



Te Ao Māramatanga
New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses

TE KARERE

Editorial April 2021

By Chris Taua

Kia ora koutou and welcome to the first issue of *Te Karere* for 2021.

Well, the year 2021 started off as fast as 2020 ended with the ongoing concerns and considerations around the Covid -19 pandemic. From my conversations with colleagues in practice, I am hearing numerous stories where the stress of the current environment is now really taking its toll on the citizens of Aotearoa and it is indeed mental health nurses who are at the forefront responding to that toll. Be kind to yourselves in doing so.

This issue is again a full and interesting one, revealing the myriad of work being undertaken by the Board and others. The update from our President highlights that busyness. You will read how Helen Hamer as your College Manager has been enthusiastically getting around various groups to discuss her role and how she can support the development of mental health nursing in various branches and sections. Lois Boyd as Credentialing Manager has put a call out for a Credentialing Assessment Coordinator to assist in the growth in this area. Read on for a lot more information.

Having put this issue together I pondered on the amount and depth of work already undertaken in the three short months of this year and it reminded me of the whakatauki "*He rau ringa e oti ai*" which essentially translates as "*many hands make light work*", a fact revealing itself indeed in the work discussed here. What you will read is that combination of hands so actively undertaking an enormous variety of mahi within and for the College. Helen as College Manager also offers suggestions where she can work with and alongside you all in order to grow that work further for the College and for the benefit of mental health nurses and those folk, we all support every day. Take a moment to think where your hands and indeed your mind might lighten the load.

In this March 2021 edition of *Te Karere* we bring to you:

- [Message from the President and Kaiwhakahaere](#)
- [News from the College Manager](#)
- [Bulletin from the College Board](#)
- [College Annual Plan 2021](#)
- [Primary Mental Health and Addiction Credential Programme Update](#)
- [Research Participants wanted](#)
- [News from Regions, Branches and Specialist Areas](#)

Message from the President and Kaiwhakahaere

Tēnā koutou katoa

As we leave 2020 behind us with all that it brought to people globally as well as in New Zealand, we step into 2021 perhaps a bit exhausted knowing that there will be swings and roundabouts as we adjust to living in a world with Covid-19. Readjustment and responding go hand-in-hand. Thank you too for your commitment to your profession and to the people you work with each and everyone. Despite the challenges I see, I still hear nurses say they continue to come to work to make a positive difference in people's lives. Your tenacity is admired.



This year we have an ambitious annual plan which we believe will help in leading the profession forward as we enter a time of system change. We fully appreciate that many nurses are working to full capacity and beyond with the impact of Covid-19 hitting hard on people in our communities.

Mental health is now a topic openly discussed and new approaches to supporting people rapidly introduced. It is time for our profession to make sense of where we are and provide clear direction about how we will continue to play a pivotal role in the future. Our focus for March and April will be scoping out the many projects we have planned. Our new website is currently being developed and we plan to launch by May 2021.

In June, the Board will meet in Queenstown to consider where we have come from and where we are going. We will consider feedback from members gathered by the College Manager. The outcome will be a draft strategic plan which will be then be circulated to members to consider. The final plan will be submitted to the AGM in November for your approval.

Board membership changes- Following a call of expressions of interest from members to be considered for a National Board position we are delighted to announce the appointments of [Veronica \(Ronnie\) Polkinghorne](#) and [Zoe-Jane Porter](#). Helen Hamer a previous incumbent picked up the College Manager role. An election for a new President will commence later this year as my four-year tenure comes to an end. In addition, another National Board position vacancy will also arise as Heather Casey also ends her four-year term.

Connecting with branches- Whilst Helen Hamer – College Manager has been busy making connections with the College branch chairs, I have also managed to connect with nurses in the South Island. In February, I met with the Nelson branch members Jodi Roberts and Lewis Boyles and several other nurses. Members highlighted several burning issues including: wellbeing and safety of nurses, leadership across the health sector; disparity between NGOs and DHBs regarding access to education; and really, what is mental health nursing in today's world? Conversations with members like this are vital and help inform activities and actions we need to take as a College as well as raising issues at key stakeholder meetings.

