



**SIMNA Ltd. Annual General Meeting 2021 - Minutes**  
**Thursday 11 November 2021, 4:00pm - 5:15pm**

Meeting convened: 4.05PM AEDT

	<b>Item</b>	<b>Decision points or notifications</b>
1.	Meeting Open & Welcome	Simon Faivel, SIMNA’s Chair (SF) declared the 2021 AGM open at 16:03. He welcomed and thanked attendees for joining. The AGM is an important marker in the calendar. It provides an opportunity to stop and reflect. SF invited attendees to use the chat function to ask questions.
2.	Acknowledgement of Country	The meeting opened with an Acknowledgement of Country. All acknowledged the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which they were located. We used Zoom’s chat function for that. Attendees were present from the lands of the Turrbal people (SE Queensland), the land of the Darug people (Western Sydney), the land of the Gadigal people (central Sydney), the lands of the Wurundjeri people (north Melbourne), the lands of the Boonwurrung people (south-central Melbourne), the lands of the Kurna people (Adelaide) and the lands of the Whadjuk people (Perth), amongst others.  This geographic diversity is central to SIMNA. We are a national organisation. We have a notable presence across this huge country.
3.	Approval of Minutes	There was one amendment to the previous year’s minutes. This was from SIMNA member Rebecca Roebuck. Rebecca reminded the group that she had referenced the NSW Government’s (then) social impact assessment guidelines. As part of this discussion in 2020, those on the AGM call considered how SIMNA might respond. This does not appear anywhere in the minutes and should be added. As a result of SIMNA not responding to the SIA standards at that time, SIMNA is not mentioned as a professional body that people can join.  The minutes of the AGM in November 2020 were approved with this one amendment.

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4.	Chair's Report	<p>SF shared that this was his fifth year as SIMNA's Chair. The first thing he highlighted was that 2021 had been another tough year, for many SIMNA members and for many vulnerable communities in Australia. The impacts have been significant. Some have been able to work from home, others have lost jobs and connectivity. To that, SF acknowledged the resolve of the network, its resilience and adaptability.</p> <p>SF spoke to the success of SIMNA's webinar series. This has really taken off. It's a reminder of where we are and what has changed. The efforts of SIMNA's Organising Committees has been particularly superb in this regard. It has served as a reminder of SIMNA's reach and the number of professionals associated with the work that we do. This is an accomplishment to celebrate.</p> <p>SF shared that a lot of thinking has gone into SIMNA over the years. The SIMNA Board is once again shifting its focus and its attention as it gains greater clarity and focus on where SIMNA needs to go next.</p> <p>On a final note, SIMNA's relationship with Social Value International (SVI) is exciting. We are seeing a shift in society with investors being more 'invested' than ever before. The language of social value and social impact measurement is gaining traction.</p>
5.	Financial Reports	<p>SF also led this segment. Overall, SIMNA's finances have been stable over the last year. For two years, SIMNA had Equity Trustees' funds. This amounted to \$100k over 2 years. After that, the Government's JobKeeper payments and Cashflow boosts were an important part of our income. This 3-year period paints a steady picture, given the tumultuous times we are living in.</p> <p>In the current financial year, the Board has been adapting its approach to allow SIMNA to continue to grow. Thanks to this, SIMNA has reported a small profit this year. Our sophistication in accounting is better. We have an accountant working alongside us. We're managing small amounts of income quite tightly.</p> <p>Gerard Atkinson asked for confirmation that the JobKeeper payments had been reported under other income/miscellaneous income. SF confirmed that yes, this was correct. SIMNA is unlikely to receive that level of miscellaneous income ever again. SF observed the small entry for advertising income. He also acknowledged that the SVI revenue income was starting to grow.</p> <p>There were no other questions. The finances were noted by all present.</p>

