



Australian Community Transport Association

MEMBERSHIP

to be part of Australian Community Transport Association



For further information about this proposal, contact membership@communitytransportaustralia.org.au

Australian Community Transport Association pays respect to first nations people around the country and acknowledges elders and leaders past, present and future

Who is Australian Community Transport Association (ACTA) ?

ACTA is the national peak body for the community transport sector. We work together as a peak body for the benefit of community transport services across Australia. Founded in 2011 and comprising representatives from QLD, NSW, TAS, SA, VIC, ACT, NT and WA, ACTA operates with a view to providing a national voice for the community transport sector. The company is a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee which is established to be, and continue as, a charity.

Our Vision

To advocate for a self-sustaining community transport sector which allows access and participation for all people in Australia

Our Mission

To shape our industry with influence, partnerships, communications and leadership

Why is community transport important to people living in our community?

Community transport (CT) keeps people involved and connected in their community. It keeps people healthy, it keeps people safe, and it offers more to people than just a ride.

CT providers also interact with other care providers: observing, monitoring and reporting on consumers' wellbeing and the possible need for other types of support. Community transport provides a 'door-to-door' service and have established developed risk management protocols, rather than the 'kerb to kerb' services provided by most private transport operators. This means providers will walk to the door and assist the client to the vehicle. If the client is not ready at the door for the service, CT providers follow emergency risk management procedures to contact the client by phone, and if necessary their next of kin. They then call emergency services if deemed appropriate and await their arrival. This level of care is typically limited to the community transport sector, who are driven by a culture of care for their clients rather than by revenues.

CT meets a critical need in facilitating 're-ablement' - ensuring older people are active and independent for as long as possible. This means ensuring that they stay connected to community through shopping, social outings, health appointments, community events and other activities.

The CT sector also fills a critical gap in areas where there is severely limited or no public transport or hospital patient transport. CT providers in these areas often transfer patients discharged from hospitals where state assets are limited in providing this service.

What does our sector look like?

Collectively the sector has around 2,200 paid staff and 8,000 volunteers - most of them drivers - who provide 2.4 million hours of services*. To replace this donated time with paid labour would cost the Commonwealth government about \$86M**, equivalent to increasing the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) transport funding for 2021/22 by 45%. Most of this effort is directed at eligible aged consumers, placing CT firmly into the category of Aged Care services.

*<https://communitytransportaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/ACTA-Advocacy-Paper-Re-abling-Mobility.pdf>

**Based on the average hourly wage in Australia:
<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/employee-earnings/aug-2021>

What does ACTA do?

In times of change, the sector needs a strong voice. This change will not end with the current aged care and NDIS reforms, there will be an ongoing opportunity for evolution of CT service provision and try new ways of providing clients with the services they need. ACTA aims to influence State and Federal Governments, industry - to establish organisational sustainability, organisational and sector growth and innovation.

What has been achieved to date?

Australian Community Transport Association (ACTA) has successfully -

- ✓ *Lobbied government (2012) to avoid a one size fits all fees program for transport providers.*
- ✓ *Has worked since 2016 with Governments federally and across Australia to maintain block funding as a result of informing them about the complexities of community transport relevant to other service provision.*
- ✓ *Lobbied successfully to ensure the 10% ERO funding was built into future funding agreements.*
- ✓ *National Aged Care Alliance (NACA) representation that ensures multiple entry points to advocacy issues for CT providers across Australia.*
- ✓ *Lobbied successfully for fuel increase in CHSP 2023/24 contract extensions.*
- ✓ *Currently working with Federal government on solutions for a new framework, payment matrix and thin market approach for post CHSP.*
- ✓ *Invited on to multiple working groups with governments.*

Why is ACTA different?

We are a national peak with the big picture on what is happening in all States and Territories but have the detail to work and understand what's going on for big and small organisations in cities, town and remote areas. This means we can work towards consistency and bring continual improvement lessons from other parts of the country.

We also have links to international community transport peaks so that we can share ideas and trends that enable our members to be one step ahead in providing their services and running their organisations.

Across Australia, CT providers (represented by ACTA) support 238,000 clients annually to complete over 95 million kilometres of travel. Most CT providers are not-for-profit community-based organisations. The most variable trips (which are most at risk through the proposed funding model) are those in rural and regional Australia, the communities that have the least access to essential care services.



What we offer members

- ✓ Have your voice heard! Advocate for Community Transport sector at Federal and State government levels.
- ✓ Partnership advocacy through representation at stakeholder forums like National Aged Care Alliance (NACA).
- ✓ Bring suppliers to our members for information and discounts.
- ✓ Discount to the annual conference

Membership Fees

As of January 2023 - membership year July to June



Australian Community Transport Association
PEAK OF PEAKS



State Community Transport Peaks
ACTA MEMBERS



State Community Transport Providers
MEMBERS OF STATE PEAKS



Associate Members
OTHER NATIONAL PEAKS

Annual Income for Community Transport	FEE (excluding GST)
Under \$250,000	\$250.00
Under \$500,000	\$500.00
Under \$2m	\$750.00
Over \$2m+	\$1,000.00
Already a member of a state peak	\$500.00

Next steps

Become a member of ACTA! Be involved and make the sector strong, sustainable and focused on the future, so that our clients have the high-quality services they need.

Please email the Membership form to:
membership@communitytransportaustralia.org.au