In March, I joined via Zoom, a meeting in Christchurch with nurses interested in forming a local branch. It was great to connect and thank you so much Emma McKenzie and Patsy Tarrant for organising this forum. We look

forward to supporting you to develop a branch in Christchurch. With Helen's energy and support we hope that all of you as members will see the benefits of the new College Manager role.

Conference 2022

In March, whilst in Nelson, I met with the 2022 conference planning committee and Lewis took me for a tour of the proposed venue. The Nelson branch remain committed to delivering the College conference and are excited about what they can offer. We plan to hold this event in early November 2022. A second announcement with more details will be released by July this year.

Stakeholder engagement

In March I met with the following people:

- Angela Gruar to update MOU with Te Pou
- Helen Garrick – NZNO: MH Nurses section
- Directors of Mental Health Nursing
- Dame Margaret Bazley
- MOH- Mental Health & Addiction Directorate
- The University of Auckland around the NP and EN programme

- I also attended the Powhiri of the new Chief Nurse, Lorraine Hetaraka (Tapuika, Ngāti Pikiao, Ngāiterangi, Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāti Kahu) and the Te Ara Tūpuna Rangatira - Celebrating Leadership - Courageous and Bold forum in Wellington.

April meetings will include:

- Alan Jones from Kites Trust to update MOU
- MOH- Chief Nurses Office team
- Anna Clarke -MOH- Health Workforce Directorate
- National Nurse Leaders group
- PSA to update MOU.
- The University of Auckland around the NP and EN programme

Outcomes of these meetings and events will be shared with you in the next newsletter.

Thank you for your continued loyalty to the College.

Ngā mihi nui

Suzette Poole

News from the College Manager

Helen Hamer

College Annual Plan

The College has prepared its next Annual Plan which describes our direction of travel through to the end of 2021. As a College, we are guided by the following four tenets and the plan signals the range of actions to meet these aspirations:

- To work in the spirit of partnership and collaborative relationships that are founded on Te Tiriti o Waitangi;
- To value nurses working in and toward enhancing mental health, addiction and the disability needs of New Zealanders;

- That Te Ao Māramatanga is the professional body for nurses working in and toward enhancing mental health, disability, and addiction of New Zealanders; and
- That Te Ao Māramatanga is relevant, thriving, and sustainable.

We have attached the link to the [2021 Annual Plan](#).

We look forward to your comments and your interest in being involved in any of the workplan activities, either through your College Branch or as an individual to assist and/or contribute to the Board's delivery of the 2021 workplan.

Feedback please to Helen Hamer, College Manager at manager@nzcmhn.org.nz

College Submissions:

Some of the Board members have been busy preparing and sending submissions on behalf of the College. The intention is to streamline these requests as they usually arrive in the President's mailbox or are sent on by other professional groups who believe a College response is essential, therefore we often have little time to prepare these. We will however endeavour to provide a timely process for all College members to make their contribution to future submissions, and we will inform you of this process prior to or in the next newsletter. Meantime, please email College Manager, [Helen Hamer](#) for any feedback, or to signal your interest in being involved, including your areas of interest e.g., equity, future of nursing education, the law, primary care integration, implementation of He Ara Oranga report, supporting lived experience roles, etc.

We often do College only submissions, and increasingly are now collaborating on joint submission requests where we share similar expertise.

Here is a summary of our feedback on a recent joint submission on a policy drafted by the Australasian College of Emergency Medicine and the Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists:

Te Ao Māramatanga New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses would like to congratulate ACEM/RANZCP for taking the first step in developing a 'Medical Assessment of Patients Presenting to the Emergency Department with Mental Health Conditions Bi-National Joint Policy' to improve the care of people with mental health and addictions lived experience.

While Te Ao Māramatanga New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses are thankful for having this invitation to provide feedback on the first draft, we would support this policy in principle if more work was done on expanding the statement that alongside the 'completed medical assessment' process, the policy needs to be

broadened to show commitment to an holistic assessment process that is clearly defined and outlines the use of a multi-disciplinary, collaborative approach which would incorporate a patient centred, culturally responsive, equity focused, holistic health assessment and evaluation process, ensuring a whanau ora and recovery approach. In principle this is a good policy, aspirational and will be possible to implement if work is done closely with NP's & RNs in ED and with other key essential cultural and liaison roles.

