



Tōpūtanga Tapuhi Kaitiaki o Aotearoa
NEW ZEALAND NURSES ORGANISATION



TE RAU KŌKIRI

Collective Agreement

Between

**Tōpūtanga Tapuhi Kaitiaki
o Aotearoa | NZNO INC
&
Whakawhiti Ora Pai**

2 May 2025 – 30 April 2026

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Te Rau Kōkiri Multi-Employer Collective Agreement

1. Te Tiriti o Waitangi

The parties to this agreement must recognise Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its principles of Partnership, Protection and Participation for all NZNO members. Te Tiriti o Waitangi underpins our workplace values and ensures that service delivery occurs in a culturally safe manner, (Kawa Whakaruruhau).

KO WIKITORIA, te Kuini o Ingarani, i tana mahara atawai ki nga Rangatira me Nga Hapu o Nu Tirani, i tana hiahia hoki kia tohungia ki a ratou o ratou rangatiratanga, me to ratou wenua, a kia mau tonu hoki te Rongo ki a ratou me te ata noho hoki, kua wakaaro ia he mea tika kia tukua mai tetahi Rangatira hei kai wakarite ki nga tangata maori o Nu Tirani. Kia wakaetia e nga Rangatira maori te Kawanatanga o te Kuini, ki nga wahi katoa o te wenua nei me nga Motu. Na te mea hoki he tokomaha ke nga tangata o tona iwi kua noho ki tenei wenua, a e haere mai nei.

Na, ko te Kuini e hiahia ana kia wakaritea te Kawanatanga, kia kaua ai nga kino e puta mai ki te tangata Maori ki te pakeha e noho ture kore ana.

Na kua pai te Kuini kia tukua a hau, a Wiremu Hopihona, he Kapitana i te Roiara Nawa, hei Kawana mo nga wahi katoa o Nu Tirani, e tukua aiane, amua atu ki te Kuini, e mea atu ana ia ki nga Rangatira o te Wakaminenga o nga Hapu o Nu Tirani me era Rangatira atu, enei ture ka korerotia nei.

KO TE TUATAHI

Ko nga Rangatira o te Wakaminenga, me nga Rangatira katoa hoki ki hai i uru ki taua Wakaminenga, ka tuku rawa atu ki te Kuini o Ingarani ake tonu atu te Kawanatanga katoa o ratou wenua.

KO TE TUARUA

Ko te Kuini o Ingarani ka wakarite ka wakaae ki nga Rangatira, ki nga Hapu, ki nga tangata katoa o Nu Tirani, te tino Rangatiratanga o ratou wenua o ratou kainga me o ratou taonga katoa. Otia ko nga Rangatira o te whakaminenga me nga, Rangatira katoa atu, ka tuku ki te Kuini te hokonga o era wahi wenua e pai ai te tangata nona te Wenua, ki te ritenga o te utu e wakaritea ai e ratou ko te kai hoko e meatia nei e te Kuini hei kai hoko mona.

KO TE TUATORU

Hei wakaritenga mai hoki tenei mo te wakaetanga ki te Kawanatanga o te Kuini. Ka tiakina e te Kuini o Ingarani nga tangata maori katoa o Nu Tirani. Ka tukua ki a ratou nga tikanga katoa rite tahi ki ana mea ki nga tangata o Ingarani.

2. Nga Roopu Whakaminenga/Parties

- 2.1 In accordance with the Employment Relations Act 2000 this collective agreement is made:

BETWEEN:

- 2.2 Employer parties are Whakawhiti Ora Pai Incorporated Society (The "Employer")

AND

- 2.3 Tōpūtanga Tapuhi Kaitiaki o Aotearoa|The New Zealand Nurses Organisation (NZNO Inc) (The "Union")

3. Te Korowai o Te Runanga o Aotearoa/NZNO Coverage & Application

- 3.1 This is an Employer Collective Agreement that is made pursuant to the Employment Relations Act 2000.
- 3.2 This Collective shall apply to all employees who are members of NZNO and who are employed by the employer party to this CA in the following positions:
 - Clinical Nurse Manager
 - Administration Employees
 - Health Promoters
 - Registered Nurses
 - Kaiāwhina/Community Health Workers
 - Youth & Whanau Activity Coordinator
 - Social workers
 - Finance/IT
- 3.3 At the time when the employee enters into an employment agreement with an employer, the employer must:
- 3.4 Inform the employee – that a collective agreement exists and covers work to be done by the employee; and
- 3.5 that the employee may join the union that is party to the collective agreement and; about how to contact the union; and that if the employee joins the union, the employee will be bound by the collective agreement and
- 3.6 that during the first thirty days of the employees employment, the employee’s terms and conditions comprise –
- 3.7 the terms and conditions in the collective agreement that would bind the employee if the employee were a member of the union;
- 3.8 and any additional terms and conditions mutually agreed to by the employee and employer that are not consistent with the terms and conditions in the collective agreement; and give the employee a copy of the collective agreement
- 3.9 The parties agree that any employee whose work is covered by the coverage clause of this agreement (clause 3.1 above), who is engaged by the employer between the date this agreement comes into effect and the expiry date shall be offered information about becoming a member of the union, which is a party to this agreement, as supplied by that union. The new employee shall from the date of becoming a union member, be entitled to all benefits, and be bound by all the obligations, under this agreement. Further to this, the provisions of Section 62 of the Employment Relations Act 2000 shall apply.
- 3.10 If an employee covered by this agreement leaves the employment of the employer then they shall no longer be covered by this agreement.
- 3.11 Existing employees who are covered by the coverage clause of this CA (clause 3.1) who become members during the term of the CA shall, from the date of becoming a union member, be bound by all benefits and obligations relating to employees under this MECA subject to the restrictions set out in the Employment Relations Act 2000.

- 3.12 **Impact on Individual Employment Agreements:** Where an employee on an individual employment agreement elects to be bound by this CA, their previous terms and conditions of employment shall no longer apply unless otherwise agreed between that employee and the employer, or as provided for in this CA.
- 3.13 **Non-Waiver Understanding:** Failure by either party to enforce any right or obligation with respect to any matter arising in connection with this agreement, shall not constitute a waiver as to that matter, or any other matter, either then or in the future.
- 3.14 Employers undertake not to reduce nursing or other primary health care employees numbers solely based on the additional costs of employing staff as a result of implementing this collective agreement.
- 3.15 **No-Disadvantage:** The parties are committed to ensure there is no “overall disadvantage” to individuals due to any changes in core conditions at the date of this CA coming into force unless specifically agreed between the parties during the negotiations.
- a) No employee shall be disadvantaged by taking a drop in take home pay for the same hours worked
 - b) The methodology for determining any disadvantage shall be agreed between NZNO and the employer parties. This may be done on the basis of a shift by shift analysis, or a fortnightly pay period analysis, as agreed.
 - c) Anniversary date salary movements shall not be used to offset disadvantage.
 - d) The employer and NZNO will meet Kanohi ki te Kanohi to discuss any unsolved issues with respect to disadvantage.

4. Te Tīmatanga me te Whakaotinga/Term

- 4.1 This MECA shall come into force on **2nd May 2024** and expire on 29-04-25

5. Ngā Tikanga ke atu o te Collective nei/Variation

- 5.1 The parties may vary this agreement from time to time by written agreement signed by them or by their duly authorised representatives on their behalf (employer advocates and NZNO). Any such variation will take effect as if it were incorporated into this agreement.

6. Ngā Rārangi Korero Whakamarāma/Definitions

- 6.1 **“Administration employee”** means an employee who is wholly or substantially engaged in administration duties, including but not limited to those who undertake medical receptionist duties, finance, data entry, claims processing.
- 6.2 **“Casual employee”** means an employee who has no set hours or days of work and who is normally asked to work as and when required. Casual employees can not be used to replace genuine permanent or temporary situations except to meet business requirements when there is no permanent or temporary staff available.

