

College of Respiratory Nurses Chairperson's Report

March 2025

Tēnā koutou katoa,

It is my pleasure to present the Chairperson's annual report for 2025.

I want to acknowledge committee members Katherine Waters (Treasurer), Mikayla Neil ('Airways' editor and interim secretary) and Lisa Mason (co-chair) who has recently resigned. My sincere appreciation for the time and tireless energy you have given. Thank you also to Annie Bradley-Ingle, Professional Nursing Advisor and Elisabeth Auchinvole, National Office Administrator for their valuable support.

The College of Respiratory Nurses (CRN) continues to promote and support excellence in respiratory nursing in Aotearoa New Zealand. We have a focus on Maranga Mai within our annual plan and we are committed to embedding Te Ao Māori in our policies and processes. I invite you to read our 2025/26 Annual Plan which is available on the NZNO website.

The CRN advocates for better health outcomes for all New Zealander's, especially those living with respiratory disease. Our advocacy promotes health equity and supports Te Tino Rangatiratanga and the actualization of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. We do this through submissions on a range of important issues to government ministries and agencies.

Membership to the CRN brings opportunities and access to resources supporting nurses' professional development in respiratory nursing. These include grants for further education, our bi-ennial symposium and the 'Airways' newsletter released three times a year. The newsletter provides updates on respiratory health/nursing and college activities. 'Airways' is a platform for members to share knowledge and experiences amongst colleagues.

I was fortunate to attend the annual NZNO College and Sections 2-day forum 4&5 March in Wellington. This was an informative and inspiring forum, a great opportunity to hear presentations and network with members of other College & Sections. I learnt about what they do and how we might work closer together, sharing ideas and resources. NZNO representatives Anne Daniels, President, Kurri Nuku, Kaiwhakahaere and Paul Goulter, Chief Executive spoke, as well as those working in the NZNO national office behind the scenes in accounts, IT and communications/media.

The CRN is working alongside NZNO and the 'Kaitiaki' magazine to improve the visibility of College's and Sections and grow our membership and promote nursing excellence.

We held our successful bi-ennial symposium on 30 August 2024 in Auckland. The theme 'We are what we breathe – how environment impacts lung health' was very informative and inspiring thanks to our expert speakers.

An upcoming significant piece of work for our committee is the review of the Respiratory Adult Knowledge and Skills framework. We value member input in the review so to ensure that it is a "living document" designed to evolve in a way which reflects our specialist practise as nurses working in respiratory health. Please get in touch if you would like to share ideas or thoughts regarding how we can improve this document.

We need members to join our fun and supportive committee. Presently, we have only 3 committee members and we need to grow so to successfully continue to do great work, such as represent our members, develop/review professional frameworks, resources and organise symposium meetings

and be vocal through submissions to government so to promote respiratory health and advocate for those living with respiratory disease in Aotearoa New Zealand. We encourage members to get in touch to find out more. Nomination forms are also available on the NZNO website.

Our AGM will be held Friday 2nd May at the South Island Respiratory Educators Forum (SIREF) in Christchurch. Please contact us on respiratorycollege@gmail.com for more information. We hope you can join us in person or via zoom.

Ngaa mihi nui,

Jacqueline Westenra

Chairperson, NZNO College of Respiratory Nurses