by quality, well appointed premises in which practices, which enhance sexual health, the safety of sex workers and the avoidance of exploitation, are insisted on. The PLA has a robust compliance program in place which includes the comprehensive annual audit of all licensed brothels as well as unannounced inspections. We were kept busy with approximately 5000 inquiries made of the PLA and the assessment of over 16,500 advertisements.

It is with anticipation that we await the final report of the CMC inquiry on the feasibility of legalising outcalls and on the practicability of possible models for the regulation of escort services in Queensland.

My grateful thanks to those agencies, PETF, Queensland Health and the DIR, who have continued to provide invaluable advice and support to myself, staff and the Authority. My thanks also to Self-Health for Queensland Workers in the Sex Industry (SQWISI), who have ensured our continued education of the Queensland sex industry. The Authority continues to be well placed to execute its statutory role in a way which should meet the expectations of the legislators and of the wider community.

I cannot finish the year without again mentioning my work colleagues. Thankyou for your commitment to task, your tireless contribution and all those extra miles!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M W Isaac". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Margaret Isaac
Registrar