- 6.3 **“Kaiāwhina /Community Health Worker”** means an employee who is employed to assist whanau, hapu and iwi and wider community.
- 6.4 **“Employee”** means any person employed by an employer and whose position is covered by this MECA.
- 6.5 **“Employer”** means the relevant employer employing the particular employee.
- 6.6 **“Full time employee”** means an employee who works not less than the “ordinary” or “normal” hours set out under “hours of work” in this MECA.
- 6.7 **“Health Promoter”** is an employee who engages with whanau, hapu and iwi and the wider community to enable sustainable health gains.
- 6.8 **“Ordinary time hourly rate of pay”** shall be 1/2086 for employees who work 80 hours per fortnight and 1/1950 for employees who work 75 hours per fortnight, correct to two decimal places of a dollar of the yearly rate of salary payable. T1 refers to the ordinary hourly rate of pay; T1.5 refers to one and a half times the ordinary hourly rate of pay; and T2 refers to double the ordinary hourly rate of pay.
- 6.9 **“Part-time employee”** means an employee, other than a casual employee, who is employed on a permanent basis but works less than the ordinary or normal hours prescribed in this MECA. Any wages and benefits e.g. leave, will be pro rata according to the hours worked unless specifically stated otherwise in this MECA.
- 6.10 **“Registered Nurse”** means a person as defined by the Health Practitioners’ Competence Assurance Act 2003 as a Registered Nurse.
- 6.11 **“Practice Nurse”** means a person who is primarily employed by or within a general practice and who is a registered nurse.
- 6.12 **“Community Nurse”** means a person who primarily delivers mobile services in the community.
- 6.13 **“Social Worker” - (professionals who aim to enhance overall well-being and help meet basic and complex needs of communities and people).** Social workers work with many different populations and types of people, particularly focusing on those who are vulnerable, oppressed and living in poverty.
- 6.14 **“Relevant Daily Pay”** has the meaning as provided by the Holidays Act 2003.
- 6.15 **“Service”** means the current continuous service with the employer except as otherwise defined.
- 6.16 **“Duty/shift”** means a single, continuous period of work required to be undertaken by an employee, excluding on-call and call-back. A duty shall be defined by a starting and finishing time. Duties shall be morning (AM), afternoon (PM) duties or night duties. When a major part of a duty falls on a particular day the whole duty shall be regarded as being worked on that day.
- 6.17 **“Temporary/Fixed Term Employee”** means an employee who is employed for a specified limited term for a specified project, situation or event, or, **for example**, to replace an employee on parental leave or long term accident or sickness. There is no

expectation of ongoing employment. Temporary agreements must not be used to deny staff security of employment.

- 6.18 **“Week”** is defined as midnight Sunday/Monday to midnight Sunday/Monday, for the purpose of calculating the pay week and “fortnight” has a corresponding meaning involving two successive weeks.

7. Ngā Haora hei Mahi/Hours of Work

The employer will endeavour to ensure safe staffing levels and appropriate skill mix in work areas.

- 7.1 The ordinary working hours of an employee employed full-time shall be either
- 75 or 80 per fortnight; or
 - 37.5 or 40 per week; or
 - the equivalent average in the case of a roster cycle exceeding a fortnight.
- 7.2 Employees will normally work 7.5 or 8 hours a day/shift in duration. Shifts shall be no less than 4 hours per day except by mutual agreement between the employee and employer.
- 7.3 The times and days to be worked, and the duration of shifts shall be set by agreement between the employer and employee. Any change to the hours and/or days of work shall be by agreement between the employer and employee. Such agreement would not be unreasonably sought or withheld by either party where there are demonstrable employer or employee needs.
- 7.4 Where rosters are worked, they will be published at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the roster. Changes in rosters, once posted, shall be by mutual agreement. Such agreement will not be unreasonably withheld.
- 7.5 Except by mutual agreement every employee shall have two periods of at least 24 hours off duty each week, and except in the case of emergencies or by agreement, these shall be consecutive.
- 7.6 A minimum break of nine hours shall be allowed between rostered shifts unless mutually agreed between the employer and the employee or in exceptional circumstances.
- 7.7 Employees may exchange shifts or duties by mutual agreement and with the prior approval of the employer. In this case, no additional payment shall apply.
- 7.8 Employees who undertake required training outside their normal hours of work will be granted time in lieu or ordinary pay as determined by employer policy on an hour by hour basis for up to 8 hours per day. Employees will be required to undertake up to 32 hours of training outside of normal work hours per year
- 7.9 Where the employer requires employees to attend classes of instruction or examinations during their normal working hours the time spent shall be paid at the employees ordinary time rate of pay but shall not count as time worked for the purposes of calculation of any overtime entitlements.
- 7.10 Duties, once commenced, shall be continuous (ie no split shifts) unless otherwise agreed between the employer and the employee.

7.11 **Additional Provisions for Employees working Alternative Rosters:**

In specific instances, i.e. shifts of longer or variable lengths, the ordinary hours for a full-time employee are able to be averaged over a roster cycle of greater than one fortnight e.g.: an employee who works 12-hour shifts may work 120 hours over a 3 week roster and be considered to be fulltime. No employee shall be required to work more than a 12-hour rostered shift.

Alternative hours of work may be implemented by agreement between the employer and the employees directly affected. It is recognised employees have the ability to consult NZNO before such agreement is reached.

KiwiSaver

Upon commencement of employment employees will automatically be enrolled into KiwiSaver.

The Employer will comply with all its legal obligations in relation to KiwiSaver.

The Employer will continue the employer contribution after 65+ who is directly employed and covered by the SECA.

The current minimum Employer and Employee contributions are indicated in the table below:

From the first whole pay period	Employer Contribution	*Employee Contribution	Total Contribution
	3% of gross wages	3% of gross wages	6% of gross wages

(* Employees can choose to contribute more, up to 10%)

8. Ngā wa Whakatā Paramanawa Hoki/Meal Breaks and Rest Periods

In relation to subclauses 8.1 to 8.4, Māori and Iwi provider's meal breaks and rest periods will be taken in a culturally appropriate manner and in a way that is consistent with organisation policy.

- 8.1 Except when required for urgent or emergency work and except as provided in 8.2 below, no employee shall be required to work for more than five hours continuously without being entitled to a meal break of not less than half an hour.
- 8.2 An employee unable to be relieved from work for a meal break shall be entitled to have a meal while on duty and this period shall be regarded as working time. The employee shall comply with the employer's policy as to where on the premises the meal may be taken.
- 8.3 Rest breaks of 10 minutes each for morning tea, afternoon tea or supper, and the equivalent breaks for night duty where these occur during duty, shall be recognised as time worked.
- 8.4 During the meal break or rest breaks prescribed above, free tea, coffee, milk and sugar shall be supplied by the employer when the break is taken on the premises. This shall not apply when employees are working offsite.

9. Moni Utua/Rates of Remuneration

9.1 If additional funding for rates of pay is received prior to 1 April 2025 or following, then the parties to this CA shall convene as soon as possible following that announcement to renegotiate wage rates accordingly.

Some or all of the following occupational groupings will be included in each Employer Schedule dependent on the employment of such.

Registered Nurse (RN)	
7	45.70
6 (Community)	44.37
5	43.08
4	38.77
3	36.70
2	34.55
1	31.91

Enrolled Nurse (EN)	
5	35.29
4	34.18
3	33.07
2	30.67
1	29.31

Clinical Practice Manager	
Year 1-2	47.58
Year 3-4	50.82

Social Worker	
Registered Social Worker	
7	45.70
6	44.37
5	43.08
4	38.77
3	36.70
2	34.55
1	31.91

Social Worker	
Unregistered Social Worker	28.76
	27.80
	26.80

Nurse Practitioner (NP)	
4	68.90
3	63.77
2	60.66
1	57.54

Community Health Support Workers Kaiāwhina	
5	29.50
4	28.64
3	28.13
2	26.37
1	24.82

Various Roles	Pay Band Roles can be placed within this pay band; these are not incremental steps
Administration Lead Administration Receptionist Health Promotion Activity Coordinator Kaiārahi Kaimahi Administration/Finance/IT	23.75 – 38.00

9.2 Operation of Rates of Remuneration

Operation of the rates of pay/pay scales shall be agreed by both parties and written up as a pay scale in this agreement when funding improved.

9.3 Overtime

For those employees/workplaces where superior entitlements to these were available, such entitlements shall be retained by the individuals/workplaces concerned.

9.3.1 Overtime

Overtime is time worked in excess of seven and a half hours per day or eight hours per day or the rostered duty whichever is greater, or 75 hours or 80 hours per two week period, or 37.5 hours or 40 hours per week, when such work has been authorised in advance.

Overtime shall be paid at one and one half times the hourly rate of pay. A part-time employee working more than their usual hours of work on a weekly basis, but less than the fulltime ordinary hours as specified in Clause 6.1, is entitled to payment for the extra hours at their ordinary time hourly rate (T1).

