

Rachel Hunter

From: John Wakefield <John.Wakefield@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 28 October 2021 2:55 PM
To: Rachel Hunter; Nicola.spurrier@sa.gov.au; Jane Williams
Cc: Kevin Hardy
Subject: URGENT : RESPONSE REQUESTED PLEASE : CHIEF HEALTH OFFICER QUEENSLAND HEALTH

Importance: High

Colleagues

You will have heard by now that Dr Hajkovicz has informed me that he will not be taking up the role of CHO due to personal reasons.

This is obviously very difficult for Krispin and we are supporting him. It is also extremely challenging for the health system at this critical juncture where Dr Young is appointed as Governor on Monday 1st November.

Dr Peter Aitken will be interim CHO. However, it is critical that we re-convene as a panel to consider the remaining candidates.

Please could you advise your availability for a 45 minute teams meeting between 0800 and 0900 Friday 29 October 2021 (Queensland Time).

My Executive Assistant Trish Nielsen will be in touch to organise the meeting and provide the long list and short list for the position.

Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

John



Dr John Wakefield
Director-General
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**CLEAN HANDS
SAVE LIVES**

Wash your hands regularly to stop the spread of germs



Queensland Health acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

Ben Gordon

From: Kirsten Roos
Sent: Friday, 1 October 2021 3:18 PM
To: Kerryn Manifold (Ministerial)
Cc: Ben Gordon
Subject: New CHO pack
Attachments: Talking points - New Qld CHO.docx; Media release - New CHO announcement 211001.docx; Governor Swearing-in Bio - Dr Jeannette Young KR.docx; Dr Krispin Hajkowicz CHO bio.pdf

Hi Kerryn,

As requested, new CHO media release (QH had prepared and was with the MO), talking points, Dr Hajkowicz bio and Dr Young's top 5 achievements below. I've also included the bio for the Governor Swearing-in booklet for Dr Young if helpful for more background on the achievements.

Top five achievements of Dr Young

- Leading Queensland through the COVID-19 pandemic
- Halving the state's smoking rate to 10 per cent
- Increasing Queensland's child vaccination rates to 95 per cent
- Creating a world-class aeromedical retrieval service through partnerships with the Royal Flying Doctor Service and Lifeflight
- Developing a new Medical School in Central Queensland



**Queensland
Government**

Kirsten Roos

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Please note: I sometimes work and send correspondence out of hours. Please do not feel obliged to respond outside of your own work hours.



I acknowledge Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this Country and recognise their connection to land, sea and community.

I pay my respects to them, their cultures, and to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Talking Points

QUEENSLAND'S NEW CHIEF HEALTH OFFICER LOCATION xxxx TIME, xx October 2021

Appointment

- It's my pleasure today to announce Queensland's next Chief Health Officer.
- As you know we have searched far and wide for Dr Jeanette Young's replacement.
- An extensive recruitment process was undertaken which started back in July.
- It involved a meritorious selection process undertaken by a panel including two Queensland Directors-General and a serving interstate Chief Health Officer.
- It's fantastic to reveal that we have managed to find a homegrown Chief Health Officer who studied right here in Brisbane and has worked around the state.
- So he knows Queensland very well.
- Our congratulations goes to Dr Krispin Hajkowicz (pronounced kris-pin-hi-co-vich)

Background

- Before, we get Dr Hajkowicz to say a few words, I'll give you a bit of background.
- Dr Hajkowicz is an infectious diseases and pandemic expert.

Talking Points

- He's already managed more than 200 COVID-19 patients as the Director of infectious diseases at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.
- Dr Hajkowicz has been on the frontline managing pandemics for more than a decade including the 2009 influenza pandemic, Ebola and Zika.
- Dr Hajkowicz graduated from the University of Queensland in 1999.
- He has worked in Brisbane, Rockhampton and Gympie, before completing his specialist training in Sydney and Darwin.
- He is an Associate Professor at the University of Queensland Centre for Clinical Research and holds a Master's Degree in Public Health.
- So as you can see, Dr Hajkowicz has considerable knowledge and frontline expertise of this virus and in dealing with a pandemic.
- He will have also three new Deputy Chief Health Officers, who all have extensive experience there to also assist him.
- So, Queensland is in very safe hands.

Talking Points

- Now, Dr Hajkowcz has some big shoes to fill.
- All of Queensland has got to know Dr Jeanette Young over the past 18 months.
- Queenslanders will still get to see her, in her new role as our Governor.
- She's spent 16 years in the role as our Chief Health Officer
- I asked her what she thought her top 5 achievements have been.
- Leading Queensland through the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Dr Young has halved Queensland's smoking rate to just 10 percent of the population.
- She has increased Queensland's child vaccination rates to 95 percent.
- Created a world class aeromedical retrieval service through partnerships with the Royal Flying Doctor Service and Lifeflight.
- And developed a new medical school in Central Queensland.
- Dr Young leaves an incredible legacy for Queensland and will continue to play a big part with her new role as Queensland's 27th Governor.

