



Te Ao Māramatanga
New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses

TE KARERE

Message from the President and Kaiwhakahaere

We trust that you will find inspiration and insights from this newsletter.

Kia ora college members

We are delighted that Dr Chris Taua has kindly agreed to be a co-editor of Te Karere. Many of you will know Chris who has been a College Fellow for several years. Thank you so much Chris.



We bring this newsletter to you post International Nurses Day – The theme was [A Voice to lead- Nursing the World to Health](#) and we would like to say a big thank you to all the work that you do each and every day to make a difference in people's lives. During this time, we have heard sterling examples of nurses rolling up their sleeves and just doing what needs to be done. Many nurses we have heard, have gone above and beyond. These contributions have certainly not gone unnoticed. While International Nurses Day has been traditionally focused on celebrating

Florence Nightingale's birthday there is now a greater appreciation that there have been many nurse pioneers and we therefore should celebrate nurses every day. We fully support this approach and look forward to sharing some of the great work that nurses are doing. In the section on our progress on the 2019 Annual Plan we provide information about some of the activities we did- [click here for a sneak peek](#).

We acknowledge, as in previous editions that this edition comes to you at a time of a global health crisis that sadly continues to ramp up in many countries. It is indeed distressing to bear witness to, and also a timely reminder of what a privilege it is to live in Aotearoa New Zealand.

We carry in our hearts the memories of the many nurses across the world who have lost their lives whilst caring for people and families with Covid-19. We know that the impact on nurses and their families is far reaching. As we write this on 5 July 2020 globally there are 10,922,324 cases and 523,011 deaths. We encourage you to please pause and take time to pay tribute to the thousands of nurses who are supporting this growing number of people, most will be supported to recover however some will leave this earth and often with a nurse at their bedside.

During the past few months and for many more to come our work as nurses supporting people with mental health and addiction needs and people with disabilities includes considering the impact of Covid-19 on people's lives. We know that there has been and will continue to be an increase in the demand for services and nurses will continue to play critical roles providing services.

In spirit, and in person, we will hold each other together as the Aotearoa – New Zealand whānau of mental health, addiction, and disability nurses. He aha te mea nui o te ao. What is the most important thing in the world? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata. It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.

In this July 2020 edition of Te Karere we bring to you:

- Message from the President and Kaiwhakahaere
- Board Vacancy
- Māori Caucus update
- Congratulation messages to Dr Tony O'Brien and Dr Daryle Deering
- Insights from Debra Lampshire ISPS-NZ Chairperson
- Reflections on nursing practice during Covid-19 Lockdowns
- Primary Mental Health and Addiction Credential Programme Update by Lois Boyd: Director of Credentialing
- First announcement: 7th International Conference of Te Ao Māramatanga-New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses
- 2020 Annual Plan Progress Report
- Scholarships
- COVID APP
- College Journal
- Call for articles

We trust that you will find inspiration and insights from this newsletter.

Ngā mihi Nui

Suzette Poole and Chrissy Kake

Board vacancy

We will commence a process soon to elect a Secretary, if this sounds like you, please watch for notifications. Here is your chance you get involved and add to the function of your College!

Māori Caucus update – Diary this date

Caucus have been busy over the recent months and therefore a full update is not available at this time. In the meantime, they would like to confirm that this year's Wananga will be held on **25-27 November 2020 at Te Titi Marae, Waitangi-Northland.**

The Kaupapa/Theme - We will be celebrating 180 years of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi / Year of the Maori Nurse.

Congratulations



Te Ao Māramatanga- NZCMHNurses congratulates Dr. Daryle Deering and Dr. Anthony (Tony) O'Brien on receiving a Queens birthday honour- Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

This is a fitting acknowledgment of the work that they both do and continue to do in mental health nursing and addiction nursing in Aotearoa- New Zealand. Their leadership as past Presidents of the College and current Fellows has been pivotal in shaping our College. Their continued guidance and support of the College greatly assists us all to keep moving forward. Their collective wisdom is at the heart of this College.