We always look forward to your feedback on any of our submissions which we can collect for future submissions on the range of policies, national plans, and professional topics. Copies of recent submissions can be found on the [Publications](#) tab on the home page of the website.

Meeting with the Branch Chairpersons

As College Manager, I recently hosted two zoom meetings with the Branch Chairs from across the rohe. The aim of the meeting was to support the Chairs (and secretaries) of the branches and to establish the types of topics that would be of relevance for their members. These topics are likely to vary depending on the members' needs however we believed that there are national topics of interest that would lend themselves to a webinar. Some examples of are listed below:

- Wellbeing of nurses
- An equity focus, and culturally safe practice
- The impact on our practice of the future changes in health and social sector
- Mental Health Act, other legislation, and role of the DAMHS
- Trauma informed care
- Physical health and wellbeing of whaiora/whānau
- Guidelines for nurses' documentation e.g., writing notes collaboratively, increasing the evidence of nursing focused interventions in clinical notes
- Considering the risk versus safety approach in mental health care
- Primary care integration

- Reducing seclusion

Our Canterbury colleagues also hosted their inaugural (or reboot!) of their Branch in early March, where President, Suzette Poole, presented her update of the current sector environment, relevant national and international news that will impact on members.

As we have indicated in this edition's news items – the Board activities and College Annual Plan, - the Board is committed to developing a

programme of activities such as a series of webinars in 2021, followed by educational activities from early 2022. Please send your ideas for topics not listed above to your Branch or Helen Hamer, College Manager.

Ngā mihi nui

Helen P Hamer, RN, PhD
College Manager

E: manager@nzcmhn.org.nz

Mob: 021 500 517

Bulletin from the College Board

We have almost completed the first quarter of 2021 which has proved again to be a busy time for our volunteer Board members. We have provided a list of some of the key activities we have focused on below:

January

We commenced work on our 2021 Annual Plan which signals our work for the rest of the year (please see detailed item in this newsletter). The Plan aims to support College members to continue to keep up to date with the current and future changes within the health and social sector. The Plan also indicates how we can support the Branches to offer valuable resources, knowledge delivered by webinars and development of educational packages. The Board members also took a stocktake across the role of the workforce shortages and the subsequent impact on the wellbeing of our members and broader workforce. We also prepared a submission on the [Nursing education standards for programmes leading to registration as a registered nurse](#).

February

Our President, Suzette Poole, met with Stephen McKernan, the Director of the Health and Disability Review who is leading the review. We began discussions about reviewing our standards of practice to ensure they remain contemporary. We began planning for our annual College planning days to meet face to face and set our objectives for the coming year. We reviewed our finances and held preliminary discussions around applying for tax exemption. The Board discussed the significance of presenting a paper on the future of Mental Health, Addiction and Disability Nursing in New Zealand for the next ten years and work is underway to scope this. We continued to develop the new College website and began planning details for national webinars that will support members to keep up to date with current and future context of health delivery.

March

The Annual Plan has been finalised by the Board and available to members, the workforce and others who may be interested in the role and the functions of the College. The Board agreed to develop a collaborative with the NZNO Mental Health Nurses' section, and the national Directors of Mental Health Nursing (DoMHNs) to prepare a report that shows our collective voice to determine the future of Mental Health, Addiction, and Disability Nursing in New Zealand 2021-2030. We regularly get updates from [Lois Boyd](#), Director of the Credentialing programme for primary care nurses; the number of credentialed primary care nurses is growing with currently eight programmes, and growing, across the rohe. A review of the content is being led by Lois, with support from the College Manager, Helen Hamer and Māori Caucus.

Upcoming Board meetings are held on a Monday evening 7-8.30pm: Dates are 19 April, 17 May, and June date TBC.

College Annual Plan 2021

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Please see link to view the [2021 Annual Plan](#). ***Note you will need to be a member and log into the members' area to access this plan.*** We look forward to your comments and your interest in being involved in any of the workplan activities, either through your College Branch or as an individual to assist and/or contribute to the Board's delivery of the 2021 workplan.

Feedback please to Helen Hamer, College Manager at manager@nzcmhn.org.nz

Welcome to the Board as Maori Caucus member Zoe-Jane Porter

Ko wai au? | Who am I?

