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## 17/10/2018

Dear CCBFA affiliate clubs nationally

## RE: Formation of Animal Care Australia (ACA) - requesting all clubs join

It is with pleasure that I inform clubs of the recent formation of a new national incorporated association representing the interests of all animal hobbyists. The idea of ACA was proposed at a meeting earlier this year between representatives from Canary and Cage Bird Federation (CCBFA), Herpetological Cooperative of NSW (HCN) and Dogs NSW. The main idea is to build an organisation to lobby for real animal welfare by the real animal welfare experts, those who keep, care for and breed animals. Essentially, we were sick and tired of extreme animal rights and animal liberationist ideologies and organisations influencing government legislation, regulation and policy at our expense.

The response from representatives of all animal hobbyist clubs and groups has been outstanding – we estimate our foundation ACA clubs currently represent well over 150,000 members – all voters!

The association is led by Dr Rob Zammit BVSc, with a strong committee composed of representatives for each major animal group – dogs, cats, birds, horses, reptiles, farm animals, small mammals and education. The attached membership form includes further details, including our mission statement and objects. The ACA Facebook page is now operating and our website is under construction – <a href="https://www.animalcareaustralia.org.au">www.animalcareaustralia.org.au</a> – so join in as we grow.

ACA has engaged with the NSW government and intends similar in other states and federally. In NSW we recently met with Niall Blair, NSW Minister for Primary Industries, hosted Kim Filmer, the new NSW Chief Animal Welfare officer and have Steve Coleman, CEO of NSW RSPCA presenting at our December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting (your club is welcome to attend – email me for details). We are in the process of scheduling further meetings with other political parties in the lead up to the March 2019 NSW election. We will be initiating similar in other states and federally as more interstate clubs join our ranks.

CCBFA resolved to collect donations to assist with start-up funds for ACA – refer to your affiliation and insurance renewal notice. Since this CCBFA resolution, ACA membership application forms have been finalised with a copy enclosed along with this letter. All clubs are encouraged to join ACA now – there is definitely strength in numbers. Associate membership is also available to individuals.

If everyone who keeps, cares for and breeds animals supports and is on board with this initiative we will have significant control of the animal welfare agenda!

Kind regards,

Sam Davis

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