



Dear Colleagues,

It's a new year and we are still a relatively new Board – to which you might be wondering, what do we do?

I thought it was a good time to let you know how as a team of 10, we work to provide governance of Metro North Hospital and Health Service. Our role, function and authority are derived from the *Hospital and Health Board Act 2011*.

Board members are appointed by the Governor-in-Council following recommendations by the Minister for Health, and as Chair of the Board, I report to the Minister on behalf of our Board of directors.

As a team, we are responsible for two areas – compliance and performance. While compliance may focus more on accountability and monitoring, performance is about formulating strategy to continue to excel. Duties in both buckets include:

Compliance: The Act prescribes certain things we must do such as having a clinician engagement strategy, a First Nations Health Equity Strategy, a consumer and community engagement strategy, and managing our annual Service Level Agreement with Queensland Health, including our budget and fiscal commitments. Leaders in Metro North present progress on our commitments in areas such as safety and quality, finance, risk management and operational performance, at each Board meeting.

Performance: We are currently seeking your feedback to inform our future strategy. Our strategy development is also informed by external factors and feedback, such as the Joint Regional Needs Assessment. The strategy sets our overall vision and commitment as an organisation, and our high-level objectives. From the agreed strategy, business plans are developed to execute on our strategy, for example, future workforce planning. The Board is also responsible for approving policies for the organisation.

We also provide oversight of the business of Metro North Health through our Chief Executive (CE), and the CE in turn manages through their Executive Team. As a Board, we meet monthly, alternating across our facilities.

First board meeting of 2025

The Board met earlier this week at STARS where we were joined by members of the STARS Staff Council for lunch. Thank you to Executive Director Dale Dally-Watkins and Nursing Director Ben Ballard who joined clinical staff to show the Board around ophthalmology and

gastroenterology services and the exceptional work to decrease waiting lists and offer more targeted services. The launch of the STARS yarning circle and separate Men's and Women's endoscopy day services are great examples of how we are working towards achieving health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

RBWH Foundation 40th anniversary

Board member the Honourable Jane Prentice and I joined staff, donors and ambassadors this week at the RBWH Foundation 40th anniversary celebration. Foundation Patron, Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, Governor of Queensland was special guest and reflected on the extraordinary impact of the Foundation on life-saving research, world-class patient care, and healthcare innovation.

Regards,
Bernard Curran



Metro North Health   





We uphold our commitment to health equity through our Values in Action
Respect | Integrity | Compassion | High performance | Teamwork

Metro North Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Land upon which we live, work and walk, and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.



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