I te taha o toku papa;

Ko Ohau Tieke me Tawhitirahi toku maunga

Ko Te Touwai me Te Awapoka toku awa

Ko Matātua me Kurahaupo toku waka

Ko Matangirau me Potaki toku marae

Ko Whanau Pani toku hapu

Ko Te Aupouri me Nga Puhi toku iwi.

My mother was born and raised in Kent, South London,
before arriving in Aotearoa via ship in 1969.

Our family names are Crane (Irish) and Bisson (French).

Ko Zoë-Jane Porter toku ingoa.



Kia ora, Malo, Hello;

My name is Zoe-Jane and I am Registered Nurse currently working at Nga Taiohi National Secure Youth Forensic Inpatient Mental Health Service. I completed the Bachelor of Nursing Maori Class of 2012 and Postgraduate Certificate in Mental Health and Addictions at Whitireia Community Polytechnic. My nursing experience includes Whanau Ora coordination, NGO policy and procedure development, acute mental health inpatient assessment, and Maori models of care advocacy.

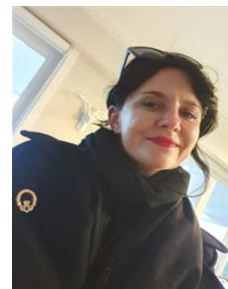
Prior to my nursing career I was a forensic biometric facial analyst, worked 10+ years in customer service and was a NCEA retail management tutor.

I have an innate passion for bicultural holistic nursing practice, coupled with an enthusiasm for up-to-date evidence and based research.

Outside of mahi I have two beautiful daughters, two handbag dogs, a cat, a guinea pig.

Welcome to the Board – Veronica (Ronnie) Polkinghorne

Ko Toka Toka Te Mounga
Ko Northern Waioara Te Awa
Ko Campbell & Hackett Te Tupuna
Ko Ngati Pakeha Te Iwi, Whangai Te Ngapuhi
Ko Whangai Te Ngati Whatua Te Hapu
Ko Naumai Te Whangi Marare
Ko Ruawai Te whare
Ko Ronnie Polkinghorne Toku Ingoa



The mountain that I affiliate to is Toka Toka.

I was raised on the Northern Waioara awa-river.

My (founding) ancestors Campbell and Hackett, are of Celtic decent.

I am Ngati Pakeha, whangai to Ngapuhi/Nagti Whatua and hail from Ruawai (otherwise known as the Kumara Capital of the World) within Te Tai Tokerau of the Northern Region.

I was raised within and belong to a blended whanau.

Currently, I reside in the (country's voted) most beautiful city - Whanganui, with my partner of 24 years. I am a mother of two four legged hairy babies, bulldogs - Florence and Arthur. I have had the privilege of being involved in the upbringing of my partners two beautiful girls who are now adults, one of whom has just given us a moko!

Originally trained as a Registered Comprehensive Nurse (NZ), I hold a Clinical Master of Nursing and have over twenty-five years' nursing experience working in a variety of areas. I have demonstrated leadership and management capability in the implementation and co-ordination of interagency services for children, youth and adults across a range of settings.

Being a seasoned clinician who has worked in the area of general and mental health this has enabled me to empower others, create structure and scaffolding to support people in regard to accessing care and services to meet their needs, particularly in health and social services sectors, including Ara Poutama - Department of Corrections NZ, Ministry of Social Development (CYF - Oranga Tamariki), DHB, Police and NGO service settings.

I have diverse clinical experience, insight and appreciation of working alongside, and advocating for staff along with some of the most vulnerable people within our community. I have held a strong focus on fostering customer, sector and Iwi engagement, relationship management, clinical governance, quality improvement and service and workforce development.

I have been involved in strategic, culturally sensitive and responsive, innovative, courageous, and collaborative work streams. Totally invested in up lifting the benchmark to enable people of our community to experience houroa – wellbeing.

Over the last three years I have been extremely fortunate to have worked in senior roles within Health at Ara Poutama Aotearoa - Department of Corrections.

I pledge to remain committed and passionate whilst in the Te Ao Maramatanga NZ College of Mental Health Nurses Board Member role.

I am inspired and feel very privileged in taking part as a Board Member and thank you all for this opportunity.

