

NZNO College of Stomal Therapy Nursing

Chairperson report - Emma Ludlow

BGM 29/2/2024

Kia Ora,

I have now transitioned to an age where I am allowed to say “gosh! time flies” The last two years have been a whirlwind but thoroughly enjoyable time on the committee. We have a tight knit team who have worked hard and laughed hard throughout the journey.

Firstly, I would like to thank the committee. It is a truly altruistic offering to volunteer in a national committee when we have numerous personal and professional commitments that come with high stakes and constantly have our attention. Thank you to Chris Cameron for her diligent management of the accounts, Maree Warne for her expert handling of all secretarial duties. Thank you to Marie Buchanan and Preeti Charan for putting out professional editions of The Outlet to be proud of, and Holly Dorizac for being the international representative with WCET and supportive resource with the projects the committee have undertaken.

Four members, including myself, are stepping down due to our terms ending. We need you to carry the torch and continue to be the national voice for stomal therapy nursing in New Zealand.

This term, the committee received clinical guideline submissions from stomal therapy nurses across New Zealand. They were peer reviewed and now form the National Clinical Guidelines as a guiding document for skill based tasks that a stomal therapy nurse could undertake in their role. We are proud of this document and want it to be used to upskill and promote safe stomal therapy nursing standards with our patients. The National Clinical Guidelines pairs perfectly with the Stomal Therapy Knowledge and Skills Framework that was released in 2020. Please continue to use these documents to support your practice.

The Bernedette Hart scholarship is available annually and was this year awarded to Karen Spooner. Karen is using the funds to assist with undertaking the Graduate Certificate in Stomal Therapy Nursing in 2024, best wishes to you Karen! Welcome to the team.

We were fortunate to receive support from Coloplast with the Patricia Blackley Scholarship, first awarded in 2023. Congratulation to the three nurses who were awarded scholarships from New Zealand and Australia to assist with their stomal therapy education:

- Karen Spooner from Auckland, New Zealand
- Nicole Birchley from Bundaberg, Queensland
- Kirsten Webber from Goulburn, New South Wales

The editors of The Outlet undertook a massive revamp of the national contact list in 2023 to align with the Colleges theme and increased professionalism. They do endeavour to keep the national contact list current, but positions change and people move on so please do update the

editors regularly (their contact details are on the Colleges website). We do recommend a group email be used in each region, so it reaches all of the applicable staff. This has been included and is available on the current list online.

Into the future, goals for the next financial year include a full review of the National Service and Specification document that guides stomal therapy services across the motu. Consultation with stake holders will occur with the updated document released in due course.

Finally, promotion of stomal therapy and stomal therapy nursing is the committees overarching focus. 'We' continue to promote the profession to nurses who have that special passion for the weird but wonderful. We will support you, impart knowledge, and help you grow as a specialist in stomal therapy.