Thank you both for all that you do. Congratulations on a well-deserved honour. You have done yourselves, the College and mental health and addiction nursing proud. Read on to learn more about Daryle and Tony.

Dr Tony O'Brien

Tony has had a career in mental health nursing for 46 years.

An educator and prolific researcher and writer, Dr O'Brien has made a significant contribution to the development of mental health nursing as a rigorous, evidence-based profession. His many research contributions have led to practice change in the way that aspects of the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992 is interpreted and used by registered nurses. He is a clinical practitioner who was also a lecturer and senior lecturer at the University of Auckland between 1997 and 2019 and is currently Associate Professor of mental health nursing at the University of Waikato. He was the inaugural President of Te Ao Māramatanga – New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses and has continued to support the organisation for the past 17 years. His research has led to the redevelopment of police operational guidelines for the use of tasers in mental health emergencies and Dr O'Brien is now a member of the Community Liaison Group that the Police consult with over the use of force and other issues.



Dr Daryle Deering



It was a privilege to receive an honour in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. For me, it acknowledged the mental health and addiction nurses I have worked with over the years who have made a difference to the lives of people who face the challenge of mental health and addiction issues and their families and whanau. Also, an acknowledgement of those with lived experience who have had the courage to speak out about the facilitators and barriers to treatment that meets their needs.

My nursing career has included a mix of clinical, management, professional leadership, and university roles. My joint university (National Addiction Centre (NAC), University of Otago, Christchurch/Canterbury District Health Board) enabled me to always have a practice component to my work and to be involved with interdisciplinary colleagues in clinical research and evaluation, teaching and service-related activities. Practice and service-related activities included: development of community addiction services, addressing the needs of women and children, the expansion of opioid treatment with a harm reduction focus and the development of specialist youth mental health

and addiction services. With support from Matua Rāki and in collaboration with the Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia developing a NZ Addiction Nursing Framework that articulated addiction nursing and supporting nurses to become Nurse Practitioners were important collaborative activities. The NAC goal was to improve interventions with evaluated treatment outcomes for people affected by substance use and addictions in Aotearoa New Zealand. I had a particular focus on opioid treatment, supporting consumers as colleagues to be involved in all levels of treatment, research, and teaching. I had the privilege of supporting nurses in undertaking postgraduate study, all who ‘juggled’ work, study, whanau, and families. Many of these nurses have become leaders in the mental health and addiction field. I also had the privilege of spending time in the UK, Australia and the US, visiting a range of services and universities which reinforced the important role nurses play, particularly in policy development and areas where health services are scarce, need is great, and access a challenge.

Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia and Te Ao Māramatanga have been important professional bodies. I acknowledge the support both have provided over many years and the opportunity afforded to provide a voice for nursing. Given the challenges that currently face New Zealanders, I believe the College can have a significant impact on health policy and on demonstrating, with increased flexibility, that mental health and addiction and intellectual disability nurses make a difference to people’s lives. The College can be a strong voice in collaboration with other bodies in arguing for a vision for Aotearoa New Zealand that is kinder to our planet and more inclusive of all our citizens and their wellbeing. For each of us as nurses, it is important that as our patron Dame Margaret and people who have been affected by mental health and addiction related issues have continually made clear that we place a high priority on ‘going where the people (in need) are’, listen to the people experiencing the ‘problems’, and ‘listen to understand, not to talk.’

Insights from Debra Lampshire, ISPS-NZ Chairperson – shared with permission

As I am sure you are no doubt aware, COVID-19 is rapidly changing the world as we know it. With this pandemic has come new conversations, new language, new phrases, and the term “social distancing” becoming a part of our vernacular. Suddenly, we find talk of people needing to isolate themselves and occurrences of “lock down” around the world becoming commonplace.