Māori Caucus update

Caucus have been busy over the recent months and therefore a full update is not available at this time. Please note the update regarding the Māori Mental Health Nurses Wānanga postponement in [Upcoming Wānanga](#).

Primary Mental Health and Addiction Credential Programme Update by Lois Boyd: Director of Credentialing Vacancy

Credentialing Assessment Co-ordinator: Te Ao Māramatanga New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses

Are you a nurse with experience in nursing portfolio assessment, who is interested in being part of the Mental Health and Addiction Primary Healthcare Credentialing team? We have a part-time, flexible-hours role available, to support increased Credential Assessment activity.

We require a nurse with a proven ability to work effectively with Māori, to work closely with the Director of Credentialing, Credentialing Administrator and Programme Reference Group. We are looking for a nurse who can remotely engage with nurses, programme co-ordinators and assessors, across Aotearoa, to manage the assessment process for credentialing, by email, phone and using our online assessment platform.

As the Credentialing Assessment Co-ordinator, you will have a key role in the day-to-day operations of the Credentialing Programme and also contribute to ongoing review and programme development. The role is responsible for facilitating assessment quality, activity and record keeping to support primary healthcare nurses attending local programmes, to successfully credential and receive assessor feedback.

We would contract you to work up to 10 hours a week. These hours are negotiable over the course of the month as some weeks may be busier than others. You will directly report to the Director of Credentialing. The term is for 12 months and will be then reviewed.

Please take time to read the position available on our website under [Latest News](#).

If you are keen to throw your hat in the ring, we would love to hear from you.

Applications close **5pm Friday 16th April 2021**.

Please send a covering letter outlining why you would be the ideal candidate and your contract rate along with your CV to admin@nzcmhn.org.nz

Nga mihi
Lois Boyd
Director of Credentialing
New email address: credentialing@nzcmhn.org.nz

Research Participants wanted

You are invited to participate in a study on nurses' views on the administration of psychotropic medications.

The study is being led by Dr. Gigi Lim, School of Nursing at the University of Auckland, along with Dr. Sandra Thaggard (AUT), and Dr. Jed Montayre (Western Sydney University). The study aims to learn about the challenges nurses face with safe medication management of psychotropic drugs. As registered nurses are often the first health professionals involved in medication administration and in documenting effects on patients, this study is an important step in continued efforts to improve nursing practice and education.

What is involved? You are asked to complete an anonymous online survey that takes 20 minutes. A participant information sheet and consent form are located at the link below and are provided before you begin the survey.

All nurses with experience administering psychotropic medication are eligible to participate. After completing the survey, you go into a draw to win one of five \$100 Westfield vouchers.

Do I have to take part? Participation in the research is voluntary. If you change your mind you can withdraw your consent for any reason at any time.

If there is anything you are unhappy about let the researchers know (contact details are provided in the online participant information sheet). Alternatively, you could speak to the facilitator at your organisation, who will then contact the researchers on your behalf.

Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential? The data collected from you is anonymous; you will not be required to give your full name. Any other information collected about you (e.g., age) is only for the purposes of identification in case you withdraw your consent and will not be shared with any third parties. No material or written reports will contain information that could potentially identify participants. More information can be found in the participant information sheet in the link provided.

Please contact Sally Wong, Research Assistant, directly if you would like to know more about the study. s.wong@auckland.ac.nz or mobile: 012589935

Thank you for your consideration.

Congratulations



to Toni Dal Din who has been appointed as Deputy Director, Mental Health and Addictions.

News from the Regions, Branches, and Specialist areas

News from Southern DHB - SafeSide Suicide Prevention

By [Steve Paddock](#) RN, CNS, Nurse Educator

From May 2019 Southern DHB has been training all mental health staff in **SafeSide** Suicide Prevention Training. **SafeSide** is a prevention-oriented research-based framework based on the work of US Clinicians Drs Pisani, Murrie and Silverman (2016).

To illustrate the use of this framework the following fictional narrative-based example is presented.



