

Notes about the Proposed Amalgamation

Why does the Ileostomy Association (Vic) Inc need to Amalgamate

1. With a falling Membership, over the last 5 years we have gone from a membership over 1,000 to just below 700 at present.
2. We have not been able to attract enough volunteers to the Management Committee, to replace those that have retired or can no longer give of their time. Three years ago, we had five volunteers with the skills to manage the day to day running of the Association and now we have only two.

What are the options available for the Association:

- (a) Find an Ostomy Association that will be willing to amalgamate (ie.Colostomy Association Victoria Inc) (CAV).
- (b) Inform Corporate Affairs that the Ileostomy Association (Vic) Inc, that due to the inability of maintaining a working Committee and trained volunteers capable of running the day to day operation of IAV there is a need to dissolve the association. This option has the problem of continuance in the supply of Ostomy Supplies to our members as Corporate Affairs will appoint an Administrator that will have little or no knowledge of Ostomy Appliances and members needs.

Recommendations:

Option (a)

Arrange an Amalgamation with the Colostomy Association of Victoria Inc (CAV).

- One benefit of amalgamating with the Colostomy Association Victoria is that their rooms are situated in the same building (Block Arcade) on the floor below the Ileostomy Association.
- There would be a seamless change over with no interruption to the issue of Stoma Supplies as CAV uses the same Computer Software as IAV
- Colostomy Association Victoria Inc have an established Stomal Therapy Nurse in their rooms available for consultations, at present this is one day per week and if the amalgamation is successful it could be increased to at least two days per week, this to cater for the increased membership, an appointment is needed to have access the Stomal Therapy Nurse.

Option (b)

The committee does not recommend this option due to the uncertainty regarding members supplies of product while the association is being dissolved, this would be the first instance of a Stoma Association in Australia being dissolved since the Stoma Appliance Scheme was gazette in 1975.

The Administrators would in all probability close the doors until they have examined the financial status of the association, this could take some time with no orders being processed until they are satisfied with their audit. Members would have to arrange a transfer to an association of choice from one of the remaining twenty one (21) associations to order their supply of products.