On reflection, it appears the world is getting but a small glimpse of the lives of those with lived experience; for whom exclusion from society, loneliness, sheer boredom, and assault on our personal rights is a daily struggle. It would appear loneliness is now an “issue” for the general population, where it has been a tenet for those of us with lived experience for many years. In fact, I would tentatively assert that those with lived experience are perhaps more well suited, if not even better equipped, to deal with this pandemic than our “chronically normal” compatriots.

This is not to infer that all people with lived experiences are coping, but rather that many are utilising their personal resourcefulness and skills accumulated from their own experiences of mental distress to deal with the COVID-19 situation.

It is not my intent to trivialise, for the cost has been too great. However, the current situation gives us the opportunity to explore how we, as a society, can navigate this new landscape. A new platform has arisen for us to speak to a new set of priorities and give voice to that which we truly treasure. It has provided us a chance to build a new social platform rooted in kindness, social inclusion, and empathy towards all peoples.

I believe the repercussions of this pandemic will continue long after this virus has been eradicated. We must position ourselves now to take this once in a generation opportunity to extract from this tragedy the learning, creativity, and compassion that is emerging from this event. We invite all members of ISPS, and those outside of ISPS, to submit their learning from the current situation.

We would welcome the sharing and insights of how and what people are doing to steer their way through this confronting and confusing time. We ask that you endeavour to share the encouraging and enriching stories that you are witness to, and we will provide a resource for you to do so. This virus does not discriminate, and as such we must not either. We cannot afford to lay waste to the wisdom and knowledge that has the potential to benefit many. This is the time to reach out, for in reaching out, “we will rise up”.

Reflections on nursing practice during Covid–19 Lockdowns

The following brief but thoughtful reflections are from nurses asked a short set of questions around their experiences during lockdown. Read on:

Name: Carole Kennedy

Role: Nurse Director

How did you adapt your nursing practice during this time?

I completed the medication management module on Ko Awatere – for any clinical work I might be asked to step into. I worked in consult liaison for one day. A small contribution but loved the clinical contact with tangata whaiora.

I was involved in the IMI clinic supporting the work of Sharon who was coordinating all IMIs returning to our service. Practical assistance, stocktake, updating processes, and reviewed all external IMI’s – to assess if these people could be considered for transitioning to a GP practice.



What made you proud during this time?

Seeing how the entire service came together at a leadership level, at an operational level and how everyone was in this together. No silos – this is definitely the value of virtual technology.

Nurses learning how to adapt quickly to change, working on rosters, and for those that were on the clinical floor – coming to work every day to make a difference. Those working from home with limited technical platforms.

What impact do you think Covid-19 will have on the future of nursing?

The art of communication through different mediums – therapeutic alliance and being responsive. Nurses leading the way.

Nurses represent 40% of our workforce, across the sectors, we have a leadership structure to support our nurses on the clinical floor. Applying a holistic approach to care, we consider the social and economic factors that impact on their lives. We are solution focused, strengths-based recovery in action.

Name: Sarina Sharma

Role: RN@Pharmacy547

How did you adapt your nursing practice during this time?

We are a private company therefore we had to do everything ourselves very quickly. All the Shareholders and Managers had to come in the evenings to make plans as to how to make the Covid-19 friendly changes. We had to strategically look at all the different aspects of the business, which aspects could be made contactless and which had to be put on hold or transferred back to the DHB.



As the Nurse Manager, I had to, not only think of the patient safety but also our staff safety. With no PPE given to us, we were in a very compromising position for the service we provide in the community of medication oversight where staff visit patients in their homes and of administering intramuscular injections in our IMI clinic.

Steps I had to take for staff and patient safety and minimise patients' health from deteriorating while observing the Covid-19 protocols:

- Reorganising rooms to keep social distancing
- Source PPE
- Assess medication oversight patients then reduce the visits to once daily visit from twice daily
- Re-rostering and splitting the shifts for staff so that not everyone was at work at the same time
- Reducing contact for IMI patients and easy access into the Pharmacy without compromising anyone
- Write Covid-19 protocols for our services
- Communicate our Covid-19 protocols to our service users
- Write letters to all our medication oversight patients in advance prior to the changes taking place, informing them of the changes they will be having from our service
- Record contact tracing

What made you proud during this time?

