



Media Statement

February 6, 2017

Peter Forbes appointed new Chairman of the LEI.

Chartered Accountant Peter Forbes is the new Chairman of the Lions Eye Institute (LEI) following the resignation of former Fortescue Metals Group CFO Stephen Pearce.

Mr Forbes is the former CEO of specialist medical indemnity provider MDA National and former Managing Director of its wholly owned insurer MDA National Insurance.

He is also currently a non-executive director on the East Metropolitan Health Service Board and the Local Government Insurance Scheme WA. He has also served on other Boards in Sydney and Melbourne in recent years.

LEI Managing Director Professor David Mackey said Mr Forbes had a wealth of experience and expertise that would be applied to the challenges of an ageing and growing population.

“The LEI is committed to growing our clinical, research and community outcomes to deliver on our vision of preventing and curing blindness and eye disease,” he said.

“A strong Board is central to achieving our goal.”

Mr Forbes, of Dalkeith, said he was delighted to take on the role of Chairman after serving the LEI Board as a director since 2014.

“Under Stephen Pearce’s Chairmanship, the Board has recently completed a major review led by external consulting firm, Mainsheet Capital, which primarily focused on completing an updated strategic plan for the LEI,” he said.

“I look forward to working with our Board and all our staff in the implementation of our updated plan as we have a number of exciting initiatives we will be implementing both in our clinical services to our patients and in research.”

Stephen Pearce, who was Chairman of the LEI since 2014 and a Board member since 2012, resigned after accepting the position of Executive Finance Director at London-based company Anglo-American.

Professor Mackey thanked Mr Pearce, saying he had guided the LEI through the implementation of key operational goals – raising funds to endow the *Ian Constable*

Chair in Basic and Translational Ophthalmic Science at UWA, the launch of the Lions Outback Vision Van and a major building renovation of the 20-year-old clinic.

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