

## CoNNO Meeting Minutes – Friday 2 October 2015

### 1. Welcome

Members were welcomed to the meeting by Christopher Cliffe, Chair of the Coalition of National Nursing Organisations (CoNNO).

### 2. Attendance

Tracy Clarke	Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia
Joanne Morgan	Australasian Hepatology Association
Sharryn Byers	Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association
Joanne Perks	Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Assn Inc
Paul McLeish	Australia and New Zealand Orthopaedic Nurses Association
Sally Sara	Australia and New Zealand Urological Nurses Society
Karen Simunov	Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing
Lesley Everingham	Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses
Jacqui Burton	Australian College for Children and Young Peoples Nurses
Marija Juraja	Australian College for Infection Prevention and Control
Kim Ryan	Australian College of Mental Health Nurses
Shelley Reid	Australian College of Neonatal Nurses & CoNNO Councillor
Helen Gosby	Australian College of Nurse Practitioners & CoNNO Deputy Chair
Amanda Davies	Australian College of Nurse Practitioners
Kathleen McLaughlin	Australian College of Nursing & CoNNO Councillor
Suzy Ladanyi	Australian College of Critical Care Nurses
Ged Kearney	Australian Council of Trade Unions
Toni Rice	Australian Diabetes Education Association
Mandy Gallagher	Australian Nurse Teachers Society
Fiona Stoker	Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council
Julianne Bryce	Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation & CoNNO Secretary
Elizabeth Foley	Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation
Julie Reeves	Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation
Amanda Wylie	Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association
Patrice Cafferky	Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association
Kathy Godwin	Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association
Stephanie Jeremy	Australian Student and Novice Nurse Association
Ely Taylor	Australian Student and Novice Nurse Association
Terry Swanson	Australian Wound Management Association
Julie Calvert	Cancer Nurses Society of Australia
Debra Thoms	Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer
Joanne Lawrence	Continence Nurses Society of Australia
Rhonda Griffiths	Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery
Christopher Cliffe	CRANaplus & CoNNO Chair
Tarja Saastamoinen	Department of Health
Karen Cook	Department of Health
Mark Holmes	Flight Nurses Australia
Julian Grant	Maternal Child & Family Health Nurses Association
Heather McDonald	National EHealth Transition Authority
Liz Jones	National EHealth Transition Authority
Brett Holmes	New South Wales Nurses and Midwives Association
Tanya Vogt	Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
Marian Linnane	Nursing Informatics Australia & CoNNO Councillor
Kym Griffin	Palliative Care Nurses Australia

Representing the national interests of nurses in all sectors of the health profession

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## Apologies

Ross Proctor	Australasian Cardiovascular Nursing College
Jed Duff	Australian College of Operating Room Nurses
Claire Kennedy	Australian Day Surgery Nurses Association
Sharon Temby	Australian Dermatology Nurses Association & CoNNO Councillor
Joanne Ramadge	Australian Diabetes Education Association
Antonia van Loon	Australian Faith Community Nurses Association
Linda Starr	Australian Forensic Nurses Association
Michelle Girdler	Australian Nurse Teachers Society
Julianne Badenoch	Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association
Linda Oliver	Australian Women's Health Nurses Association
Leanne Trenning	College of Emergency Nurses Australasia
Janine Mohammed	Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives
Janie Thompson	Continence Nurses Society of Australia
Jennifer Harland	Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia
Margaret Tabone	Flight Nurses Australia
Lynn Rapley	Gastroenterological College of Australia
Tracey Nicholls	Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Nurses Group
Regina McDonald	Psychogeriatric Nurses of Association of Australia
Elizabeth Hore	Renal Society of Australasia

### 3. Confirmation of agenda

### 4. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Friday 1 May 2015 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### 5. Business arising from the previous meeting

All action items from the previous meeting have been addressed.

### 6. Bullying in the Workplace

Ged Kearney, ACTU President gave a presentation on the issues of bullying in the workplace, domestic violence and return to work. Information was provided about current legislation and work being undertaken by the Australian Council of Trade Unions in relation to these issues. The union movement takes great interest, and participates in, those issues that affect society, not just those found in the work environment. Work plays an important role in providing answers to some complex societal problems.