In lieu of payment for overtime the employer and employee may jointly agree for the employee to take equivalent (i.e. one hour overtime worked for one hour ordinary time off) paid time off work at a mutually convenient time.

9.4 Penal Rates

Weekend rate - applies to ordinary time (other than overtime) worked after 1pm Saturday until midnight Sunday/Monday shall be paid at time one half (T0.5) in addition to the ordinary hourly rate of pay.

9.4.1 Saturday rate - applies to ordinary time (other than overtime) worked after 6am Saturday until 1pm Saturday shall be paid at quarter time (T0.25) in addition to the ordinary hourly rate of pay.

10. Mahi Apiti / Call Back and On Call

10.1 If applicable, agreed with each employer and recorded as a separate Schedule to this MECA

11. Whakautua Moni/Reimbursing Payments

11.1 Annual Practising Certificate

For those employees where superior entitlements to these were available, such entitlements shall be retained by the individuals concerned.

Where an employee is required by law to hold an annual practising certificate, the cost of the certificate shall be met by the employer provided that:

- a) It must be a statutory requirement that a current certificate be held for the performance of duties.
- b) The employee must be engaged in duties for which the holding of a certificate is a requirement.
- c) Any payment will be offset to the extent that the employee has received a reimbursement from another employer.
- d) The Employer will only pay one APC unless there are operational requirements for an employee to maintain more than one APC.

11.2 Travelling Expenses and Incidentals

- a) When travelling on employer business, the employee will be reimbursed for authorised costs on an actual and reasonable basis on presentation of receipts.
- b) Employees who are instructed to use their motor vehicles on employer business shall be reimbursed in accordance with the IRD mileage rates as promulgated from time to time. The IRD rates that applied at the commencement of this collective agreement are as follows:

11.3 Annual Business Use Reimbursement per Km

<u>Km</u>	<u>c/Km</u>
Petrol or Diesel	
Up to 14,000	\$1.04 cents
Over 14,000	0.35 cents
Petrol Hybrid	
Up to 14,000	\$1.04 cents
Over 14,000	21 cents
Electric	
Up to 14,000	\$1.04 cents
Over 14,000	12 cents

11.4 General:

In circumstances not addressed by this clause, any authorised actual and reasonable expenses incurred on behalf of the employer shall be reimbursed in accordance with individual employer policies.

12. Ngā Harerei Matua/Public Holidays

For those employees/workplaces where superior entitlements to these were available, such entitlements shall be retained by the individuals/workplaces concerned.

12.1 The following days shall be observed as public holidays:

- New Year's Day
- 2 January
- Waitangi Day
- Good Friday
- Easter Monday
- ANZAC Day
- Matariki Day
- Sovereign's Birthday
- Labour Day
- Christmas Day
- Boxing Day
- Anniversary Day (as observed in the locality concerned).

12.2 When employees work on a public holiday they will be paid at time and a half the ordinary time hourly rate of pay (T1.5) for each hour worked. The employee shall also be granted an alternative holiday, if the day would otherwise be a working day for the employee. Such alternative holiday shall be taken and paid as specified in the Holidays Act 2003.

12.3 In order to maintain services to clients, the employer may require an employee to work on a public holiday when the public holiday falls on a day which, but for it being a public holiday, would otherwise be a working day for the employee.

12.4 An employee who is on call on a public holiday as provided above, but is not called in to work, shall be granted an alternative holiday, except where the public holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday and its observance is transferred to a Monday or Tuesday which the employee also works. Such alternative holiday shall be taken and paid as specified in the Holidays Act 2003.

12.5 Those employees who work a night shift which straddles a public holiday, shall be paid at public holiday rates for those hours which occur on the public holiday and the applicable rates for the remainder of the shift. The alternative holiday shall apply in respect to the day on which the majority of hours are worked.

12.6 Part-time employees –
Where a part-time employee's days of work are fixed, the employee shall only be entitled to public holiday provisions if the day would otherwise be a working day for that employee. Where a part-time employee's days are not fixed, the employee shall be entitled to public holiday provisions if they worked on the day of the week that the public holiday falls more than 40 % of the time over the last three months. Payment will be relevant daily pay.

12.7 When a public holiday falls during a period of annual leave, sick leave on pay or special leave on pay, an employee is entitled to that holiday which is not debited against such leave.

13. Wehenga a Tau/Annual Leave

- 13.1 Employees, other than casuals, shall be entitled to 4 weeks annual leave, taken and paid in accordance with the Holidays Act 2003 and subject to the other provisions of this clause, except that on completion of 5 years recognised current continuous service with the same employer the employee shall be entitled to 5 weeks annual leave per annum.
- 13.1.1 For those employees where superior entitlements to these were available, such entitlements shall be retained by the individuals concerned.
- 13.1.2 Casual employees shall be paid 8% of gross taxable earnings in lieu of annual leave to be added to the salary paid for each engagement.
- 13.2 **Conditions**
- 13.2.1 Annual leave may be granted in one or more periods. In accordance with the Holidays Act 2003, the employee shall be given the opportunity to take two weeks leave at one time.
- 13.2.2 Annual leave is able to be accrued to a maximum of two years entitlement with the agreement of the Employer.
- 13.2.3 Annual leave shall be taken to fit in with service/work requirements and the employee's need for rest and recreation.
- 13.2.4 When an employee ceases duty, wages shall be paid for accrued annual leave and the last day of employment shall be the last day worked.
- 13.2.5 Employees shall be entitled to annual leave on a pro rata basis.
- 13.2.6 An employee may anticipate up to one year's annual leave entitlement at the discretion of the employer.

14. Wehenga Māuiuitanga/Sick Leave

The following Sick Leave provisions shall apply

- 14.1 In accordance with the Holidays Act 2003 (amended) on appointment to TRK employees shall be entitled to ten (10) working days leave for sick or domestic purposes during the first twelve months of employment, and an additional ten (10) working days for each subsequent twelve month period.
- 14.1.1 For those employees where superior entitlements to these were available, such entitlements shall be retained by the individuals concerned.
- 14.2 A medical certificate may be required to support the employee's claim for sick leave.
- 14.3 The provisions of this clause are inclusive of the sick leave provisions of the Holidays Act 2003.
- 14.4 The employee can accumulate their entitlement up to a maximum of 30 days.

Any entitlement accrued prior to commencement of this agreement in excess of 30 days shall be retained but will not be increased until the balance falls below 30 days.

- 14.5 At the employer's discretion an employee may be granted anticipated sick leave. Any leave taken in advance and still remaining outside the entitlement will be paid to the employer. The employer may deduct monies due from the final pay.
- 14.6 Sick leave may be utilised where the employee requires surgery or leave for health screening. Leave for this purpose may be taken in ¼ day blocks.
- 14.7 **Domestic Leave** The employer may grant an employee leave on pay as a charge against sick leave entitlement when the employee must, because of an emergency, stay at home to care for their spouse/partner or a person who depends for care on the employee. This person would, in most cases, be the employee's child, spouse/partner or other dependent family member.
- 14.7.1 Approval is not to be given for absences during or in connection with the birth of an employee's child. Annual leave or parental leave should cover such a situation.
- 14.7.2 At the employer's discretion, an employee may be granted leave without pay, where the employee requires time away from work to look after a seriously ill member of the employee's family.
- 14.7.3 The production of a medical certificate or other evidence of illness may be required.
- 14.8 During periods of leave without pay, sick leave entitlements will not continue to accrue.

15. Wehenga Tangihanga/Bereavement Leave

- 15.1 An employee shall be entitled to a maximum of three days leave without loss of pay on each occasion on the death of the employee's spouse/partner, father, mother, brother, sister, child, grandparent, parents-in-law, grandchild, step children, step parents, step sister, step brother, or any other close family/whanau/person in respect of whom the employer agrees that tangihanga/ bereavement leave may be taken.
- 15.2 An employee shall be entitled to one days leave without loss of pay on each occasion of the death of any other person, providing that the employer accepts that the employee has suffered a bereavement, taking into account the relevant factors set out in section 69(3) of the Holidays Act 2003.
- 15.3 If bereavement occurs while an employee is absent on annual leave, sick leave on pay or any other special leave on pay, such leave may be interrupted and bereavement leave granted in terms of clause 15.1 above. This provision will not apply if the employee is on leave without pay.
- 15.4 In relation to Tangihanga and clauses 15.1 and 15.2 above, the employer shall consider these provisions in a culturally appropriate manner. The granting of time off and for how long shall be at the discretion of the employer.
- 15.5 The employer agrees that on application, it may be appropriate to grant leave without pay in order to accommodate various special bereavement needs not recognised in sub clause 15.1 and 15.2 above.