Even though it was a scary and unknown time, I am proud of all the staff who put themselves aside and focused on what needed doing. We all knew we were on the same side and that we had to protect our patients and each other. Everyone took extra responsibilities willingly to cater for patients to stay at home by delivering their medications.

What impact do you think Covid-19 will have on the future of nursing?

I think the whole world is suddenly a new world for everyone. In nursing the impact will be felt by both the nurses and the patients. The idea of always keeping the distance is there, hence it could remove the personal touch. Giving hugs or a pat on the hand will not be given freely to patients who are vulnerable and elderly. Wearing PPE in itself put a barrier between nurses and patients and made it difficult to achieve the therapeutic alliance. The world will become a virtual world and human contact is going to be minimum. Nursing could become a world of caring from afar.

Nurses are ...ordinary mortals turned into superheroes' despite overwhelming obstacles!!

Name: Simmi Singh-Parmar

Role: CNS – CADS Waikato DHB

How did you adapt your nursing practice during this time?

I believe, to a certain extent, our nursing training had prepared us for moments such as these... we are aware of the everchanging nature of health and adaptable with our skill set in moments of crisis. At the heart of nursing is the people we work with and ensuring we support best health outcomes. During the pandemic, we had to look beyond our core business and work quickly to identify and support those that required extra support during this time. We had to balance the requirements outlined by government to enforce social distancing and yet remain connected with those we work with.



How did we do that? Reassuring people we are available- being there for that scheduled phone call; knowing that we can come and see you if you needed support and ensuring that we are all properly protected and using all safety measures; being flexible in our practice (supporting our service users with quick and smooth transitions to pharmacies out of area so they can hibernate in their respective bubbles) are just a few examples.

What made you proud during this time?

All of us kiwis- we were kind, respectful and swift across this time period. We were all in this together and were in every which way supportive of each other.

What impact do you think Covid-19 will have on the future of nursing?

It reassured me that there is still a future in nursing and that it is still a valid and respected profession. Hopefully, will entice more people to the profession (fingers crossed).

Nurses are ...adaptable and dynamic.

Name: Hugh Tomlinson

Role: Community Mental Health Nurse, CADS Waikato DHB

How did you adapt your nursing practice during this time?



Working from home I found having to work with the constraints of technology challenging and illuminating. Without the face to face contact, I had to be more focused on aural skills to detect nuance in tone etc. The time I had spent in triage helped in this respect.

What made you proud during this time?

The main thing I found pride in was the team spirit in CADS. There was a lot of support and ingenuity as well as acceptance.

What impact do you think Covid-19 will have on the future of nursing?

My feeling is that Covid-19 has accelerated the use of remote working technologies. During these times they have been an alternative way of practicing, whilst moving on I would hope they become an adjunct to our practice.

Nurses are... skilled and flexible with a history of adapting to a changing world.

Primary Mental Health and Addiction Credential Programme Update

by Lois Boyd, Director of Credentialing

Over the past 3 months all the credential programmes have been paused as primary care nurses and mental health and addiction nurses are involved in Covid-19 responses. Programmes are now mostly planning to resume in June or July.

Contact with primary care nurses indicates that they have been responding to increased levels of distress, anxiety, and problematic substance use. Another key aspect has been coaching people in distress, with immediate concerns, to problem solve. People who have never experienced being without work, being uncertain about future prospects and having high levels of stress relating to both financial and broader psychosocial concerns. Family violence has also been a more prominent concern that both primary care and mental health and addiction nurses have been reporting, as people have been required to stay home, in often stressful circumstances.

It has been very encouraging to observe, both locally and nationally, the government and healthcare leadership prioritising and valuing mental health and addiction practice as vital to support health and wellbeing, both during the pandemic and as an ongoing priority for our health services. This feels like a significant shift in the wider health system culture and

values and confirmation of the importance of our collective mahi.

