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Metro North Health

Message from the Executive Director TPCH

Tami Photinos



Dear team,

Next week is TPCH Charlies Week, when we celebrate the birthday week of The Prince Charles Hospital, and this year we are turning 70!

TPCH Week is all about celebration and acknowledging the great work being done by staff across the hospital each day. It's a chance for us to say thank you for your hard work and efforts throughout the year in supporting the delivery of high-quality care to our patients and community. It has certainly been a big year!

We have a great program of events on offer including Staff Wellness Day, Hour of Power research presentations, Staff Excellence Awards, Coming of the Light celebration, Giving Day, Short Film Festival and lots of food.

There's still time to register for activities such as the Master Cake Competition, Race around the Helipad, CPR Challenge, Escape Room and Trivia Quiz. There's also a Dress Up competition where teams and individuals can enter as their favourite TV star or character. An individual judging parade will be held during the week to decide on the best dressed staff member so please take the opportunity to dress up or just come along and share in the fun.

To find out more about how to get involved, view [full TPCH Week program](#).

On Thursday 24 October, we will hold our annual TPCH Staff Excellence Awards from 2 – 3pm in the Dr Mark O'Brien Auditorium. I encourage as many of you as possible to attend to help us acknowledge those staff and teams who have delivered outstanding service in a particular field or area of their work.

I look forward to celebrating with many of you next week. It will be a fantastic week!

Car parking update

This week has seen the implementation of additional overflow parking to expand the car parks available in Executive Car Park 4 (next to the Helipad). Some additional overflow car parking is also being facilitated between Chermside Community Health Centre and Ellen Barron Family Centre. Staff are asked to park within the designated bunting.

The availability of these extra spaces will help alleviate some of the parking pressures being felt by staff which are the result of recent changes made to accommodate the upcoming TPCH Expansion project.

Executive update

Acute Services Building smoking ceremony

Members of the Executive team joined with staff from TPCH and Metro North, and members of TPCH Expansion Project to celebrate the start of construction of the new six storey Acute Services Building with a traditional Smoking Ceremony. Aboriginal Elder, Aunty Kathryn Fisher,

performed the Smoking Ceremony on behalf of the Turrbal People of Brisbane.

The Smoking Ceremony was an opportunity to cleanse the building site and to show respect to Elders past, present and emerging. It was a wonderful event and I was very pleased to see both Elders and patients in attendance. We received positive feedback from Elders that TPCH Expansion project has shown a real commitment to providing opportunities for community to engage and provide input to the project, which gives them so much confidence that we are prioritising culturally safety and inclusiveness in our building design.



Smoking ceremony

Allied Health Professions Day

Monday 14 October was Allied Health Professions Day which highlights the key role played by allied health professionals in the health and well-being of our community. At TPCH, we have approximately 520 full-time equivalent allied health staff who work across the diverse specialties of physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, nutrition and dietetics, social work, pharmacy, respiratory science, cardiac science, sleep science, medical imaging and anaesthetics.

These staff form an integral part of the multidisciplinary team, with increasing recognition given to the value and leadership allied health professionals bring to the delivery of contemporary health care services. A big thanks to all of our wonderful Allied Health staff at TPCH!



Some of our Allied Health professionals

Security Officer Appreciation Day

Wednesday was International Healthcare Security Officer Appreciation Day. A big thanks to our Protective Services team who play a vital role in ensuring the safety of our staff, patients and visitors. We're very grateful for the time, commitment and energy our security officers invest in the care and protection of the people of TPCH. Keep up the great work team!



Some members of our Protective Services team

HSR recognition

Yesterday, A/Director Corporate Services Bianca Sullivan and I attended a special Health and Safety Representative (HSR) meeting to present badges and appreciation certificates to our HSRs. TPCH currently has 19 elected HSRs who play an important role in supporting the wellbeing of our staff, patients and visitors across all areas of the campus. They can assist making the workplace safe by providing advice, identifying hazards, raising safety concerns, participating in initiatives and communicating safety information.



TPCH Health and Safety Representatives

Staff profile

Today we will profile paediatric psychology team leader, Robyn Milligan. Robyn works to deliver service improvements to children and families with the broader allied health team, working closely with medicine, nursing and administration support. Part of her role involves thinking strategically about the future of paediatrics and psychology at TPCH, and also assisting with peer and student supervision. Robyn is supporting the rollout of the Paediatric Outpatient Allied Health First Model of Care, an Allied Health-led clinical pathway that aims to improve service delivery to children with neuro-behavioural presentations.

Robyn started at TPCH in September 2023, after working in Child and Youth Mental Health Service teams across QLD and NSW. She is passionate about working with and fostering

positive relationships with children and families. She believes that paediatric services are privileged to have front row seats to the unspoken 'magic' of human connection that exists within the families her team serves.

In her spare time, Robyn enjoys strong tea, good books and long walks with her dog, Murphy.



Shout out

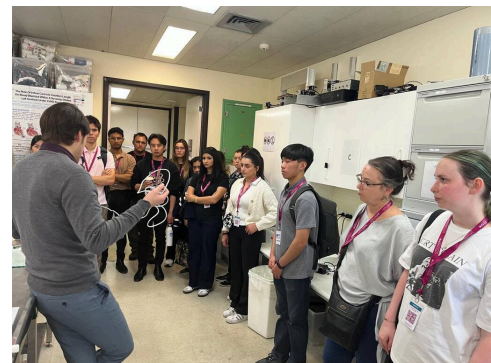
Today's shout out goes to Professor Peter Hopkins. Director Queensland Lung Transplant Service who has been appointed as President Elect for the International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT), head quartered in Chicago USA. The ISHLT, which has 3,600 members spanning medical, nursing and allied health disciplines from over 50 countries, is regarded as the pivotal global organisation for healthcare practitioners involved in the care of patients afflicted with advanced heart or lung disease. The organisation is renowned as the peak advocacy group driving change and innovation in transplantation around the world.



Professor Hopkins will commence his tenure as Incoming President in April 2025, followed by the Presidential year in 2026 which will culminate in the Annual Scientific Meeting, Sydney 2027. In the 45 year history of ISHLT, Professor Hopkins will be only the third Australian to be elected President, with the other two from St Vincent's Hospital Sydney. Congratulations Peter!

The other shout out goes to the Critical Care Research Group who recently hosted over 35 students, staff and industry representatives for its 'Be a biomedical engineer for that day' event held in association with UQ's Research and Innovation Week.

Participants had the opportunity to watch one of the world's most advanced bench top models of the cardiovascular system in action (known as the mock loop) and take part in activities to design and test a new blood pump. For those interested TPCH staff who weren't able to attend the event due to demand, CCRG is looking to host these days regularly. You can register your interest via email: tpch-ccrg@health.qld.gov.au.



Today's quote:

"I discovered I have choices and sometimes, it's a change in attitude" – Judith M. Knowlton

Kind regards,

Tami Photinos
Executive Director
The Prince Charles Hospital

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which our facilities are built. We also pay respect and acknowledge Elders past, present and the future.



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