The provisions of this clause are inclusive of the bereavement leave provisions of the Holidays Act 2003.

16. Wehenga Mātua Whanau/Parental Leave

- 16.1 The provisions of the Parental Leave and Employment Protection Act 1987 and the Parental Leave and Employment Protection (Paid Parental Leave) Amendment Act 2002 will apply.
- 16.2 Statement of principle - The parties acknowledge the following provisions are to protect the rights of employees during pregnancy and on their return to employment following parental leave and is to be read in conjunction with the Parental Leave and Employment Protection Act 1987 (referred to as the Act in this clause 16), provided that where this clause 16 is more favourable to the employee, the provisions of this clause 16 shall prevail. Employees should seek the advice of their manager, Human Resources or NZNO in applying for parental leave. Advice on parental leave is also available from Employment New Zealand (www.employment.govt.nz). Advice on parental leave payments is available from the Inland Revenue Department (www.ird.govt.nz.)
- 16.3 Entitlement and eligibility - Provided that the employee assumes or intends to assume the primary care as defined in the Act, or is the primary carer or partner of a primary carer, the entitlement to parental leave is:
- (a) in respect of every child born to them or their partner;
 - (b) in respect of every child under six years of age, where the employee becomes a primary carer for the child;
 - (c) where two or more children are born at the same time or where the employee becomes a primary carer for two or more children under six years of age within a one-month period, for the purposes of these provisions the employee's entitlement shall be the same as if there were only one child.

Note: Whāngai arrangements are included in situations where the employee becomes a primary carer for a child or two or more children.

- 16.4
- (a) Parental leave of up to twelve months is to be granted to employees with at least one year's service at the time of commencing leave.
 - (b) Parental leave of up to six months is to be granted to employees with less than one year's service at the time of commencing leave.

Provided that the length of service for the purpose of this clause means the aggregate period of service, whether continuous or intermittent, in the employment of the employer.

- (c) The maximum period of parental leave may be taken by either the employee exclusively or it may be shared between the employee and their partner either concurrently or consecutively. This applies whether or not one or both partners are employed by the employer. The parental leave may be taken in more than one continuous period, with the start and finish dates of each additional period, and any extension of parental leave past the anniversary date of the commencement of parental leave, to be agreed between the employer and the employee.
- (d) Pursuant to Part 3 (A) of the Act employees who are not entitled to primary carer leave may request a period of negotiated carer leave from their employment. Negotiated carer leave may enable the employee to receive parental leave payments from IRD if they meet the parental leave payment threshold test.

16.5 In cases of adoption of children of under six years of age, parental leave shall be granted in terms of 16.2 and 16.3 above, providing that fourteen days notice is given before the employee intends to assume the responsibility for the care of the child. Evidence of an approved primary care placement shall be provided to the employer's satisfaction.

Note: Whāngai arrangements are included as primary care placements for the purposes of this clause.

16.6 Employees intending to take parental leave are required to give at least one month's notice in writing and the application is to be accompanied by a certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner or midwife certifying the expected date of delivery. The provision may be waived where the employee becomes a primary carer for a child under the age of six or in circumstances outside the control of the employee.

16.7 The commencement of leave shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Parental Leave and Employment Protection Act 1987.

16.8 An employee absent on parental leave is required to give at least one month's notice to the employer of their intention to return to duty. When returning to work the employee must report to duty not later than the expiry date of such leave.

NOTE: It is important that employees are advised when they commence parental leave that, if they fail to notify the employer of their intention to return to work or resign, they shall be considered to have abandoned their employment.

16.9 Parental leave is not to be granted as sick leave on pay.

16.10 Job protection –

(a) Subject to 16.10 below, an employee returning from parental leave is entitled to resume work in the same position or a similar position to the one they occupied at the time of commencing parental leave. A similar position means a position:

(i) at the equivalent salary, grading;

(ii) at the equivalent weekly hours of duty;

(iii) in the same location or other location within reasonable commuting distance; and

(iv) involving responsibilities broadly comparable to those experienced in the previous position.

(b) Where applicable, employees shall continue to be awarded increments when their incremental date falls during absence on parental leave.

(c) Parental leave shall be recognised towards service-based entitlements, i.e.: annual leave and sick leave. However, parental leave will not contribute to Retiring Gratuities allowance calculations.

16.11 (a) Where possible, the employer must hold the employee's position open or fill it temporarily until the employee's return from parental leave. However, in the event that the employee's position is a "key position", the employer may fill the position on a permanent basis if they meet the requirements set out in the Act.

- (b) Where the employer is not able to hold a position open, or to fill it temporarily until an employee returns from parental leave, or fills it permanently on the basis of it being a key position, and, at the time the employee returns to work, a similar position (as defined in 16.9 (a) above) is not available, the employer may approve one of the following options:
- (i) an extension of parental leave for up to a further 12 months until the employee's previous position or a similar position becomes available; or
 - (ii) an offer to the employee of a similar position in another location (if one is available) with normal transfer expenses applying; if the offer is refused, the employee continues on extended parental leave as in 16.10(b)(i) above for up to 12 months; or
 - (iii) the appointment of the employee to a different position in the same location, but if this is not acceptable to the employee the employee shall continue on extended parental leave in terms of 16.10(b)(i) above for up to 12 months; provided that, if a different position is accepted and within the period of extended parental leave in terms of 16.10(b)(i), the employee's previous position or a similar position becomes available, then the employee shall be entitled to be appointed to that position; or
 - (iv) where extended parental leave in terms of 16.10(b)(i) above expires, and no similar position is available for the employee, the employee shall be declared surplus under clause 24.3 of this contract.
- 16.12 If the employee declines the offer of appointment to the same or similar position in terms of sub clause 16.9(a) above, parental leave shall cease.
- 16.13 Where, for reasons pertaining to the pregnancy, an employee on medical advice and with the consent of the employer, elects to work reduced hours at any time prior to starting parental leave, then the guaranteed proportion of full-time employment after parental leave shall be the same as that immediately prior to such enforced reduction in hours.
- 16.14 Parental leave absence filled by temporary appointee If a position held open for an employee on parental leave is filled on a temporary basis, the employer must inform the temporary appointee that their employment will terminate on the return of the employee from parental leave.
- 16.15 Employees on parental leave may from time to time and by agreement work occasional duties during the period of parental leave and this shall not affect the rights and obligations of either the employee or the employer under this clause.
- 16.16 Paid Parental Leave – Where an employee takes parental leave under this clause, meets the eligibility criteria in 16.2 (i.e. they assume or intend to assume the primary care of the child), and is in receipt of the statutory paid parental leave payment in accordance with the provisions of the Parental Leave and Employment Protection Act 1987 the employer shall pay the employee the difference between the weekly statutory payment and the equivalent weekly value of the employee's base salary (pro rata if less than full-time) for a period of up to 14 weeks.

Employees who negotiate carer leave under Part 3 (A) of the Act are not eligible for the Parental Leave payment under Clause 16.15.

These payments shall be made at the commencement of the parental leave and shall be calculated at the base rate (pro rata if appropriate) applicable to the employee for the six weeks immediately prior to commencement of parental leave. An employee who takes a period of paid leave (e.g. annual leave) at the start of their parental leave may elect to start their parental leave payment period on the day after the date on which that period of paid leave ends, even if it is later than the child's arrival or due date.

These payments shall only be made in respect of the period for which the employee is on parental leave and in receipt of the statutory payment if this is less than 14 weeks.

Where 16.3(c) applies and both partners are employed by the employer, the paid parental leave top up will be made to only one employee, being the employee who has primary care of the child.

17. Wehenga Kooti Karauna/Jury Service/Witness Leave

- 17.1 Employees called on for jury service are required to serve. Where the need is urgent, the employer may apply for postponement because of particular work needs, but this may be done only in exceptional circumstances.
- 17.2 An employee called for jury service shall advise the employer as soon as practicable.
- 17.3 Where the employee is required to serve on a jury and the option of making application for exemption is not exercised, the employee shall be granted paid jury service leave for up to a maximum of 5 days. Any additional days beyond the first 5 days leave can be taken as annual leave or leave without pay.
- 17.4 While the employee is receiving paid jury service leave, the employee upon receipt of payment from the Court for jury service shall pass this payment onto the employer but may retain expenses. Where annual leave or leave without pay is granted, or where work attendance is not affected by the jury service, the employee may retain the juror's fees and expenses paid.
- 17.5 Any time during normal working hours when the employee is not required by the Court, the employee is to report back to work where this is reasonable and practicable.
- 17.6 Where an employee is required to be a witness in a matter arising out of their current employment, they shall be granted paid leave at the relevant daily pay. The employee is to pay any fee received to the employer but may retain expenses.

