

COLLEGE OF RESPIRATORY NURSES NZNO
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 15 February 2019

Kia Ora Koutou Katoa

It is my pleasure to present the 2018 Chairperson's report for the College of Respiratory Nurses NZNO. Since our last Annual General Meeting (AGM) in April 2018 the new committee members have quickly settled into their roles and worked hard to ensure that the goals and objectives outlined in the Business and Operational plan were achieved. These include holding our biennial Symposium in April this year, thrice yearly publication of Airways, commenting on proposed Ministerial/Government documents and legislation changes, and providing educational and professional support through the continuation of offering grants and circulating SNIPS (Stop4th Nursing Information Provision Services).

At the April AGM in 2018 a committee of both old and new members was established to continue with the work to honour our role as a College. The current committee remains committed and dedicated to being dynamic and proactive in addressing issues within respiratory disease in Aotearoa, and providing a voice for nurses working in all areas of respiratory health. Since the last AGM, we have welcomed Nicola Corna from Auckland. Nicola has joined existing members Laura Campbell, Sharon Hancock, Marilyn Dyer, Mary Cox, Dawn Acker and Carol George. The committee is supported by NZNO PNA, Annie Bradley-Ingle and I thank her for her outstanding support, guidance and friendship.

The first face to face Committee meeting was held in June in Wellington over one day. All committee members have taken on their roles and responsibilities with enthusiasm, passion and professionalism. This is reflected in the outstanding work achieved over the last year.

At this year's AGM no Remits have been received. However, the College continues to promote a remit passed by NZNO in 2017 that members can now belong to three colleges and sections. We encourage nurses to embrace this opportunity and invite colleagues to join the Respiratory College. Our College remains small but membership has increased from 278 to 309, giving us thirty one new members this year.

We have again been successful in publishing 'Airways' three times this year. Carol George, editor, is supported by Marilyn Dyer, and both have worked extremely hard in sourcing articles and information which are not only relevant, but also reflect the work and many challenges and innovations of those working in the field of respiratory medicine in Aotearoa. It also keeps us up to date with reports from various respiratory conferences, and upcoming events. Marilyn has designed an information pamphlet on the Respiratory College. She also holds the role of Vice Chair.

Laura Campbell has worked tirelessly as Committee Secretary, and on the College website. Laura has ensured Agendas and Minutes are accurate and timely. She also has put many hours into continually updating and developing our website to reflect our College status. The website also allows you, as members, to access Minutes from our meetings and the usual financial reports.

As a College our financial situation remains positive, and has been successfully managed this year again by Sharon Hancock. There have been new challenges and Sharon has dedicated much time and energy in ensuring that we meet the requirements of NZNO. Sharon has been pivotal in our move to centralised payment processing, and ensured a smooth transition.

An important role the College plays is making submissions to government working parties, The Ministry of Health, The Nursing Council and other organisations. Our committee receives many requests, and Mary Cox has provided very clear and succinct synopsis of material relevant to respiratory nursing or to issues impacting more broadly on the nations' respiratory health. This has allowed the committee to contribute at a national level to issues such as Child and Youth Wellbeing strategy, and Maori parliament electoral seats. The College also worked nationally over concerns around potential confusion with the labelling of the generic inhalers. This has resulted in Rexair repackaging Salair so that it now states 'Reliever' on three panels of the retail carton as well as the canister of the inhaler.

Certainly the highlight of the year was our biennial Symposium in Wellington 'Taking Respiratory Care Beyond the Rhetoric – Less Talk More Action'. Carol George worked hard to bring about an extremely successful and thought-provoking symposium. Carol was ably supported by Dawn Acker who ensured the finances remained sound, and further supported by sub-committee members: Teresa Chaleki, Jill West and Abbey Kingston-Burke. For the first time the College used centralised registration, and survey monkey for evaluation format. Feedback was extremely positive.

Working very hard behind the scenes providing administrative support is Diana Geerling from NZNO in Wellington. Diana is always there assisting with a variety of practical issues to support the smooth running of our meetings, dissemination of SNIPS, website assistance, and also with our Symposium.

