

NZNO College of Stomal Therapy Nursing Annual Report 2022

This report will be presented at NZNO College of Stomal Therapy BGM on Wednesday 23rd Feb 22 .

In the past year the committee has worked to achieve the 2021-22 Annual Plan objectives.

Our biggest achievement was the completion of the Knowledge and Skills Framework. This large piece of work had been a slow “work in progress” for several years. Emma Ludlow (STN, Counties Manukau) was employed to write the framework ,with guidance from the committee. The committee had several very valuable meetings with Kerri Nuku and Leanne Manson discussing integrating actionable equity into the framework. Once this was achieved, the final draft was presented to the membership for feedback, of which there was very little. Once finalised the framework was endorsed by the board of NZNO. The framework aims to enhance the nursing practice of nurses working within the field of Stomal Therapy in New Zealand. I hope it will be well utilised.

Plans to establish a New Zealand based Stomal Therapy qualification are no further ahead. On a positive note, though, last year saw 3 more Convatec scholarships offered for the Graduate Certificate in Stomal Therapy Nursing with the Australian College of Nursing. The scholarship was offered to Australian and New Zealand Nurses working in the field of Stomal Therapy without an STN qualification. As president of the College, I was asked to join the selection panel to review and score the many applications. Pleasingly, Syreeta Rogers working at Hutt Valley DHB as an STN, was awarded one of the scholarships. Congratulations Syreeta. The committee has also been in communication with Curtin University School of Nursing who offer a graduate certificate in Wound Ostomy and Continence practice. A collaboration between the College and Curtin University could offer clinical placements in New Zealand for those NZ nurses undertaking the certificate. The incoming committee may decide to explore this opportunity more in-depth in the future. Unfortunately, there were no successful applicants for the Bernadette Hart award last year. For those considering applying this year please ensure you meet all criteria and include all information required.

The Outlet journal continues to be well received by our 189 members. This professional journal showcases the profile of New Zealand STN practice and provides a platform for publishing specialty innovations. Angela Makwana and Dawn Birchall have worked hard and done a great job of putting together 3 issues each year for the past few years. They have produced journals which are read cover to cover and valued by many. Not having face to face national conferences and company hosted workshops has put an end to the all-important networking which goes on between stoma nurses. This makes the Outlet an even greater resource to share innovative nursing practise and ideas. On behalf of the College, thank you Dawn and Angela. Thank you, also goes to those nurses who have submitted, and shared top quality case studies, professional profiles and dissertation exerts. Without these we would not have a journal.

Over the past year the Colorectal Tripartite Meeting 2022 has been a focus for the committee and while we have not had to organise the meeting in its entirety, as we usually do, we have had tasks to complete. Once the decision was made for the conference to be held virtually, we sadly had to cancel the planned nurses evening event. Fortunately, our venue deposit was refunded in full.

Of course, we can't talk about the past year without mentioning Zoom! While Zoom has allowed us to connect safely, it is by no means a good replacement for face-to-face meeting. Luckily the committee had met face to face several times before we were forced to "zoom" regularly. Face to face meeting is critical to committee cohesion, bouncing ideas off each other, strengthening working relationships and growing enthusiasm and motivation.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the commitment and work the committee have completed for the College of Stomal Therapy. It is important to remember that, while we volunteer to be on the committee, being a member does increase demands on our already busy work loads. Despite this though, being on the committee is rewarding. The College is an integral part of the specialty field of Stomal Therapy Nursing providing a national voice and focus, along with professional and practice development.

Thank you

Nicky Bates,

Chairperson NZNOCST