As the new programme funding has been confirmed, we have been doing a lot of work behind the scenes, working closely with Te Pou, to establish reporting and infrastructure to manage the next stages of programme development. There will be announcements about the detail of this in the coming months but if anyone has enquiries about the possibilities of establishing a programme in your area, or anything relating to current or future programme development, please make contact.

The programme has a College Reference Group, chaired by Heather Casey. The Group are meeting fortnightly by zoom to inform and support ongoing programme development. The Reference Group members are: Heather Casey, Anne Brebner, Bart Van Gaalen, Raeleen Toia and Daryle Deering.

We continue to appreciate the support of many College members in both the local delivery, development and assessment support that is provided to make the programme work. It is a truly collaborative effort and one that as a College we can be proud of.

COVID-19: Āwhina app

Āwhina puts tailored COVID-19 information in the hands of health workers.

A useful app to download: Use Āwhina to stay up to date on the latest information relevant to the health and disability sector and receive notifications when content is added or updated. Āwhina was developed initially to make COVID-19 information easily accessible to health workers; now we are beginning to use Āwhina for other important information.

You can download the Āwhina app free on your phone or tablet from the App Store (Apple users) or Google Play (Android).



FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT WATCH THIS SPACE

College Conference

The College in collaboration with the Nelson branch are absolutely delighted to announce the:

7th International Conference of Te Ao Māramatanga-New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses

to be held on
Thursday 4th November and Friday 5th November 2021
at the
[Founders Heritage Park](#)
87 Atawhai Drive
Nelson

Presentations and workshops will be provided
The conference dinner will include the Fellowship ceremony

We plan to announce:

- ✓ More details by November 2020
- ✓ Guest speakers by February 2021
- ✓ Draft programme by March 2021
- ✓ Call for abstracts by April 2021
- ✓ Opening of registrations around May/June

For more information please contact

Jodi Roberts- Nelson Branch chair Jodi.Roberts@nbph.org.nz

or **Suzette Poole**- President suzettepoole@nzcmhn.org.nz

So... Mark this in your diary now
and perhaps start planning a holiday in this beautiful part of Aotearoa New Zealand

Progress on 2020 Annual Plan

Our plan for 2020 is ambitious and despite the Covid-19 pandemic we are continuing to make good progress. Our strategic plan is a Poutama

of four key focus areas and each year we identify the activities to be completed. Click here for [2020 Plan](#).

1. Spirit of partnership & working relationships are founded on Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Through our close relationships with Te Rau Ora, Māori Nursing Leaders, Nursing Council of New Zealand, Ministry of Health we continue to work collaboratively on initiatives to grow and develop the Māori Mental Health Nursing work force.

Planning is still underway for the 2020 Māori Mental Health Nursing Wananga which will be held at Te Tii Marae in Paihia-Northland on 25-27 November 2020.

We are contributing to the Nursing Council of NZ's two-year project to review the preparation of new registered nurses for the workforce which includes kawa whakaruruhau (cultural safety)- **Guidelines for Cultural Safety**.

The College is a member of the national Nurse Leader Group that is updating the terms of

reference to operate within a Treaty Relationship Governance (TRG) model that simulates an approach to engaging with te Tiriti and tangata whenua. We will update you again in the next newsletter and share with you this new Model.

We would like to draw your attention to the:

Wai 2575 Health Services and Outcomes Kaupapa Inquiry as this is shaping decisions about health services now and will continue to do so in the future. This Inquiry was initiated in November 2016 and the Waitangi Tribunal Health Services and Outcomes Inquiry (Wai 2575) will hear all claims concerning grievances relating to health services and outcomes of national significance for Māori.

Click [here](#) for further information

2. Valuing nurses working in and toward enhancing mental health, addictions, and disability needs of New Zealanders

We are still in the process of developing an expression of interest to contract someone to undertake the review of the Mental Health Nursing Standards. This work will be overseen by the College Manager.