18. Wehenga Mahi Tūroa/Long Service Leave

- 18.1 A full time or part time Employee shall be entitled to special holidays as follows:
 - (i) One special holiday of two weeks after the completion of 15 years and before the completion of 25 years of continuous service with the same employer.
 - (ii) One special holiday of two weeks after the completion of 25 years and before the completion of 40 years of continuous service with the same employer.

Such special holidays must be taken within the respective periods specified above and shall be forfeited unless taken within these periods.

- 18.2 All special holidays provided for in clause 18.1 should be at the same basis of average earnings as applies to Annual leave and may be taken in one or more periods and at such time or times as may be agreed by the employer and the Employee.
- 18.3 If an Employee who has become entitled to a special holiday as above, leaves the employment before the holiday has been taken, payment for the holiday shall be made.
- 18.4 For those employees where superior entitlements to these were available, such entitlements shall be retained by the individuals concerned.

19. Professional/Educational Development

- 19.1 The employer and employee are committed to staff education and development. Employees will be actively encouraged to attend educational courses relevant to their professional/educational development and of benefit to the employer. The employer shall grant professional/educational development leave of up to 40 hours per calendar year for full time employees (pro rated to no less than 8 hours per calendar year for part time employees). This leave is to enable employees to prepare a portfolio, complete qualifications, and to attend training relevant to their professional/educational development and relevant to the employer. Prior approval of the employer must be obtained. The approval of the employer shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 19.2 An employee may take leave on pay to attend National Meetings or Seminars of Section Groups and/or Colleges. This leave may be charged against the professional/educational development leave as specified in. Prior approval of the employer must be obtained. The approval of the employer shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 19.3 All of the employee's normal working hours absent from the practice for professional/educational development including travel time will be a claim against the hours as specified.
- 19.4 For those employees where superior entitlements exist, such entitlements shall be retained by the individuals concerned.
- 19.5 Paid meetings to meet organisational and service requirements not otherwise addressed in this clause (including staff meetings and training not related to the employee's occupation) shall be granted in addition to the above provisions.
- 19.6 Professional/educational development leave will be granted at T1 rate and shall not accumulate from one year to the next.
- 19.7 Where an employer requires an employee to attend professional/educational development, whether the employee is scheduled to work or not for the time of the leave, the employee shall be granted paid leave.
- 19.8 Only permanent employees, or fixed term employees who have a contract for six months or more, receive professional development leave. In the case of fixed term employees, this is prorated for the proportion of the year that the employee is employed for (for example, a nine month fixed term full time employment provides an entitlement of up to 30 hours during the period of fixed term employment). Fixed term employees who have a contract for less than six months do not have an entitlement to professional development leave, unless the employer has specifically agreed to provide this. Casual employees do not have an entitlement to professional development leave.

19.9 Professional Development and Recognition Programmes –

Nurses/Registered Nurses

Where an employer has agreed in writing to a Nursing Council of New Zealand accredited programme the following shall apply:

In recognition of the importance of increasing the number of expert and proficient nurses an employee who reaches the following levels will receive an allowance as long as the employee maintains that level of practice. All levels of practice shall be added to the base rate of pay and be payable on all hours worked and shall attract penal rates and overtime.

The rates of these allowances are as follows:

RN Expert \$2.16 per hour

RN Proficient \$1.20 per hour

Note: only one PDRP allowance shall apply.

19.10 Merit Level Payments

19.10.1 Registered Nurse Coordinator/Lead Nurse/Nurse Team Leader, Social Worker or similar Merit

Where a Registered Nurse/Practice Nurse Coordinator/Lead Nurse/Nurse Team Leader, Social Worker or similar performs tasks substantially outside the basic job description or performs at a consistently high level, the employee shall be entitled to an additional payment above their ordinary hourly rate.

The merit levels will be remunerated at the following rates:

Merit Level 1 \$1.00

Merit Level 2 \$1.20

Each merit level can be awarded individually, with it not being necessary to attain merit level 1 prior to attaining merit level 2. The merit levels shall be summated for those Registered Nurses/Practice Nurses/Midwives/Coordinators/Lead Nurses/Nurse Team Leaders, Social Workers or similar that meet the required criteria in both of the merit levels.

Awarding of merit shall include, but is not restricted to, the following responsibilities.

19.10.2 Merit Level 1 for Registered Nurse/Practice Nurse Coordinator/Lead Nurse/Nurse Team Leader, Social Worker or similar

- a) Consistently high involvement in the delivery of holistic and patient centric clinical management which improves the health outcomes and inequities for patients with long- term conditions such as COPD, asthma, diabetes and mental health & Addictions, including using data to establish priority and the measurement of patient progress; running of acute/chronic illness or well person orientated clinics and regular significant contribution to the education and training of staff and patient groups.
- b) Utilising relevant second language skills.
- c) Provides clinical supervision and/or significant mentoring to new nursing staff, medical students, nurse students, social work students and, where applicable, health care assistants, social assistants including appropriate documentation.
- d) Additional responsibilities e.g. IT, practice/workplace administration, Team leader.

- e) Exemplary performance of routine Registered Nurse/Practice Nurse, Social Work duties

An employee will be eligible for Merit Level 1 where the employee meets three or more of the responsibilities listed above.

19.10.3 **Merit Level 2 for Registered Nurse/Practice Nurse/Coordinator/Lead Nurse/Nurse Team Leader, Social Work or similar**

- a) Holds and utilises postgraduate qualification in Primary Care/Health Science or recognised training in a clinical specialization, Social Work, For example, LTC, OCC Health or Triage.
- b) Taking appropriate and significant clinical social responsibility for workplace accreditation.
- c) Undertaking the responsibilities such as Health and Safety Representative/Officer, Infection Control, Union Delegate for the workplace.
- d) Significant additional workplace income generation either through charging for new services, or significantly contributing to the securing or delivery of additional contracts (for example, but not limited to, additional ACC or PHO service contracts)

An employee will be eligible for Merit Level 2 where the employee meets two or more of the responsibilities listed above.

19.10.4 **Medical Receptionist / Administration Staff Merit/Health Promotion/kaiāwhina**

Where a Medical Receptionist/Administration staff member performs tasks substantially outside the basic job description or performs at a consistently high level, they should be entitled to an additional payment above their ordinary hourly rate.

The merit levels will be remunerated at the following rates:

Merit Level 1 \$1.35

Merit Level 2 \$1.35

Each merit level can be awarded individually, with it not being necessary to attain merit level 1 prior to attaining merit level 2. The merit levels shall be summated for those medical receptionist/administration staff that meet the required criteria in both of the merit levels.

Awarding of merit may include, but is not restricted to, the following responsibilities:

19.10.5 **Merit Level 1 for Medical Receptionist / Administration Staff/ Health Promotion/Kaiāwhina**

- a) Exemplary performance of routine medical receptionist /administration duties
- b) Financial Management including at least four of the bulleted items below:
 - Electronic transfer of GMS/ACC/Immunisation/Maternity Claims
 - PHO funding – import/export of data
 - Participate in wage processing
 - Management of debt collection
 - Payment of creditors
 - Cashbook

- GMS/ACC/Insurance reconciliation
 - Locum payments
- d) Responsibility for rostering and staff cover
 - e) Utilising relevant second language skills
 - f) Supervision and/or mentoring of staff
 - g) Advanced technical medical typing where it is a significant part of the employee's role
 - h) Relevant second language eg: Te Reo, Sign Language
 - i) NZQA level 4 Qualification, Relevant Qualification or higher
 - j) Clinical assistant skills

An employee will be eligible for Merit Level 1 where the employee meets three or more of the responsibilities listed above.

19.10.6 Merit Level 2 for Medical Receptionist / Administration Staff/ Health Promotion/Kaiāwhina

- a) Consistently high involvement in administration roles such as:
procurement/purchasing, IT management, staff/office management

Consistently high involvement over and above JD for to improve outcomes for population serving.