### 7. Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer update

This update was provided by Debra Thoms, who has just commenced in the position, taking over from Dr Rosemary Bryant AO, who retired in June 2015. Deb now has a position on the board of the National Health and Medical Research Council as a permanent observer. She is working with a range of people across the Department of Health. Deb will be writing to the members of the Nursing and Midwifery Stakeholder Reference Group to take part in strategic debate on nursing and midwifery. She invited feedback from CoNNO on any issues relating to nursing and midwifery to [debra.thoms@health.gov.au](mailto:debra.thoms@health.gov.au).

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## 8. Department of Health Update

An update was provided by Tarja Saastamoinen, Assistant Secretary and Karen Cook, Director Innovation and Reform, Health Workforce Reform Branch.

Issues discussed:

- The Skilled Occupation List is open for review and will close 31 October 2015.
- Looking at Health Workforce Australia data projections and continuing to work with this data.
- New Nursing and Midwifery Education Advisory Network (NMEAN) to be set up.
- Department is holding national workshops for consultation on the development of a National Chronic Conditions Strategic Framework in October and November.
- Federal Government Ministry changes include: Ageing and Aged Care back in the Health portfolio; Minister for Health, Sussan Ley; Minister for Ageing and Aged Care, Ken Wyatt; Minister for Rural Health, Fiona Nash.
- Department of Social Services to undertake a Nanny Pilot Project. This programme will provide \$246 million over two years to support families who struggle to access child care services when working, studying or training, by providing fee assistance to eligible families using a nanny in the family home. Care will be subsidised for up to 50 hours per child per week, for around 10,000 children, and delivered by approximately 4,000 nannies. Applications are now open for families who wish to participate in the pilot and will close 30 October 2015. For more information please visit the [Nanny Pilot Programme](#) website.

*Action: Secretariat to email the Skilled Occupation List to CoNNO members.*

## 9. Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) Update

An update was provided by Tanya Vogt, Executive Officer.

Issues discussed:

- Endorsement as a nurse practitioner registration standard and Registration standard for endorsement for scheduled medicines for midwives are awaiting Ministerial approval.
- Registration standards for Recency of practice, Professional Indemnity Insurance and Continuing Professional Development have been approved by Ministers. NMBA will be working on the rollout which will include workshops and roadshows.
- The NMBA have undertaken preliminary consultation on the Registration standard for endorsement for scheduled medicines registered nurses (rural and isolated practice). A public consultation will be conducted later this month.
- The NMBA has undertaken to do some work on nurse prescribing. They are looking at international models, models that may work in Australia and considering the Board's role in relation to prescribing.
- EN Standards for Practice – will be launched at the NENA conference on 21 October 2015.
- RN Standards for Practice – project is in the final stages of observations, with the NMBA to consider the final draft in November 2015.
- Review of the Codes of Professional Conduct, Codes of Ethics and Professional Boundaries documents is scheduled for early in 2016.
- The Board has made an announcement in the last week about the new National Health Impairment Scheme for nurses and midwives.
- Four new Board members are: Chris Helms (ACT), Nicola Giovonetti (WA – community member), Annette Symes (NSW), Jennifer Woods (WA).
- Midwifery Standards for Practice – the call for tenders is scheduled for early 2016.

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## 10. Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) update

An update was provided by Fiona Stoker, Chief Executive Officer.

Issues discussed:

- ANMAC is updating their website to engage and communicate with stakeholders and seek feedback from nurses and midwives via the website.
- ANMAC Board meet every two months with a communique posted after each meeting.
- Deb Thoms is joining the ANMAC Board as the Commonwealth Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer and Associate Professor Susan Pearce, as the jurisdictional representative.
- Currently finalising the Re-entry to Register Midwife Accreditation Standards
- The Nurse Practitioner Accreditation Standards and the Midwife Scheduled Medicines Accreditation Standards have been approved and released on the ANMAC website.
- The first consultation paper for the review of the Enrolled Nurse Accreditation Standards is currently open for public consultation.