We are delighted to include in this newsletter the first announcement for the 2021 biennial international conference that is hosted by the Nelson Branch and will be held on 4 & 5 November 2020. We continue to support branch activities and regional or local forums. We continue to support the national [Addiction Nurses](#)

and [Disability Nurses](#) branches. The President joined the Addiction Nurses Branch in their meeting with the Chief Executive of Te Pou to discuss the level of support offered by Matua Rāki to addiction nurses.

The President joined the Chair of the Disability Nurses Branch to meet with the Chief Nurses Office and Chief Advisor- Disability.

There are a number of activities happening in the area of disability particularly around workforce development. The national Disability Nurses

Branch will connect into key people and be actively involved in supporting and leading that change.

Quick update on College Branch activity:

- Disability Nurses- National event planning underway.
- Addiction Nurses - National event planning underway.
- Northland
- Auckland- Event being planned
- Waikato- reconvening
- Lakes- Event being planned
- Wellington
- Nelson- Hosting 2021 conference
- Dunedin

Great news, there is an interest in forming a Canterbury Branch so watch that space. We have a number of members in Midcentral also so it would be awesome to see a branch started in this area. Other branches that have been mooted include a national branch for Pasifika Nurses and one for nurses supporting older people.

We continue to work with and be guided by the Patron for the College -Dame Margaret Bazley. During the initial phase of Covid-19 Dame Margaret provided support to the President. She expressed delight with the news about Dr. Tony O'Brien and Dr. Daryle Deering.

3. Te Ao Māramatanga is the professional body for nurses working in and toward enhancing mental health, disability & addiction of New Zealander

Through your membership fees the College is able to provide a voice for mental health, addiction, and disability nursing at a range of forums. This includes being part of a National Nursing Leaders' Group (NNLg) and participating in national nursing projects and activities. Over the past few months, we have been extremely active.

The President and Kaiwhakahaere represent the College on the National Nursing Leaders' Group (NNLg) previously known as the National Nursing Organisational Group. The NNLgroup is a collaborative forum of nursing leaders from Nursing's key stakeholder organisations of employers, educators, professional bodies, the nursing regulator- Nursing Council of New Zealand (NCNZ), and the Ministry of Health (the Ministry). NNLg provides a national platform for nursing leaders to come together to discuss, consult and develop consensus positions on key nursing strategy and other matters of significance. Members will soon be able to read the key messages from these meetings via our own website shortly. Meanwhile the College of Nurses website is a repository for meeting minutes (you can access this link [he re](#))

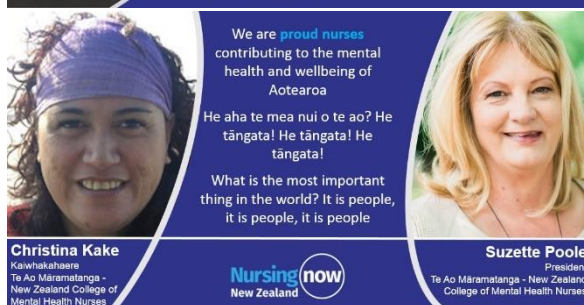
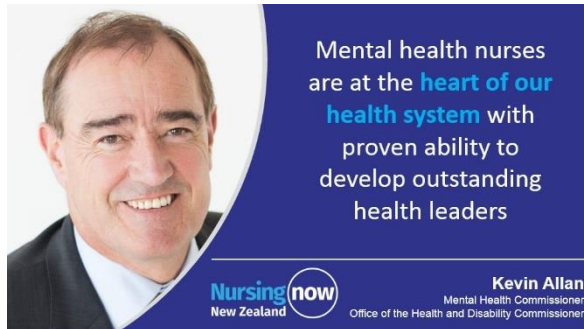
During the initial stages of the **Covid-19 pandemic the NNL group** met weekly to provide nursing leadership. We were joined by Dr Frances Hughes- College Fellow who is now working in the Aged Care sector. It was great to be in regular contact with this group and be at the forefront of raising issues and working together to find solutions.