- b) Relief of Practice Manager or Team Leader
- c) Undertaking the responsibilities of the Health and Safety Officer, Infection control, Union delegate for the practice

An employee will be eligible for Merit Level 2 where the employee meets two or more of the responsibilities listed above.

19.10.7 Merit Level Review

Payment at a merit level shall continue while the employee continues to demonstrate both the skills and the application of the criteria.

Where the employer considers that an employee may no longer qualify for a merit payment, the employer will advise the employee in writing of this. This advice shall include the employer's reasons for reviewing the payment and specify the criteria deficits identified by the employer.

The employee is entitled to seek advice from NZNO and to be represented if the employee so wishes.

Where there is agreement the employee is no longer demonstrating the application of the criteria or has not retained their skills, the payment of the merit level shall cease. If the employee requests time to meet the criteria, the employee and employer will discuss goals, objectives and time frames with a view to allowing the employee to meet the criteria within a reasonable time frame. The employer and employee will meet at the end of the

specified time frame to determine whether the employee has met the required criteria. If the employee is still not meeting the criteria, the merit payment shall cease to be paid.

19.11 Merit and PRDP Payments

In respect of clauses, (19.8) an employee shall not be entitled to receive both PDRP and Merit payments, only one shall apply.

19.12 Merit Step and PDRP Process

Merit steps shall be requested by the employee (in writing if requested) detailing evidence of such. The employer shall respond to the request (in writing if requested) indicating either agreement or the reasons for declining the request.

Applications from employees for merit or PDRP will be responded to by the employer within four weeks of the date of application and where merit or PDRP is agreed, the relevant allowance will be backdated to the date of application.

20. Huihuinga o Te Rūnanga o Aotearoa/NZNO Meetings

20.1 Union members shall, in each calendar year, be entitled to up to at least two union meetings (each of a maximum of 2 hours duration) without loss of ordinary pay, provided that each of the following conditions is fulfilled:

20.1.1 At least 14 days' notice of the meetings shall be given.

20.1.2 Work shall resume as soon as practicable after the finish of the meeting. The employer shall not be obliged to pay any union member for a period greater than two hours in respect of any union meeting.

20.2 Only union members who actually attend a union meeting during their working hours shall be entitled to pay in respect of that meeting and to that end the union shall supply the employer with a list of members who attended and shall advise the employer of the time the meeting finished.

20.3 The union shall make such arrangements with the employer as may be necessary to ensure that the employer's business is maintained during any union meeting, including, where appropriate, an arrangement for sufficient union members to remain available during the meeting to enable the employer's operation to continue.

Note: The provisions contained in this clause are inclusive of and not in addition to the provisions of section 26 of the Employment Relations Act 2000.

21. Mana Tautoko Te Rūnanga o Aotearoa/NZNO Right of Entry

21.1 The authorised union representative shall be able at all reasonable times to be upon the premises for purposes related to the employment of its members and/or the union's business, in accordance with Sections 20 and 21 of the Employment Relations Act 2000.

21.2 A representative of a union exercising the ability to enter a workplace must, at the time of the initial entry and, if requested by the employer or a representative of the employer or by a person in control of the workplace, at any time after entering the workplace, -

(a) give the purpose of the entry; and

- (b) produce –
 - (i) evidence of his/her identity; and
 - (ii) evidence of his or her authority to represent the union concerned.

21.3 If a representative of a union exercises the ability to enter a workplace and is unable, despite reasonable efforts, to find the employer or a representative of the employer or the person in control of the workplace, the representative must leave in a prominent place in the workplace a written statement of -

- (a) the identity of the person who entered the premises; and
- (b) the union the person is a representative of; and
- (c) the date and time of entry; and
- (d) the purpose or purposes of the entry.

21.4 Nothing in subclauses 20.1 to 20.3 allows an employer to unreasonably deny a representative of a union access to a workplace.

22. Ngā Karere o Te Rūnanga o Aotearoa/NZNO Delegate/ Workplace Representative

22.1 The employer shall recognise the delegate(s) who are elected by the employees and endorsed by the union as the representatives of the union.

23.2 Delegates shall endeavour to involve management at an early stage in the case of problems or disputes brought to the delegate's attention which need to be resolved. It is recognised delegates have the ability to seek advice from NZNO prior to involving management.

23. Turanga Whanau Whakapakaritanga Te Rūnanga o Aotearoa/NZNO Employment Relations Education Leave

The Employer shall grant leave on pay for employees' party to this MECA to attend courses authorised by NZNO to facilitate the employee's education and training as employee representatives in the workplace.

FTE eligible employees as at 1 March each year	Maximum number of days of employment relations education leave that we are entitled to allocate as a union
1 – 5	3
6 – 50	5
51 – 280	1 day for every 8 FTE eligible employees or part of that number
281 or more	35 days plus 5 days for every 100 FTE eligible employees or part of that number that exceeds 280

For the purposes of this clause, calculating the number of full-time equivalent eligible employees employed by an employer –

- (a) an eligible employee who normally works 30 hours or more during a week is to be counted as 1:

- (b) an eligible employee who normally works less than 30 hours during a week is to be counted as one-half.

The NZNO shall send a copy of the programme for the course and the name of employees attending at least 14 consecutive days prior to the course commencing.

The granting of such leave shall not be unreasonably withheld taking into account continuing service needs.

The provision of Part 7 of the Employment Relations Act 2000 shall apply where any provision or entitlement is not provided for, or is greater than specified above.

24. Kōrerorero Tiaki Whakahaere puta ke/ Consultation and Management of Change

24.1 Management of Change

24.1.1 Consultation between the employer, its employees and the union is essential on substantive matters of mutual concern and interest. Effective communication between the parties will allow for:

- (a) improved decision making
- (b) greater cooperation between employer and employees; and
- (c) a more harmonious, effective, efficient, safe and productive workplace

The employer recognises the role of the employee's staff delegate and the NZNO in assisting in the positive Management of Change.

24.1.2 Prior to the commencement of any significant change to staffing, structure or work practices, the employer will identify and give reasonable notice to employees who may be affected and to the NZNO to allow them to participate in the consultative process so as to allow substantive input.

24.1.3 Where an employer receives an indication of potential significant changes, they undertake to advise staff and the NZNO as soon as practicable of the possibility of these changes.

24.2 Consultation

24.2.1 Consultation involves the statement of a proposal not yet finally decided upon, listening to what others have to say, considering their responses and then deciding what will be done. Consultation clearly requires more than mere prior notification.

24.2.2 The requirement for consultation should not be treated perfunctorily or as a mere formality. The person (s) to be consulted must be given sufficient opportunity to express their view or to point to difficulties or problems.

24.2.3 If changes are proposed and such changes need to be preceded by consultation, the changes must not be made until after the necessary consultation has taken place. Both parties should keep open minds during consultation and be ready to change. Sufficiently precise information must be given to enable the person (s) being consulted to state a view, together with a reasonable opportunity to do so – either orally or in writing.

- 24.2.4 Consultation requires neither agreement nor consensus, but the parties accept that consensus is a desirable outcome.
- 24.2.5 The consultation process will give employees affected, or likely to be affected, by any significant change to staffing, structures or work practices, and the NZNO organiser/delegate, the opportunity to put forward their views on any proposals or options developed for change prior to any final decision being made.
- 24.2.6 The process will generally include, but not necessarily be confined to the following:
- (a) Management will meet with employees likely to be affected and the NZNO organiser/delegate to outline the possibility of change, looking at the current situation and the future, given the factors that could give rise for the change.
 - (b) Management will develop a plan or proposal with options that include possible implications in relation to staffing changes.
 - (c) The plan or proposal will be circulated to employees likely to be affected and the NZNO organiser/delegate, with a request for submissions within a reasonable and specified timeframe. Alternative proposals or options should demonstrate that the objectives could be met. Management will meet with employees and the NZNO organiser/delegate for clarification of issues arising from the plan or proposal.
 - (d) Once submissions have been considered, management will make the final decision, and work with the NZNO organiser/delegate to finalise the implementation plan.
 - (e) It is agreed that consideration will be given and maintained in the Employer's basic rights and obligations to operate the business in an efficient, businesslike, safe and professional manner.

