



02 October 2019

President's Report to the 2019 Annual General Meeting

I am pleased to present the 2019 President's Report for the Global Law Enforcement and Public Health Association Inc as part of our Annual General Meeting in Edinburgh.

Since GLEPHA was incorporated in the spring of 2017 much has been accomplished. We've entered into a reciprocal organisational membership agreement with World Federation of Public Health Associations, and have begun to connect our organisation with the wider world, having established affiliations with the Canadian Public Health Association, the European Public Health Association and the WHO-convened Violence Prevention Alliance – just the forerunners. The Law Enforcement and Public Health agenda is building an impressive list of publications, many by GLEPHA members (including a *Lancet* series), and of special issues, edited by GLEPHA members and many publishing articles from papers first presented at LEPH conferences.

I'll expand on some other accomplishments and our path forward below.

The LEPH Conferences: GLEPHA members are making a significant contribution to the upcoming Law Enforcement and Public Health (LEPH) conference in Edinburgh this year. Our plans of transitioning the planning and organising of the LEPH conferences to the GLEPHA over the course of the next few years is moving ahead. Last year I reported that we were considering moving from bi-annual conferences to holding an annual LEPH conference, and we have done just that with the 2019 Edinburgh conference following a year after Toronto. There are some inevitable challenges with increasing the frequency, nevertheless, our plans for a conference in 2020 or 2021 is well underway and we hope to make an announcement during LEPH2019.

Membership: Our membership base continues to grow. We saw increased membership leading up to and following the LEPH2018 conference and we're seeing the same trend this year. We are continuing to look to attract more diversity in our membership; as we become better known and our influence expands we will see more interest in GLEPHA and in the field of LEPH. A key priority over the coming years will be to increase the diversity of our membership geographically and across broader law enforcement and public health sectors. For the first time this year we have joined with several organisations of public prosecutors, including the International Association of Prosecutors, to expand our focus in the law enforcement sector; again, a process which will continue. A further key target is academic public health institutions, to promote their engagement in research and teaching in the LEPH area.

Our current membership stands at:

Institutions and Organisations	32
Individuals	52
Student	7
Total:	91
(Total as at September 2018 – 59)	

Special Interest Groups (SIGs): 6 SIGs have been established, mirroring the main themes of the LEPH conferences. Three SIGs in particular have made some significant advances, those being:

Education SIG, Gender and Law Enforcement SIG, and the Law Enforcement and HIV Network (LEAHN) SIG. The Education SIG is well advanced in planning a text on LEPH, and special sessions will be held for each of these three SIGs prior to the Edinburgh conference. We can't be more pleased with the broad interest shown in our SIGs: our plan is that, increasingly, SIGs will take responsibility for planning of their theme in the conference program. More information about these SIGs is on the website and if you have any ideas or would like to join a group please contact me at nick.crofts@unimelb.edu.au.

A Journal for LEPH: Last year I reported that we hoped to form an alliance with the *Journal of Community Safety and Wellbeing*, a journal run by the Community Safety Knowledge Alliance, one of our major partners in LEPH2018. We have, in fact, developed the relationship informally and begun to formalise it, proving mutually beneficial. There have already been quite a number of articles published in the JCSWB by GLEPHA members and special issues from LEPH conferences, which will happen again with LEPH2019. This is a partnership which will build in future; I have taken a role as Section Editor with the JCSWB and will work to strengthen our association.

The CLEPH and GLEPHA websites are becoming good repositories of resources in the LEPH field; I encourage everyone to submit any useful articles, reports, videos, blogs etc to CLEPH for inclusion in the Resources section of the GLEPHA website.

I believe that we have laid a very good foundation for the functioning of the GLEPHA, though there remains much to do. The task over the next few years for the new Board will be to grow our association. Among others, some of the key priorities for the board are again to:

1. Create Strategic and Business Plans for GLEPHA, including development of further strategic alliances and partnerships
2. Grow current and develop new Special Interest Groups as relevant, and link them to the Conference Program planning and standalone events;
3. Increase both organizational and individual membership;
4. Market the GLEPHA and the LEPH Conferences, and build GLEPHA capacity to organise the LEPH conferences;
5. Develop and implement a fund-raising strategy;
6. Develop a GLEPHA Newsletter and build the alliance with the JCSWB; and
7. Establish developmental opportunities for Masters and PhD candidates and other LEPH educational and research strategies.

These are truly exciting times as the GLEPHA evolves and moves from its initial formation stages, to growth and development of the association. Clearly, from the level of interest internationally, there is a need for such a unique association – in every region of the world. Our cross-sector collaborative efforts will result in relevant and current contributions to research that will benefit legislators, policy makers, and practitioners.



Nick Crofts
GLEPHA President