Connect

Jack presents at ED with thoughts about hanging himself. He is assessed by a DHB Crisis worker, Paula. Paula asks Jack directly about his suicidal thoughts and actions, discusses collaboration with Jack to get through this crisis and how the wider primary and secondary services will work with Jack to support him through this time. Paula sits alongside Jack and discusses suicidal thought as a way to escape pain and distress and how this might be the case for Jack. Paula states that the assessment will be part of

developing some other ways of dealing with the pain and distress. Paula discusses contacting Jack's whanau to support him with this process.

Assess

Jack is a NZ Pakeha male in his mid-30's. He is married to Jill and they have two children. He works in construction and has a keen interest in mountain biking, competing in several national down-hill races before a serious shoulder injury when he was 26.

Jack has had anxiety and depression since his teens, he regularly takes antidepressants and has had some counselling at his GP practice. Jack tends to use alcohol on a regular basis and occasionally uses cannabis at the weekend. Jack has struggled with angry outbursts and has coped with this by taking long drives alone late at night.

When Jack is seen at ED, he describes suicidal thoughts, focused on hanging. He doesn't have a specific plan but struggles not to think about a plan. A week ago, Jack bought a rope and set it up in his garage. He has since taken it down. Jack has no previous history of suicide attempts, although he has prepared to do so in the past.

Jack has recently been having arguments with Jill over their finances. They have been struggling with mortgage payments as Jack's work has been on and off. Jack's alcohol use has increased as a result. He has also been more withdrawn and agitated. Jack is reluctant to talk about his distress but attended all his counselling sessions last year.

Formulation

Jack's **risk status**, compared to other people seen by the crisis service who are managed at home is about the same, he is voicing ideation, no previous attempt, he also has long term depression, alcohol, and cannabis use.

Jack's **risk state** relative to his usual baseline is higher. Jack is having thoughts to kill himself; he has also had some preparatory action when he set up a rope in his garage. He has been using more alcohol and is stressed about finances. Jack is having conflict with his wife at home.

Paula talks with Jack about his **available resources**, Jack uses driving when he feels frustrated and other sport to cope with his depression. He has a close friend, Mike who he regularly bikes with. Mike is aware of Jack's struggles. Jill is also supportive, despite the recent conflict at home.

Paula talks with Jack about **foreseeable changes**, changes that could quickly increase his **risk state** in the next couple of weeks. Jack says that he finds out his work schedule each week via a phone call from his foreman. Jack is relying on the work to cover his debts. Jack also says that there is a barbecue on Saturday for his fathers-in-law's birthday. He usually drinks heavily at these events due to social anxiety.

Respond & Extend

Paula discusses **contingency plans** around the phone call from the foreman, including his wife and friend, Mike, in supporting Jack. They also discuss ways to manage the barbecue and to avoid drinking heavily. Paula and Jack also discuss a **safety plan** and develop plans around getting help and support socially and more formally.

Paula also discussed sharing parts of the safety plan with Jill and Mike including the importance of making his environment safe from lethal means. Paula also discussed the importance of Jack reducing or stopping his alcohol use at the moment.

Paula arranges phone contact for Jack with the service where there will be a daily phone call to check in with Jack. He is also able to return for a further assessment if he becomes more distressed. They also discussed the option of hospital admission and respite but rejected these as Jack was confident, he could manage at home.

The crisis team discussed Jack in their morning meeting and considered a referral to community alcohol services as well as possible therapy options.

Reference

Pisani, A. R., Murrie, D. C., & Silverman, M. M. (2016). Reformulating Suicide Risk Formulation: From Prediction to Prevention. *Academic Psychiatry, 40*(4), 623–629. [10.1007/s40596-015-0434-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s40596-015-0434-6)

National Nurse Leaders group (NNLg)

The National Nurse Leaders group (NNLg) 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). Te Ao Māramatanga – New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses is a member of NNLg.

The NNLg operates within a Treaty Relationship Governance (TRG) model that simulates an approach to engaging with Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Te Tiriti) and tangata whenua. The two-house structure reflects a sharing of decision-making power, supported by different worldviews and a working ethos based on the principles of tino rangatiratanga, partnership, active protection, equity, and options.

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. As such, NNLg provides:

- a point of cohesive contact to the nursing profession for diverse stakeholders;
- an environment for Māori nurses (tangata whenua) and all other nurses (tangata Tiriti) to engage with each other as equal partners; and
- an opportunity for synthesis of nursing leadership direction.