25. Kirimini Hapanga/Redundancy

- 25.1 For the purpose of this Agreement, redundancy is defined as a condition in which the employer has staff surplus to requirements because of reorganisation, contractual change or the closing down of all or part of the employer's operation.
- 25.2 The employer shall provide a minimum of four weeks written notice of an impending redundancy to the affected employees and shall endeavour to redeploy affected employees. An employer will endeavour to provide the employee with a longer period of notice that at least reflects the period of notice referred to in the service contract with the relevant funder.
- 25.3 During the period of notice the employee shall be entitled to a maximum of 40 hours for CV preparation, attending job interviews, travel and time attending counselling by agreement with the employer, without loss of pay. These benefits may be increased at the discretion of the employer in consultation with the employee.
- 25.4 The employee made redundant shall be provided with a Certificate of Service stating that employment was terminated as a result of redundancy.
- 25.5 No redundancy compensation shall normally be payable however this is not precluded by agreement.

26. Kaimahi Tiakitanga/Employee Protection Provision

- 26.1 Where the employer is contracting out, selling or transferring all or part of the business, including the part of the business where the employee is employed, the following provisions will apply:
- 26.1.1 The employer shall endeavour to consult the employee about any proposal to sell all or part of the business or to contract out or transfer work before a final decision is made.
- 26.1.2 If the employer decides to proceed with the proposed restructure, it will negotiate with the new contractor/service provider with a view to endeavouring to have the new employer offer the employee employment on the same or substantially similar terms and conditions, including in the same location and with duties within the employee's capabilities, and recognising service as continuous. The employee will be advised of timeframes for such negotiation and/or for the acceptance of any offer of employment and/or of any application process, in a timely manner.
- 26.1.3 The employee is entitled to choose whether or not to accept employment with the contractor/service provider. In the event that the contractor/service provider offers the employee employment in terms of 25.1.2 above, no redundancy situation will arise, and the employee will not be entitled to receive redundancy compensation or additional notice as specified in 24.5 above, whether or not the employee chooses to accept the offer of employment. The employee will be entitled to notice of termination with the employer as specified in this clause.
- 26.1.4 In the event that the contractor/service provider is not prepared to offer the employee employment in terms of 25.1.2 above, the employee will be entitled to notice of termination as specified in clause 34.1 and will remain entitled to the provisions of Clause 24.
- 26.2 The provisions contained in this clause shall not apply where the employer is in receivership or in liquidation.

27. Whakaritenga o Nga Whanau Whanui Whanau/ Family Friendly Policies

Employers and employees recognise the value of whanau/family and will endeavour to promote whanau/family friendly policies.

- 27.1 The parties recognise the importance of good quality childcare facilities being readily available to employees, and support present facilities arrangements. This is often not the case in rural isolated settings. With this in mind when a tamariki is unwell that we look at flexible working arrangements on a case by case basis when no other options are available to care. Working party to set up guidelines and review.

28. Kōrero Muna Hei Tiaki/Confidentiality/Public Statements

- 28.1 As part of their normal duties, the employees will have access to confidential information concerning the employer and clients. This information may include, but is not limited to, business information, trade secrets, transaction details, business, employee or client records, and other confidential information relating to the employer, employees or clients.

- 28.2 Under no circumstances will an employee make use of, divulge or communicate confidential information to any person either during the term of this agreement or at any time after the termination of this agreement.
- 28.3 This shall not prevent registered health professionals from making appropriate ethical/professional disclosures regarding individual patient clinical status and associated legal issues in accordance with the provisions of the Privacy Act 1993. The registered health professional will give the employer prior notification of such disclosures.

29. Whakapakaritanga o Te Kaimahi/Professional Development

The employer and employee are committed to staff education and development. Employees will be actively encouraged to attend educational courses relevant to their position/professional/educational development and of benefit to the employer. The employer will endeavour to financially partner with the employee to this end.

- 29.1 The employer shall grant professional/educational development leave of up to 40 hours per calendar year for full time employees (pro rated to no less than 8 hours per calendar year for part time employees). This leave is to enable employees to prepare a portfolio, complete qualifications, and to attend training relevant to their professional/educational development and relevant to the employer. Prior approval of the employer must be obtained. The approval of the employer shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 29.2 For those employees where superior entitlements to these were available, such entitlements shall be retained by the individuals concerned.
- 29.3 Paid leave to meet organisational and service requirements, and those HPCA requirements not otherwise addressed in this clause (including staff meetings and in-service training) shall be granted in addition to the above provisions. The employer will meet any associated costs.
- 29.4 Professional/educational development leave will be granted at ordinary time and shall not accumulate from one year to the next.
- 29.6 It is acknowledged that designated senior nurses/midwives may require additional paid opportunities for development.

30. Te Tikanga o Oritenga/Policies and Procedures

- 30.1 All employees covered by the Agreement shall comply with the employer's policies and procedures in force from time to time, to the extent that such policies and procedures are not inconsistent with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- 30.2 The employee will be consulted regarding any additions/amendments to those policies and procedures, where such additions/amendments have a material effect on employees' conditions of employment.
- 30.3 **Leave Without Pay:**
Leave without pay may be taken by mutual agreement between the employee and the employer.

31. Whakaruruhau/Health and Safety

- 31.1 The employer shall comply with the provisions of the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 and subsequent amendments concerning safety, health and welfare matters. The parties to this agreement agree that employees should be adequately protected from any safety and health hazard arising in the workplace. All reasonable precautions for the health and safety of employees shall be taken.
- 31.2 It shall be the responsibility of the employer to ensure that the workplace meets required standards and that adequate and sufficient safety equipment is provided.
- 31.3 It shall be the responsibility of every employee covered by this agreement to work safely and to report any hazards, accidents or injuries as soon as practicable to their supervisor.
- 31.4 It is a condition of employment that safety equipment and clothing required by the employer is to be worn or used by the employee and that safe working practices must be observed at all times.
- 31.5 Attention is also drawn to the employer's policies and procedures on health and safety.
- 31.6 Where there is an Employee Participation Agreement in place, the employer recognises that to fulfil their function health and safety delegates require adequate training, paid time and facilities.

32. Mate Whawhati Tata/Accidents and Injuries

- 32.1 Where an employee is incapacitated as a result of an accident, and that employee is on earnings related compensation and has an entitlement to sick leave, the employer agrees to supplement the employee's compensation by 20% of base salary during the period of incapacitation. This leave shall be taken as a charge against the employee's sick leave entitlement.

33. Nga Kākahu Tika/Uniforms and Protective Clothing

- 33.1 Where an employer requires an employee to wear a uniform, it shall be provided free of charge but shall remain the property of the employer. This sub clause does not apply in the event that the employee wears their own clothing within broad requirements such as wearing of certain colours.
- 33.2 Suitable protective clothing shall be provided at the employer's expense where the duty involves a risk of excessive soiling or damage to uniforms or personal clothing or a risk of injury to the employee.
- 33.3 Damage to personal clothing – An employee shall be reasonably compensated for damage to personal clothing worn on duty, or reimbursed dry cleaning charges for excessive soiling to personal clothing worn on duty, provided the damage or soiling did not occur as a result of the employee's negligence, or failure to wear the protective clothing provided. Each case shall be determined on its merits by the employer.

34. Uta a Wiki/Marama/Tau Payment of Wages

- 34.1 Employees will be paid weekly or fortnightly in arrears by direct credit. Where errors, other than overpayment, have occurred as a result of employer action or inaction,

corrective payment must be made within three working days of the error being brought to the employer's attention.

- 34.2 Where an employee has taken leave in advance of it becoming due, and the employee leaves before the entitlement has accrued, the employer will deduct the amount owing in excess of entitlement from the employee's final pay.
- 34.3 Deductions may be made from remuneration for any absence due to the default of the employee or for sickness in excess of paid sick leave entitlement or compensatable accident. Any monies owed by the employee to the employer upon termination will be deducted from the employee's final pay.
- 34.4 The employees shall complete timesheets as required by the employer. Wherever practicable any disputed items shall not be changed without first referring it to the affected employee.
- 34.5 In the event of an overpayment of remuneration the employer and employee shall agree on reasonable repayments by deduction from wages / salary, except upon termination where any remaining overpayment may be recovered in full from any monies owed by the employer to the employee. Where agreement cannot be reached following discussion, the employer may deduct the overpayment either in full or by way of instalments provided 10 working days notice is provided and that any single deduction will not exceed 5% of net pay.
- 34.6 The employer shall endeavour to direct credit payment of wages into the employee's bank account one clear banking day prior to a public holiday.

