

## COASTN Chair report for 2023 AGM

Welcome to COASTN members to the AGM for the 2023-2024 year. Our thanks go to the Hawkes Bay team lead by Jackie who have put an incredible amount of work into making this day happen.

The members of COASTN have gone over and above to provide excellent nursing care to their patients in times where staffing is challenging in all areas of health. We have heard from many of you who were involved in the disaster work here in Hawkes Bay during the cyclone. IT has been obvious that teams from around the Motu have worked together to make sure that patients have been transported in a timely manner despite some challenging conditions.

We are looking for a person to take over from Taz as the course coordinator and the application is on our website, we are looking for someone who is organised and able to work effectively with all the stakeholders involved as well as the students. You do not have to be from Auckland but must be available to attend the course wherever it will be held in the future. An honorarium will be paid to the successful candidate.

COASTN has had a successful year to date with a great aeromedical retrieval course run by Taz and her team. I have just finished marking my share of the assignments and it never ceases to impress me how much the participants learn from the course. Having said that it has been noted over the last two years that there has been some difficult behaviour from a small number of participants which reflects badly on the course. We have sent out information to all charge nurses and flight team leaders that this behaviour will not be tolerated in future courses. There is usually a waiting list to attend this course and it is a privilege to be selected to attend. All participants will get an agreement they must sign prior to final acceptance on the course which will outline the expectations of the course and failure to abide by this will result in them being removed from the course. We do not take this step lightly, but we must preserve the integrity and professionalism of the course and we expect the participants to represent their profession appropriately.

The 2024 course is planned for February 12-16<sup>th</sup> and applications closed on the 10<sup>th</sup> November. We have reduced the number of places this year due to the cost of the Heut training this brings it back to what it was pre covid.

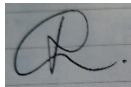
We have talked in the past about our inability to get representation on national groups and I am pleased to be able to say that after a positive meeting with Jon Gaupset the lead of the ACP advisory group who listened to our concerns that Tania Parr was appointed to this group along with Avryl Way. We believe that Jon and his team are committed to making sure that they understand the environment our members work in, the challenges they face, and the impact changes will have on the services they provide. We look forward to future updates from this group.

Our bank balances remain healthy, and we are committed to giving back to our members via scholarships so keep an eye on the website and social media sites and get your applications in if you are attending any education you would like us to support.

I want to say a huge thank you to the committee for the commitment to COASTN and the extra work you have taken on in your roles on the committee. Also, a very grateful thank you to Annie our PNA who tirelessly keeps us on track and keeps us up to date on NZNO matters. We have no vacancies for the COASTN committee but there are two of our members who have indicated that they will step down early next year so we may be looking at bringing on some additions then, if you are interested in being a part of the committee let us know.

Finally thank you our members for the work that you do everyday to make sure our patients are well cared for during transports and for the professionalism you continue to portray during some challenging times.

Yours in Transport

A small, square image of a handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'L. Will'.

Lynette Will  
COASTN Chair