NNLg meets quarterly and we will now be providing members with key messages from each meeting.

Key messages from Monday 7th December 2020 meeting.

- Te Pūkenga (New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology) - NNLg has grave concerns about the potential impacts for nursing as a result of activities associated with the ROVE review. Actions will be to write a letter to Stephen Town expressing our concerns and reservations and reactivating a discussion previously held about the possible establishment of a nurse education and practice board (NEPB)
- Registered Nurse Education Standards Consultation document - Annette Huntington presented the standards. NNLg received the standards and is aware they are out for further consultation and discussion
- End of Life Choice Act- NNLg will address nursing implications in the new year
- Health and Disability System Review report recommendations- NNLg has written a letter to the Transition Unit expressing nursing support in areas for critical input for the review and will be inviting Stephen McKernan to the first NNLg meeting of 2021
- National Nursing Strategy (the Strategy)- The Strategy is being driven by NNLg with the support of the Ministry of Health (the Ministry). The Strategy has been accepted with some refinements

to be made. There will be a consultation process in February with the view for the Strategy to be finalised and released in May 2021

- Immunisation - NNLg discussed the need for both high level involvement and the work force challenges of impending immunisation work next year with COVID-19, measles, and flu vaccinations
- Prescribing – NNLg members raised practice concerns generated by Section 29 and the notion of approved prescribers. We were advised the Ministry has work in progress to try and resolve these issues for practitioners and we would encourage the sector to advise the Ministry and NNLg of problems in these areas to strengthen our case
- Privacy code – has been updated and there are some implications for nursing
- Arms Act – overview of changes has been released and there are implications for nursing practice that we will all need to look at
- Education Consensus workshop - we are looking to rebook the workshop for mid-February 2021
- NNLg is keen to support the Nurse Practitioner of the year award. This is part of the Primary Health Care awards (<https://www.nzphawards.co.nz/> which the College of Nurses

Key messages from 27th January 2021 meeting.

- Mathew Parr (Programme Director for the Immunisation programme/GM Immunisation, Ministry of Health) met with NNLg to describe and discuss the enormous Ministry project overseeing COVID-19 vaccination this year. NNLg members briefed him on workforce and other issues from a nursing perspective and established ongoing relevant contacts. The national COVID-19 vaccination programme will coincide with the flu and measles vaccination programs and will place considerable pressure on service provisions.
- Clare Prendergast (lawyer, NCNZ) briefed NNLg on implications for nursing from the passage of the End-of-Life Choice Act. NNLg were disturbed to learn that the Act has erroneously embedded NPs as practicing under the oversight of a medical practitioner. Whilst an NP can prescribe the appropriate medication, they cannot independently oversee a client request to begin the process. This signals our need to remain vigilant wherever health legislation is being amended or developed.
- NNLg met with Stephen McKernan and principal members of the Transition team charged with implementing change arising from the Health and Disability System Review (the Simpson report). This was an excellent meeting and discussion, revealing a shared understanding of the need for substantial change in health service systems if all New Zealanders are to receive an equitable health service. Stephen and team to attend future NNLg meetings to provide updates.
- NNLg discussed our ongoing significant concerns about implications for nursing as generated by the current ROVE review which impacts programmes taught within polytechnics. Appropriate members of NNLg have undertaken to advise Stephen Town (Director) of the specific nature of our concerns.
- A final discussion was held about the ongoing development of a National Nursing Strategy and associated discussion about a potential future workshop focusing on nursing education.

The University of Waikato
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

Bicultural Nursing Advert

Pukenga (Lecturer) - Nursing

Te Huataki Waiora School of health

Division of Health, Engineering, Computing and Science

Details of this position are available on the College website in the Members' Area (log in required) under [Jobs Advertised](#)

Changed your email address? Moved to a different workplace?

If so, please advise our Executive Assistant and College Administrator, Tracey Merlini, at the email listed below to ensure you are kept up to date with all the latest news and events

admin@nzcmhn.org.nz

College Journal: International Journal of Mental Health Nursing

Do not forget that by being a member of Te Ao Māramatanga you have free access to the Journal. The College strongly encourage 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>)

Call for articles

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.

Cut-off date for the second (June) issue of 2021 is the 10th May

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