35. Te Whakakāhore Mahi/Termination of Employment

35.1 Notice Period

Either party may terminate the employment agreement with four weeks written notice, unless otherwise negotiated with the employer. Agreement for a shorter notice period will not be unreasonably withheld. When the agreed notice is not given, the unexpired notice may be paid or forfeited by the party failing to give the agreed notice.

This shall not prevent the employer from summarily dismissing any employee without notice for serious misconduct.

35.2 Abandonment of Employment

An employee absent from work for three consecutive working days without notification to the employer or without appropriate authorisation from the employer will be considered by the employer as having terminated their employment without notice, unless the employee is able to show they were unable to fulfil their obligations under this section through no fault of their own. The employer will make all reasonable efforts to contact the employee during the three days period of absence.

36. Mauri Tu kei Whakaiti Tangata/Harassment Prevention

- 36.1 The parties recognise that harassment in the workplace is totally unacceptable. It is the responsibility of the employee to familiarise themselves with the relevant policy on harassment and the responsibility of the employer to communicate the extent of this policy and make it accessible to all employees.

- 36.2 Harassment can take many forms, including sexual harassment, bullying, racial harassment, violence and other forms of intimidating behaviour.
- 36.3 Harassment complaints will be taken seriously and the employer undertakes to address these with sensitivity and impartiality.

37. Whakatau te Rangimarie/Resolution of Employment Relations Problems

- 37.1 An “employment relationship problem” includes:
- (a) A personal grievance
 - (b) A dispute
 - (c) Any other problem relating to or arising out of the employment relationship but does not include any problem with negotiating new terms and conditions of employment.

In relation to Maori and Iwi Providers for the resolution of Personal Grievances, the Korero Tahī Kaupapa will be encouraged in the first instance (see Appendix 3).

- 37.2 Where an Employment Relationship Problem arises the parties will in the first instance seek to resolve it between the immediately affected parties. Further to this:
- (a) The employee is entitled to seek representation at any stage during the process. Help with an employment relations problem is available from within the workplace (employee manager) or outside the workplace (Department of Labour 0800 800 863), or a union, an advocate or a lawyer.
 - (b) If the matter is unresolved either party is entitled to seek mediation from the Labour Department or refer the matter to the Employment Relations Authority. (Both mediation and investigation by the Authority are services available for the resolution of employment relationship problems.)

- 37.3 A “personal grievance” means a claim that an employee:
- (a) has been unjustifiably dismissed; or
 - (b) has had his/her employment, or his/her conditions of employment, affected to his/her disadvantage by some unjustifiable action by the employer; or
 - (c) has been discriminated against his/her employment; or
 - (d) has been sexually harassed in his/her employment; or
 - (e) has been racially harassed in his/her employment; or
 - (f) has been subjected to duress in relation to union membership.

- 37.4 If the employment relationship problem is a personal grievance, the employee must raise the grievance with the employer within a period of 90 days beginning with the date on which the action alleged to amount to a personal grievance occurred or came to the notice of the employee, whichever is the latter.

- 37.5 Where any matter comes before the Authority for determination, the Authority must direct the matter to mediation in the first instance. Where mediation has failed or been deemed inappropriate in the circumstances, the Authority will then have the power to investigate the matter.
- 37.6 If the employment relationship problem relates to discrimination or sexual harassment, services available for the resolution of the problem include either application to the Authority for the resolution of this grievance or a complaint under the Human Rights Act 1993, but not both.

38. Te Tangohanga Putea Uniana/Deduction of Union Fees

The Employer shall deduct employee NZNO fees from the wages/salaries of employees when authorised in writing by members and shall remit such subscriptions to the NZNO at agreed intervals.

- 38.1 Whakawhiti ora pai will pay for each employee who wishes to be part of this Collective agreement their union fee's to Tōpūtanga Tapuhi Kaitiaki O Aotearoa New Zealand Nurses Organisation (NZNO)

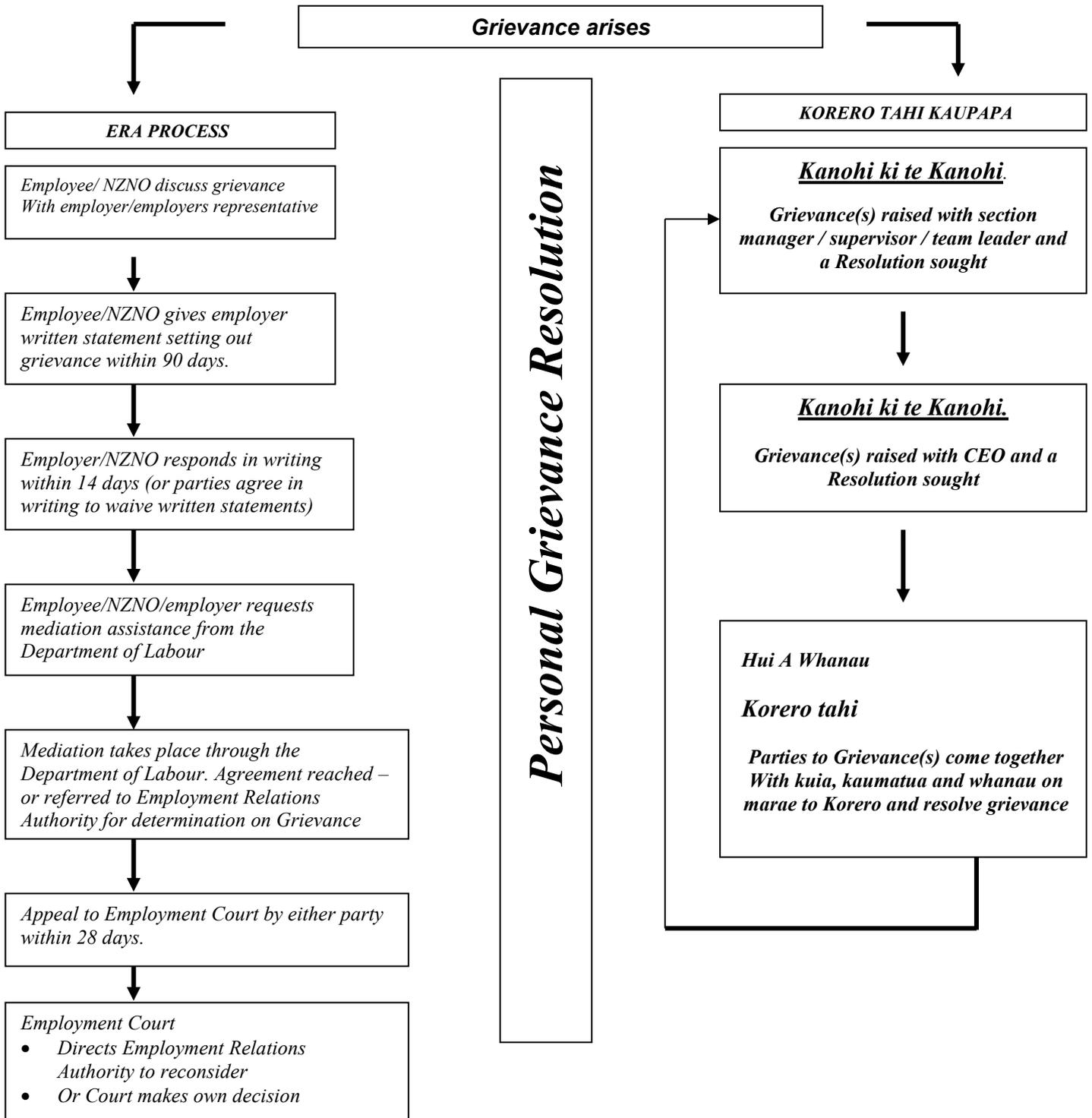
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

JOINT LOBBYING

The parties to this SECA are committed to achieving Te Whatu Ora pay parity for the employees covered by this MECA. There is agreement to form a joint NZNO/Employer team to actively lobby the appropriate stakeholders to achieve the necessary funding to attain pay parity. Should additional funding be achieved in this regard during the term of this SECA the parties agree to resume negotiations forthwith.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

(Employment Relations Act 2000 Part 9 & Korero tahi Kaupapa)



Signed this 27 day of February 2026

AUTHORISED Representative
of the Tōpūtanga Tapuhi Kaitiaki o
Aotearoa NZ NURSES ORGANISATION

Signature: 

Name: Julie Governor

AUTHORISED Representative
of the WHAKAWHITI ORA PAI
INCORPORATED SOCIETY

Signature: 

Name: Errol Murray