



Dear colleagues,

Over the last few weeks in this message we've been looking over some of the details of RBWH's five-year Outlook Plan. The final pillar of that plan focuses on **'Building capacity'**. This is about what our future space will look like through master planning and expansions.

Central to this is the Queensland Cancer Centre (QCC) development and build. The \$1.1 billion QCC will be a purpose-built, 150-bed facility that provides cutting-edge care and research. When it opens, the centre will deliver a range of new and innovative cancer treatments, including cellular therapy and theranostics.

Other key areas of focus are:

- Creating physical space and systems to support refurbishments and replacing end-of-life assets and equipment in preparing for the future
- Increasing our physical infrastructure through new technology, infection control and green principles
- Reducing our environmental footprint through energy efficiency, waste reduction and green practices.

You can see an overview of the Outlook Plan [here](#).

Kenneth Jamieson Lecture

Last evening I attended the annual Kenneth Jamieson Lecture, delivered by Dr Annette Holian, Group Captain, RAAF Clinical Director of Surgery and Perioperative Services. Dr Holian's lecture, *A values-based career in Trauma* described her surgical and military career in a most inspirational yet humble way.

Her values of courage, adventure, compassion and integrity gave her the drive and direction to get through her toughest experiences in international disasters and war scenarios. She also reminded us of the importance of kindness in leadership. Sometimes you are in the presence of true greatness. Last night, RBWH had that opportunity through meeting Dr Holian.

Congratulations to the RBWH Trauma Service and Jamieson Trauma Institute on delivering such an esteemed speaker. Many officers from military services attended in support of Dr Holian, once again, in keeping with the strong traditions of RBWH linkages with the military.

On a personal note, it was also wonderful to see Dr Clifford Pollard who was very fittingly described as an icon.

World Prematurity Day

Today I attended a morning tea on Level 3 for World Prematurity Day, and it was important to

hear from mothers of premature babies who were cared for by our staff. There were some very moving speeches about the challenges that come with having a premature baby. What was very clear is the impact our staff in the Special Care Nursery and Intensive Care Nursery have on the babies and their families. Prematurity Day, which is on Sunday 17 November, is a good time to acknowledge the positive and lasting effect our clinical staff have on people's lives. Happy World Prematurity Day to the incredible staff of ICN and SCN.

Relocation of PEC

As you may know, funding has been allocated for an improved clinical space for mental health patients. Plans are underway to relocate and refurbish the Psychiatric Emergency Centre (PEC) into the area currently inhabited by the hospital Executive Leadership Team, on the Lower Ground Floor of the James Mayne Building. In 2026 this will see a refreshed model of care that is a collaboration between Mental Health and the Emergency Trauma Centre. These departments are currently working through how the space will look and how patients will move between the ETC and PEC. The Executive will be moving to Level 7 of Block 6.

New Central Sterilising Department

Project control groups are currently working through the final details of design of the new CSD, which will be built on top of the James Mayne Building. This means things are on track for preliminary works to begin in the second quarter of 2025. Contractor access, materials set-downs and crane locations are being discussed at the moment and will be communicated in the next few months.

Get Moving, Get Better, Get Home

You may have noticed some lively competitions going on in RBWH medical wards this week – that was thanks to the Get Moving, Get Better, Get Home program, which is all about promoting physical activity and mobility on our wards, to prevent functional decline.



Patients were encouraged to tick off a bingo board of sporting activities such as cricket, quoits and croquet. A great time was had by all, with 9BS taking out the top prize with an 85 per cent participation rate by patients. That's an amazing result and what a great initiative.

RBWH Community Workshop

We were privileged to have Elders from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community meet the RBWH Executive Leadership Team last week to collaborate on two concepts, the Acknowledgment of Country and a Healing Place for the RBWH campus.

These vital discussions assist in co-designing the concepts towards developing a culturally appropriate space and respectful recognition of Turrbal and Jagera country. We look forward to further yarns and relationship building with the Elders and Traditional Owners and thank them for their valuable time.



