

## Professional Nursing Adviser Report College of Emergency Nurses NZ - NZNO AGM 2019

My gratitude to the national committee, triage instructors, CENNZ networks and CENNZ members for your continued commitment to the college. For your ongoing commitment, leadership, and professional engagement. Sincere thanks to the Midlands region for hosting this year's conference, which highlights the evolving nature of emergency nursing in NZ across the health continuum. My thanks to Jo King for leading the college and strategically influencing external stakeholders. Jo has knocked on all doors and has advanced the colleges objectives by her ability to influence.

The demand for emergency and acute services continues to grow. Many policy and managers continue in their failure to understand the demands on ED's including the increased pressure of overcrowding and under resourcing the nursing workforce. I am proud of CENNZ continuation advocacy for increased public services for New Zealanders and not denying our population health care in the emergency department. Emergency nurses are under increased pressure, strain and clinical complexity. Within this context, we see a growth of advanced practice roles and opportunities. Our development of new and emerging nurses needs to increase and EDs should seek the funding for all new graduates into employment. Now is the time to secure their interest and promote the value of emergency nursing.

CENNZ was instrumental during the NZNO 2018 AGM by having the vision to write to the AGM requesting NZNO to campaign and address violence towards nurses in the NZ health system. By creating this conversation, NZNO responded by creating a project team to work across the domains of NZNO and actively have CENNZ national committee as a key stakeholders. Currently plans are underway for a 3-year project to address key elements of policy, legislation, Worksafe NZ, and employers responses. Within this complexity is legal requirements, duty of care provisions and safety of staff and patients to be in a therapeutic environment.

International Council of Nurses represents more than 20 million nurses and held their congress in Singapore. NZNO was awarded ICN's Gold Award for Membership Inclusiveness – international recognition that over 76% of NZ's nurses belong to NZNO. The WHO, in partnership with Nursing Now (the three-year global campaign to improve health by raising the status and profile of nursing) has declared 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and Midwife. The World Health Organisation's (WHO) first-ever chief nursing officer (CNO), Elizabeth Iro, urged individual nurses to consider how they would contribute to the Year of the Nurse and Midwife next year. She also urged national nursing associations (e.g., NZNO) to work with their CNOs and governments to ensure the year was acknowledged.

As reported in July 2019 Kai Tiaki Nursing NZ P11. that nurses were a force to be reckoned with and nursing was the workforce that could realise universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030, said WHO's director-general, former Ethiopian Health Minister Tedros Ghebreyesus. He said, "Health workers must change with changing needs, and in the way care is delivered. We must move from emphasising curative services to services that promote health and are delivered at a primary health care level."

The World Health Assembly has declared 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and Midwife. He said that *"It was important nurses and midwives got the education, training, jobs, conditions,*

*opportunities, dignity and respect they deserve. But our cause is not about celebrating nursing, it is about recognising the power of nursing to achieve our vision of universal health coverage by 2030, which will ensure a healthier, safer and fairer world for everyone. You are the power to make it happen,”* he concluded to a standing ovation.

In 2018, NZNO members in DHBs took significant industrial action and demanded better remuneration and staffing processes. A staffing accord between MOH, NZNO and DHBs agreed to implement \$34 million to increase the nursing workforce and \$10 million to implement CCDM by 2021. See [https://www.nzno.org.nz/get\\_involved/campaigns/safe\\_staffing/effective\\_implementation\\_accord](https://www.nzno.org.nz/get_involved/campaigns/safe_staffing/effective_implementation_accord). Emergency departments had some allocation and now processes to implement escalation plans.

NZNO released Ross Wilson’s independent critical report into the Industrial team and the DHB Bargaining. Members have been given guarantees from NZNO CEO Memo Musa the recommendations will be adopted in full and create new ways of working and accountabilities for the provision of industrial services. For the first time (because of historical industrial exclusion rationales), a Professional Nursing Adviser included in all aspects of the DHB MECA process including bargaining. This is crucial for advancing many professional practice frameworks required so nurses can practice effectively in a modern and future NZ health system. See [https://www.nzno.org.nz/about\\_us/media\\_releases/artmid/4731/articleid/1773/nzno-releases-dhb-meca-independent-review-report](https://www.nzno.org.nz/about_us/media_releases/artmid/4731/articleid/1773/nzno-releases-dhb-meca-independent-review-report)

NZNO annual report 2018/19 is available on the website with your member login. See [https://www.nzno.org.nz/get\\_involved/conference\\_and\\_agm/member\\_information](https://www.nzno.org.nz/get_involved/conference_and_agm/member_information) Key professional services achievements of NZNO includes the visibility of influencing nursing by submissions to government agencies, select committee hearings, external stakeholders, forums, advice and medico- legal representation. CENNZ has contributed to these achievements and the overall strategic plan.

The strategy for nursing is progressing and now available to members is a new resource to inform and support nurses wanting to enter or progress governance roles. Growing nurses into governance: A governance toolkit is practical and sensible. It informs and provides a competence and confidence pathway for nurses either in, or planning to be in, governance roles. See [https://www.nzno.org.nz/resources/governance\\_toolkit](https://www.nzno.org.nz/resources/governance_toolkit)

I wish the college all the success for the forthcoming year and look forward to working with CENNZ committees to reach your goals. We have more to do!

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