We participated in designing a number of activities for **International Nurses Day**. This included designing a **webinar** that was attended by over 170 people listening to a range of speakers, including two well-known mental health nurses. This related to 2020 International Year of the Nurse and drew on this year's theme, 'Nursing the World to Health', particularly in the context of COVID-19. The session commenced with videos from the Minister of Health Dr David Clark and Elizabeth Iro, Chief Nurse at the World Health Organisation and then moved onto an appearance in person from Dr Ashley Bloomfield. Three inspirational Nurse leaders then shared their perspective of the International Nurses Day theme - Nursing the World to Health. Thank you to Felicity Gapes (Nightingale Award recipient 2019), Moe Milne (Te Akenehi Hei Award

recipient 2018) and Dr Frances Hughes who shared how nurses in the aged care sector have responded to COVID-19.

We contributed to a short video that along with the [webinar video can be found on this website](#)

We have also assisted in creating **post card testimonials** about the value of nursing. Check these out [here](#).



Contributing to NNLg discussions about the **education of nurses** continues to be an area of focus. On behalf of the College we provide a

voice on a committee to design an education consensus and collaboration workshop about pre-registration of nurses. This was planned for early May and has now been deferred to November. We also met with the Nursing Council of NZ to discuss mental health, addiction, and disability nursing education.

In terms of contributing to Policy and reviews we have provided feedback on three areas of focus:

1. Integrated mental health and addiction care in the primary health setting; workforce development requirements. From Te Pou
2. Kia Kaha, Kia Māia, Kia Ora Aotearoa: COVID-19 Psychosocial and Mental Wellbeing Recovery Plan.
3. Draft Terms of Reference and core standards for performance reviews of responsible authorities

In the last newsletter we advised that the College contributed to a letter penned by the Mental Health Foundation to the Minister of Justice regarding the pilot project to arm Police. We were incredibly gratified to see that on 9 June 2020, the Police Commissioner Andrew Coster announced that Armed Response Teams (ARTs) will not be part of the New Zealand policing model in the future. See link [here](#).

We were advised that the Health Quality & Safety Commission's Mental Health & Addiction Quality Improvement Programme key stakeholder group was disestablished and will update you once we know more about the rationale.

We have finalised the research fund form.

We have now finalised the Rita McEwan – NP fund form.

Future Proofing and Planning

We have yet to lobby to MOH for an increase in funding of education and training of nurses to support people with mental health, addiction needs and people with disabilities. However, we will be contributing to a review about Health Workforce funding. At the 3rd July NNLg

meeting, we met with Professor Judy McGregor, Chair of the Health Workforce Advisory Board. This board was established late last year and works in partnership with the Ministry of Health to provide strategic oversight and sector leadership for New Zealand's health workforce. More information on members, purpose and function is available on the [Health Workforce Advisory Board webpage](#).

We will also progress setting up a meeting with the Health Workforce Directorate as soon as we are able (a further link to this detail can be accessed [here](#)).

We have yet to lobby for an increase in funding to enable nurses to develop a range of therapeutic approaches however we will be contributing to a review regarding Health Workforce funding.

We have been advised that due to Covid-19 that Health Workforce New Zealand have put on hold the four-year recruitment campaign for mental health nurses. As situations settle, we will follow this up. We received funding to expand the College Credentialing Programme to develop primary care nurses, please see the [update](#) from Lois Boyd- Programme Director.

We are yet to update current MOUs and identify further opportunities to create MOUs with other relevant and important entities and groups. This work will be undertaken by the College Manager.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we will review how we can connect with MoH departments and personnel, i.e. Mental Health and Addiction Directorate, The MH Commission, Deputy

Director General office at the MOH and Minister of Health.

We have not as yet progressed our efforts to collaborate with DoMHNurses to update a position statement on professional supervision.

We have yet to design an information sheet for members on stakeholder relationships.