Statewide Fertility Preservation Services have commenced

The Women's and Newborn Service have commenced fertility preservation services, based at RBWH, for patients between 14-36 years-of-age with a cancer diagnosis, where the disease or treatment of the disease may affect their fertility.

The multidisciplinary team will work closely with patients and their families to provide much needed fertility counselling, psychosocial support and care coordination across service lines, as well as surgical resection of ovarian tissue and cryopreservation of tissue. This service will expand in the future to also provide care for patients with complex medical conditions, with some care to be provided at Queensland Children's Hospital for patients aged 0-13.

What Matters to You event



The first 'What matters to you? Share & Tell' consumer engagement event was held yesterday, out and about across all RBWH areas – the ground floor, Level 1 cafeteria and OPD waiting rooms. The next step is to analyse all of the great information the team collected from their engagement with consumers.

Stairwell Project



A quick shout out to the fantastic [Stairwell Project](#) musicians, who have provided ambiance through the stairways and hallways of RBWH since 2015. They really are a great morale booster for our staff and patients. This is John and his piano accordion, spotted in the passageway between the Ned Hanlon and Joyce Tweddell buildings. Thank you for volunteering your time and talent.

Kindness Works Here Week

As you would have seen in the Chief Executive message last week, Metro North Health is partnering with the [Hush Foundation](#) to embed a culture of kindness in healthcare. Feeling valued and cared for makes a big difference in both your working day and our patient outcomes. When kindness is part of our work, everyone benefits. The Hush [Kindness in Action program](#) supports teams to practically apply the key values and behaviours which underpin quality and safety in healthcare. There will be more shared about the program and resources available to

staff in the coming weeks, however this week we kicked off with **Kindness Works Here Week**.

Kindness Works Here Week aims to bring together all the voices in healthcare, celebrate what is being done well, give practical examples of good practice, and nourish our healthcare workforce with kindness. I hope many of you were able to join in on one or more of the online events that were on offer.

Virtual Courageous Conversations: The Experience™ is an online interactive learning experience delivered by South Pacific Institute that provides Metro North Health with a way to talk about race intentionally and effectively.

Metro North Health have developed a partnership with the South Pacific Institute to deliver ongoing sessions to discuss unconscious bias and various forms of racism. Addressing unconscious bias and actively eliminating racial discrimination and institutional racism within the service is at the forefront of our organisations priorities under the legislated Metro North Health Equity Strategy 2022-2025.

I encourage all staff to undertake these training sessions. You can register your interest by searching 'Virtual Courageous Conversation' on [TMS](#).

National Safe Work Month – October 2024



October was National Safe Work Month - a time to commit to building a safe and healthy workplace.

A big thank-you to everyone who participated and helped facilitate our Metro North Safe Work Month activities. Here are the competition prize winners:

- Rehab Super Star Award Winner - David Fedrick, Patient Support Services - Site Coordinator
- Word Search Competition Winner - Phillip McSween, Ward Administrator 6C (Wattlebrae)
- Lolly Jar Competition Winner - Brett Peck, RBWH BEMS.

RIO Handcrafted Market Stall

The Tess Cramond Pain and Research Centre's annual RIO (Re-engagement in Occupation) Handcrafted Market Stall is back next week. Christmas décor items, jewellery, candles and much more will be available for purchase, with all items handcrafted by patients of the service.



Patient Claire, who crocheted the above piece, says: "I use the Rio Markets as a side track to deal with my pain. It keeps my fingers a little more supple and not so stiff. I was told my items were unusual and quite different from the other the stuff that they get. This delights me greatly. I always try and surprise them with something different each market stall."

The market will be held in the RBWH atrium from 9am-2pm on **Monday 18 November** and **Wednesday 20 November**. A great place to pick up some Christmas gifts.

Thank you for all that you do in caring for our community.

Kind regards,

Louise Oriti

Executive Director,

Royal Brisbane and Women's 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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