

PNA Annual Report to the Nurse Manager Committee 2018

The Nurse Managers Section ran a successful conference in Dunedin in 2017 and a successful forum in Wellington earlier this year. I would like to thank Sarah for taking on the role of chairperson and capably leading the committee. The committee also welcomed Teresa Fisher. Maria Armstrong was voted onto the New Zealand Nursing Council (NCNZ) in 2018 and that combined with work, having a family and being on the NZNO board meant that she resigned from her position on the committee. I would like to thank Maria for her contribution and wish her well in her future endeavours. I would also like to thank the members of the committee whose terms are up, Monique Toes-Rouse and Itayi Mapanda, for their contribution over many years. It has been a challenging year for you both and I appreciate the commitment you have continued to show to the committee and the section and hope to see you again in the future.

It is always a challenge to organise a conference. The Napier conference committee has worked hard to ensure that this conference is a success and deserve all our thanks for doing what can often be a thankless job. So a big thankyou needs to go to Tracey McCarrey and the organising team.

The following is a summary of NZNO activities for the 2017-2018 year:

NZNO staff have had a busy year in 2018 dealing with increasing issues related to staffing and collective bargaining. With both the DHB and Primary Health MECAs up for renegotiation there has been lot of work going on to try and get the best outcomes possible. In July New Zealand nurses went on strike for the first time in 30 years. Due to legislative requirements part of the strike action was the provision of Life Preserving Services (LPS). The NZNO professional team were involved in the planning of these services both regionally and nationally and there have been many valuable lessons learned during this process.

The NZNO Strategy for Nursing: Advancing the Health of the Nation, was officially launched earlier this year. The strategy has a five year timeframe and identifies actions that will increase visibility and position nursing to help meet the health needs of communities and the general population. The strategy focuses on key actions related to five themes: Our Community (Whanaungatanga), Model of Care (Manaakitanga), Equity (Ōritetanga), Leadership (Rangatiratanga), and Nursing Workforce (Te Ohu Māori). The strategy document is available on the NZNO website.

Colleges and section members and committees have provided valuable input into the many submissions prepared by NZNO this year and this is greatly appreciated by the policy analysts and PNA team. We know that life is busy for everyone working within the health care environment and greatly appreciate being able to add your voice to ours on important issues such as the mental health review, the euthanasia debate and many others. Looking at the year ahead it is important that nursing has a strong voice in the upcoming health and disability system review. The draft terms of reference for this review are available from the Ministry of Health (MoH) website.

Finally it has been a pleasure to be able to provide your committee with support over the last year. On behalf of the NZNO I would like to thank the committee for their hard work and dedication to the NZNO Nurse Managers of New Zealand and I look forward to working with you in the upcoming year.

Wendy Blair