We are still in the process of developing an expression of interest to contract someone to undertake the writing of a paper on Mental Health, Addiction & Disability Nursing building on the Mental Health Nursing Framework discussion document (2006) and two workshops held at the 2019 conference. This work will be overseen by the College Manager.

Due to Covid- 9 and a change in the President and Vice President of the Australian College of MH Nursing we have not progressed building this relationship, but this remains closely on our radar.

We made some initial progress on building our relationships with international Mental, Addiction & Disability Nursing groups via a group that was interested in setting up a website to support nurses during the Covid-19 pandemic however this is in early days.

We have progressed building some of our relationships with people with lived experience of mental health, addiction and people with disabilities and peer-led organisations.

4. Te Ao Māramatanga is relevant, thriving, and sustainable

We have contracted a Human Resource Consultant, Catherine Stapleton, to assist the College to develop a position description for the people we need to contract in to complete work for the College. The part-time College Manager role is currently being scoped up and we plan to have this position filled by early

August. We are also working with the HR consultant to develop a conflict of interest policy and the cost of indemnity insurance for members.

Our new accountant Michelle Hill from BDO in Rotorua is working with us to streamline our

finance systems and our accounts for auditing have been prepared.

Our legal firm, Shelley Greer, Senior Solicitor from GallieMilles is providing advice on the contracts we are developing for our contractors.

The AGM will be held on 2nd November 4-5pm via phone conference or Zoom.

We have commenced work on improving our emailing system and e-file system.

We are still working on finding a suitable website designer and will be considering some proposals soon.

We will commence development of desk files for all College roles and templates for meetings once the College Manager is appointed.

We will continue to identify what tools/resources are needed to support nurses in practice, please do let us know your ideas on this.

Kerry Cross, the College Registrar, is busy working on updating the College brochure and looking into pads and pens.

Every quarter we do a membership rollover and at in June our membership sits at 262. This process also picks up on people whose membership has stopped which can be for a number of reasons. The College Executive Assistant and Registrar work closely to contact this group to support them to renew their

membership. We continue to host a College page on Facebook social media.

We have purchased a licence for Zoom. This enables the College Board to meet via Zoom and also can be used for other College meetings. During the initial phases of Covid-19 we set up 20 one-hour evening Zoom sessions for members. Although this was not as successful as we hoped it did provide an opportunity for President and Kaiwhakahaere to link with members. We will explore how we can use Zoom to connect with members on a more regular basis. Therefore, watch that space.

The College continues to meet monthly and we are delighted to now be using Zoom for our meetings. The dates are 20 July, 17 August, 21 September, 19 October, 16 November, and 21 December.

Events calendar

We have put together an events calendar which is updated on a regular basis. This is available in the Members' Only area of the College website. You will need to log in to view the full year [Calendar of Events](#).

International Journal of Mental Health Nursing

Don't forget that by being a member of Te Ao Māramatanga you have free access to the Journal. The College strongly encourages nurses in practice, academics, and researchers to consider writing and submitting articles for publication to the Journal. You can access the Journal and the Wiley site through your membership page once you have [signed in](#).



Scholarships

On your members site you will find details about the following scholarships available to mental health, addictions, and disability nurses. The **Rita McEwan Fund** provides financial support for the role development of Mental Health Nurse Practitioners in New Zealand. In 2020, the Fund was extended to include Addiction and Disability Nurse Practitioners. The **Te Ao Māramatanga Research scholarship Fund** is to assist members to undertake viable research of value to mental health, addiction, and disability nursing. You can access further detail [here](https://www.nzcmhn.org.nz/Members-Area/Scholarships) (<https://www.nzcmhn.org.nz/Members-Area/Scholarships>)

We want your stories, summaries of research studies and other interesting information to add to this newsletter.

If you have items of interest, research summaries, stories from practice we want to hear about them. Please send any details, summaries to the editor at christaua56@gmail.com with 'NZCMHN Newsletter' in the subject line. Feel free to send any queries also.

Thank you for taking time to read this edition of *Te Karere*.
Keep well, keep safe and stay aware.