This last year has been an extremely busy and active one for the committee. The College wrote again to The Minister of Health, Dr Clarke, reiterating our concerns around appalling health outcomes in respiratory disease in Aotearoa. Dr Clarke responded via letter stating that the government aims to address broader determinants

of health, such as poor housing and access to care, rather than disease specific. The College plans to write to each incoming Health Minister to ensure respiratory disease continues to have a voice.

We have written to all stake holders in respiratory disease and were invited to meet with Asthma NZ CEO Katheren Lietner in November. Our aim is to endeavour to work collaboratively and seamlessly for the common betterment of improving respiratory outcomes in Aotearoa. We therefore will continue to forge these linkages.

The College conducted a Survey Monkey to ascertain if the recent initiative of the provision of SNIPS is meeting members' needs. The feedback was very positive and we therefore will continue with this service. We will continue to monitor the relevance of this periodically.

We continue to offer grants for members to assist with furthering education in respiratory health. We have reduced the grants from ten to five, but increased the value from \$250.00 to \$500 each. It is hoped that the increased amount will allow for better access and support for education. Please see our website for further details.

The focus for the College over the next three years is to maintain College status, continue to lobby at government level and to remain committed to reducing the disparity and burden of respiratory disease in Aotearoa. We aim to achieve this by continuing to work collaboratively with other groups which align philosophically with our College, including TSANZ, Asthma and Respiratory Foundation of NZ, and Asthma NZ.

The New Zealand Adult Respiratory Knowledge and Skills Framework (Respiratory KSF) was developed in 2010 as a way of describing what knowledge and skills are required by nurses in caring for patients with respiratory disease, including asthma, COPD, bronchiectasis and pneumonia. This framework is underpinned by the Nursing Council of

New Zealand competency domains which are linked to nursing scope of practice. The Framework is informed by national and international guidelines. The College encourages all nurses who are working with respiratory patients to utilise this Framework. The Respiratory KSF was reviewed in 2016, and is due again in 2020. We are currently organising a sub-committee to undertake this project. We would welcome any feedback about the current Framework so that we can consider these in the review.

The College will continue to encourage growth of membership, as the more numbers we have, the better we can reflect and represent the work that is undertaken throughout the country. Increased representation also provides an opportunity for identifying challenges experienced by respiratory nurses, and a stronger platform on which to highlight issues at a national level. The College remains committed to supporting and encouraging student nurses. We will continue with the publication of Airways, organising Symposiums and ensuring the finances remain intact. We will continue to update the website so that information is current and relevant.

I welcome any comments or concerns that you as members may have and wish the College to address.

Our next Symposium will be held in Whangarei in 2020 and Mary Cox and Marilyn Dyer are well under-way with planning. This is the first time we have held a Symposium in Northland, and I encourage all members to attend.

The committee give freely of their time, and I am humbled at the energy and professionalism each member brings. Sadly though, in accordance with College rules, we can't remain on the committee forever. Committee members who will leave at this AGM are Sharon Hancock, Laura Campbell and myself. Sharon has completed two outstanding consecutive terms as Treasurer and has managed

finances extremely competently. Laura has completed three years, and as Secretary has efficiently ensured Agendas and Minutes have been distributed in a timely manner, and worked diligently on our website to reflect our College status. I extend a huge thank you to both Sharon and Laura for their commitment, passion, dedication and professionalism. We will announce the new Committee members at the end of the AGM.

I thank Annie and the current committee for all the support, friendship and outstanding skills that each member has individually and collectively brought to the varying roles. It truly has been a privilege to have worked alongside you all.

I would like to thank all College members for your contributions and feedback. Our committee strives to provide representation and a voice for you all. We wish to have as wide a representation on our committee as is possible, so I urge anyone who is interested in working at a national level to consider coming on the committee. Please approach any committee member for more details.

Thank you all for the opportunity of being Chair of the College of Respiratory Nurses, NZNO. It has been a rewarding challenge, privilege and honour to have held this position. I know that the College will continue to grow in strength and be well served by the new Chair, Marilyn Dyer and incoming Committee. Thank you.

Mary Gluyas
Chairperson
College of Respiratory Nurses NZNO.