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New Board Appointments seek to Boost Rural Health West's Advocacy Role

Rural Health West has appointed two new Board Directors with considerable advocacy and government experience as it seeks to boost its role as a leading advocate for rural and regional health reform.

Rural Health West Chairman Hon. Terry 'Tuck' Waldron said the Board was pleased to welcome former Chief Finance Officer of Fremantle Ports, Tanvi Haria and former Director of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia WA, Matthew Tweedie.

Mr Waldron said Ms Haria and Mr Tweedie each have considerable and outstanding senior board and executive experience along with leadership roles in advocacy and government.

"Rural Health West is excited to welcome both Tanvi and Matthew to our Board, particularly at a time when we are playing a much higher profile role in advocating for better health outcomes for people living in rural and remote communities," he said.

Mr Waldron said Ms Haria was joining the Board as Rural Health West's Company Secretary.

"Tanvi's former position of Chief Finance Officer, General Manager Commercial and Corporate Services, and Board Secretary at Fremantle Ports, which is one of the State's most successful trading enterprises, will bring extensive experience in senior government decision-making," he said.

Ms Haria's experience includes Non-Executive Board Member and Finance, Audit and Risk Committee member at Metropolitan Cemeteries Board, Resources Committee Member at Edith Cowan University, and Board Chair, Non-Executive Board Member, Treasurer and Chair Finance, Audit and Risk Committee at Neuro Muscular WA (formerly Muscular Dystrophy WA).

Mr Waldron said Mr Tweedie had over 30 years' experience as an executive and non-executive director in the public, private and NGO health and community sectors in Western Australia.

“Matt's former role as Director of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia WA, which promotes and advocates for the community pharmacy sector, will help guide our strategic advocacy work.”

Mr Waldron said Ms Haria was replacing long-time Rural Health West Board Director and Company Secretary, Liane Papaelias; while Mr Tweedie was replacing outgoing Board Director and Deputy Chair, Cathy Bolt both of whom had completed their terms.

“The Board would also like to extend its thanks to both Liane and Cathy who have made an outstanding contribution to Rural Health West over the course of their six-year terms,” he said.

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Rural Health West aims to improve access to quality healthcare for rural communities through the provision of a highly skilled, motivated and sustainable medical and allied health workforce. We are a not-for-profit organisation primarily funded through the WA Country Health Service and the Australian Government Department of Health.