## 11. National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA)

An update was provided by Heather McDonald on the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record (PCEHR). A total of 2,409,214 Australians have registered for PCEHR with 5,200 GP practices engaged. PCEHR is still an 'opt in' record.

NEHTA is transitioning to the new body, the Australian Commission on E-Health (ACEH), which will commence operations next year. The Federal Government has made a commitment on e-Health for a further four years. The PCEHR will become the new MyHealth Record. Pilot sites for the MyHealth Record have been selected. The MyHealth Record will be 'opt out' and is GP software compatible.

The NEHTA presentation is available on the CoNNO website.

For more information on NEHTA's work on e-Health go to [www.nehta.gov.au](http://www.nehta.gov.au).

## 12. Nursing Leadership Panel Discussion

The panel consisted of Deb Thoms, Commonwealth Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer; Tanya Vogt, Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia Executive Officer; Fiona Stoker, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council Chief Executive Officer; and Rhonda Griffiths, CoNNO representative for the Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery.

The panel discussed a wide range of issues critical to the nursing and midwifery professions.

## 13. Council Report

An update was given by Julianne Bryce and Christopher Cliffe.

New CoNNO Council members are Marian Linnane from Nursing Informatics Australia and Sharon Temby from the Australian Dermatology Nurses Association. Outgoing long term member Theresa Swanson was thanked for her input to both CoNNO and Council over many years.

Funding for CoNNO has been secured for another two years from the Commonwealth Department of Health.

CoNNO Council has developed a brief overview and an information sheet on CoNNO for CoNNO member organisations and key stakeholders. It is anticipated these documents will be useful to raise awareness about CoNNO amongst the members of our member organisations and to a broader group of health stakeholders. These documents have been sent to CoNNO member organisations and will also be sent to key stakeholders.

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The Council welcomes input from members on priority/key nursing and midwifery issues. Council member Jed Duff is to create a Delphi survey on these priority issues to be circulated to CoNNO members.

The CoNNO Secretariat and Chair Report is available on the CoNNO website.

#### 14. New business

There was discussion amongst the members about the possible name change of CoNNO to include midwifery in the title. The CoNNO Terms of Reference already include midwifery. The motion to change the CoNNO name to include midwifery was moved by Kim Ryan and seconded by Terry Swanson, and carried.

*Action: CoNNO Council members to consider possible options for the new name and Secretariat to email CoNNO members.*

*Action: Secretariat to notify the Australian College of Midwives of the name change.*

#### 15. Member reports

Written reports were provided by the following 27 member organisations (see attached):

Audiometry Nurses Association of Australia  
Australasian Hepatology Association  
Australasian Cardiovascular Nursing College  
Australasian Neuroscience Nurses Association  
Australasian Sexual Health and HIV Nurses Assn Inc  
Australian and New Zealand Society for Vascular Nursing  
Australian and New Zealand Urological Nurses Society  
Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses  
Australian College of Critical Care Nurses  
Australian College of Neonatal Nurses Inc  
Australian College of Nurse Practitioners  
Australian Diabetes Educators Association  
Australian Faith Community Nurses Association Inc  
Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation  
Australian Ophthalmic Nurses Association (Inc)  
Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association  
Australian Wound Management Association  
Continence Nurses Society of Australia  
Council of Deans of Nursing & Midwifery Australia and New Zealand  
CRANaplus  
Discharge Planning Association  
Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia  
Flight Nurses Australia Incorporated  
Maternal Child and Family Health Nurses Australia  
Nursing Informatics Australia  
Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Nurses Group  
Palliative Care Nurses Australia

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*Action: Secretariat to email tax information discussed during member body reports to CoNNO members.*  
*Action: Secretariat to email NENA conference information to CoNNO members.*  
*Action: ANMF to email Lemnos Gallipoli memorial information to Secretariat for circulation to CoNNO members.*

**16. Next meeting**

**Items for agenda**

Proposed agenda items for the next member meeting include:

- Issues relating to MBS and PBS access for Nurse Practitioners
- Motivating volunteers
- Not-for-profit tax implications

**Date and venue**

Friday 6 May 2016, ANMF Victorian Branch, Melbourne (tbc)

DRAFT

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