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6.	Director Changes	<p>SF shared that two non-Executive Directors have left SIMNA in the last year – Ross Wyatt and Alicia McCoy. He thanked them both, for the record, for their contribution to SIMNA. We all look forward to their ongoing involvement and our growing relationship together.</p> <p>In the last month, SIMNA has put out the word for four new non-Executive Directors. The response has been wonderful. Thoughtful applications were received from individuals working in a variety of sectors, across the country. SF thanked all those who took the time to apply. It’s a brave move to put yourself forward for nomination.</p> <p>The outcome of the process this time around is an incredibly close vote, with the fourth position being a tie. So, surprisingly, and in line with SIMNA’s Constitution, we are accepting five Directors to the Board, as opposed to four.</p> <p>SIMNA Board membership is for three years. Many Board members will be up for re-election next year. Historically, we have not shared the number of votes counted. But, this year, a total of 45 members voted and had a say. This is a very positive response. Who has been successful?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sarah Barker – continuing. Sarah shared that she was looking forward to another 3 years with SIMNA, to measuring the health of the network and to putting the right systems in place to do that.</li> <li>2. Aden Date – new. Aden shared that he was keen to support the complexity side of things and was looking forward to learning more about SIMNA.</li> <li>3. Sarah Jones – new. Sarah shared that she was interested in emerging theory and practice and how we push the boundaries of SIM practice within the network.</li> <li>4. Gerard Atkinson – new. Gerard is also a Reframing Autism Board member. He shared that he was looking forward to supporting SIMNA to grow and scale – its influence as much as its membership.</li> <li>5. Jess Soares – new. Jess shared that she had a lot to learn and was looking forward to getting to know the social impact sector.</li> </ol>

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		<p>Once again, SF thanked the other nominees for putting themselves forward. There are lots of ways to get involved with SIMNA. We all look forward to working with you at another time.</p> <p>In closing SF advised that the SIMNA Board will be revisiting the Constitution, to consider how we have evolved. This will be shared with members when it is appropriate to do so.</p>
7.	SIMNA Annual Review 2020-21	<p>Lisa McGhee (LM) presented the 2020-21 Annual Review. She shared that FY21 is a year that will be remembered for the network's perseverance and the support that Organising Committee members in particular have given one another. SIMNA's story in the form of a timeline was presented. This shows that SIMNA's story begins in 2012-2013, almost 10 years ago.</p> <p>This Annual Review document reminds the reader of SIMNA's Vision and Purpose. It captures top level reflections from the FY21 year, including, for example that 12 webinars were held in addition to two in person events. Membership continues to grow slowly. SIMNA's strategic objectives were also shared.</p> <p>The 2020-21 Annual Review concludes with a sincere acknowledgement of the work undertaken by SIMNA's volunteers. These are the social impact professionals that serve on SIMNA's Organising Committees and develop and facilitate the many information sharing and networking events held throughout the year.</p> <p>The Annual Report thanks SIMNA's volunteers for their valuable contribution. Together, they bring SIMNA to life at a local level. They create the places for SIMNA's members to meet, connect, learn, share and support one another.</p> <p>Finally, the report describes the online hosting, in December 2020, of the SIMNA Awards Ceremony. This was a great success. Thank you to all those who entered the awards for sharing your social impact measurement story with us. We are inspired by the level of thought and endeavour being applied to social impact measurement by different organisations across the country.</p> <p>SF thanked LM for sharing the Annual Review's highlights, acknowledging that there is a lot to digest! He thanked LM for her work in bringing the review document together and encouraged all SIMNA members to share this. It will be uploaded to the SIMNA website soon.</p>

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8.	Other Business	<p>It was raised by several attendees that there is currently a public consultation in circulation from Standards Australia on social value. SIMNA Members Rebecca Roebuck and Ric Dale both highlighted the need for SIMNA to respond and to clarify its position. This is particularly relevant given SIMNA's proximity to SVI.</p> <p>The approach being put forward in the consultation departs from the seven principles of social value that SVI has established. It was agreed that the SIMNA Board would take on the responsibility of analysing and responding to this. SF added that SIMNA is often a submission to other responses at the international level though its relationship with SVI. For example, SVI has two submissions it's responding to this week.</p> <p>In his close, SF thanked everyone for attending. He thanked LM, SIMNA's volunteers and Board members. A huge amount of effort goes into where SIMNA goes and what SIMNA does.</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>

The meeting ended.

The next AGM will be on Thursday, 17 November 2022. The meeting will run from 4-5pm AEDT.