

## COASTN Chair report for 2024 AGM

Welcome to COASTN members to the 2024 AGM. It is a pleasure to be able to hold the AGM as part of this wonderful conference. Our thanks go to the organising team including our very own committee members Avryl Way and Patrice Rosengrave who have put an incredible amount of work into making this conference happen.

The members of COASTN have continued to provide outstanding and excellent nursing care to their patients in these unsettled times. We are aware of the challenges faced by all members of the health teams with the many changes being made by Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora which has a direct impact on patient care. We applaud you for remaining professional and for striving to make sure that your patients are transported at the right time, by the right team and the right route. We acknowledge the barriers that unsafe staffing which has made it increasingly difficult to fulfil your roles. Thank you for all your mahi over the last year.

Our committee has been busy updating COASTN standards, and we are working on the passport which we hope will be able to be used more effectively by our members once the new document is complete.

We discussed our rebranding at our last AGM and we are thrilled with our new logo. In order to complete our rebranding, we asked our members to provide photos from around the country that we could use for our new banner, we were astounded with the number of photos we received and it was very difficult to narrow it down to our finalists, we then sent the finalists out to our members who chose our winning photo taken by Bonnie Easterbrook who has received a place at next year's COASTN symposium as her prize. We are pleased to say that we are showcasing this new banner at conference.

The COASTN aeromedical course was run again this year by Taz Irvine-Flynn and her team, it was a very successful week and I am pleased to say that the behaviour issues experienced over the last few years did not occur this year. We will continue to require participants to sign an agreement outlining the expectations of the course before being accepted. Our 2025 course is planned for February 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> and applications forms will be available soon. Please note that as we have more applications than places available we will not be able to accept any late applications so keep an eye on the website and our social media accounts for closing dates. Taz resigned from her position as coordinator of the course in April and we thank her for the enormous amount of work she has put in each year to make sure the course was highly

professional and enjoyable. She has not completely left us as she is staying on as part of the SIMS team. We have welcomed Helen Poole as the new coordinator and we are confident that she will provide an equally professional and enjoyable experience. We will be looking at updating the course before the 2026 course so keep an eye out for opportunities to have input into those changes.

We continue to be represented on national bodies who are looking at changes that will effect our members and our newsletter gives updates on those changes when we are made aware of them. On that note please keep contributing to the newsletter and if your area is not being represented talk to or email Tania as she is always looking for contributions.

The excellence award for outstanding nursing achievement in transport nursing Aotearoa was awarded to Kelvin Still and we are pleased to award it again this year to another worthy recipient.

Finally 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. We farewelled Taz Irvine-Flynn and Helen Poole from the committee in April, and we are happy that we have not completely lost them from our team. Helen was our treasurer for many years and has helped keep us on track. We welcome Samantha Collis as treasurer and Jodie Purches onto the committee as seconded roles, they have done a great job bringing new ideas and energy to the group. 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.

Yours in Transport

Lynette Will  
COASTN Chair