DRAFT MEDIA RELEASE

Premier and Minister for Trade
The Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk

FOR RELEASE: Xx October 2021

Appointment of new Queensland Chief Health Officer

Dr Krispin Hajkowicz will be Queensland's new Chief Health Officer, commencing on 1 November 2021.

Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk welcomed the appointment, saying Dr Hajkowicz would continue to help guide Queensland out of the pandemic.

"Dr Hajkowicz is a highly respected infectious diseases and pandemic expert, having managed more than two hundred COVID-19 patients as director of infectious diseases at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital," the Premier said.

"Queensland is in safe hands, and I know Dr Hajkowicz will continue the excellent work of our outgoing Chief Health Officer, Dr Jeannette Young.

"Queenslanders have been coming out in droves to get vaccinated, and continuing to drive vaccine uptake will be a focus for Dr Hajkowicz over the coming months."

Dr Hajkowicz graduated from the University of Queensland in 1999 and worked in Brisbane, Rockhampton and Gympie, before completing his specialist training in Sydney and Darwin. He has been on the front-line managing pandemics for more than a decade, including the 2009 influenza pandemic, Ebola and Zika. He is an Associate Professor at the University of Queensland Centre for Clinical Research and holds a Masters Degree in Public Health.

In 2016, Dr Hajkowicz established the Queensland Statewide Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, which provides an advice service for clinicians and plays a vital role in the preservation of antibiotics in Queensland. He also established the Queensland Adult Specialist Immunisation Service and the Herston Infectious Diseases Institute.

Minister for Health and Ambulance Services Yvette D'Ath said she looked forward to working closely with Dr Hajkowicz as Queensland turned its attention to life beyond the pandemic.

"COVID-19 will be with us for some time, but as vaccination rates increase and we put the worst of the pandemic behind us, we will be in a position to open up more," the Minister said.

"Dr Hajkowicz, with his extensive work on COVID-19, is ideally placed to ensure vaccination rates are maximised and the hospital system is prepared to care for clinical cases of COVID-19 in the future.

Dr Hajkowicz said he was excited and humbled to be selected as Queensland's next Chief Health Officer.

“Equity of access to our safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines is key. I’ll be working hard to ensure every eligible Queenslander, no matter where they live, has the opportunity to be fully vaccinated,” Dr Hajkowicz said.

“We need to make sure every eligible Queenslander has the opportunity to be protected as we plan the transition to COVID-19 as an endemic disease.

“In the future pandemics will be more common. It is vital that we learn the lessons of this pandemic to ensure we are optimally placed to respond to future emerging infectious diseases.”

Dr Hajkowicz’s transition into the top job will be aided by the recent appointment of three Deputy Chief Health Officers – Dr Peter Aitken, Dr Lynne McKinlay and Dr James Smith.

Dr Hajkowicz was appointed to the role following a meritorious selection process undertaken by a panel including two Queensland Directors-General and a serving interstate Chief Health Officer. He will officially commence as Chief Health Officer on 1 November 2021, but will complete a transition with Dr Young commencing from 4 October 2021. Dr Young commences as Governor of Queensland on 1 November 2021.

ENDS

Media contact: <PO to insert contact name and number>

Released under RUP/DPG

Dr Krispin Hajkowicz will officially commence as Queensland's Chief Health Officer on 1 November 2021.



After graduating from the University of Queensland in 1999, he worked at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH), and in Rockhampton and Gympie before completing specialist Infectious Diseases training in Sydney and Darwin. He returned to RBWH in 2012 and worked extensively in clinical roles in the public and private hospital system, including infectious diseases, HIV, general medicine and hospital-in-the-home.

He became a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in 2009, with qualifications in both Infectious Diseases and General Medicine and Acute Care. He received a Master of Public Health (Infectious Diseases Control) from the University of New South Wales and is an Associate Professor at the University of Queensland Centre for Clinical Research. He is an Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT) member and Executive Leadership Program Graduate.

Dr Hajkowicz led hospital responses to the H1N1 '09 influenza, Ebola virus disease and Zika virus pandemics, as well as managing the emergence of multi-drug resistant bacterial infections. He also played a key role in the introduction of new treatments for HIV and hepatitis C virus infection.

As Director of the Infectious Diseases Unit at RBWH and the Acting Director of the COVID-19 Service, in 2020 and 2021, Dr Hajkowicz led RBWH's response to COVID-19, including clinical management of people with COVID-19, infection control, novel therapeutics and vaccination. His contribution was acknowledged with a 2020 Metro North Hospital and Health Service (MNHHS) Staff Excellence Award for Leadership.

He founded the Queensland Statewide Antimicrobial Stewardship Program – a service that assists rural and remote clinicians in the optimal use of antibiotics; the Herston Infectious Diseases Institute – a clinical, research and educational collaboration of MNHHS that translates infectious diseases research into meaningful outcomes for patients; and the Queensland Adult Specialist Immunisation Service – an expert clinic supporting complex issues related to COVID-19 and other adult vaccinations.

Dr Hajkowicz has an extensive research track record, including 27 publications in medical journals and has written three book chapters. He is the recipient of several major research grants. He has supervised dozens of postgraduate trainees and higher-research degree candidates.

He is an enthusiastic trail ultra-marathon runner and football tragic.

