



Dear colleagues,

May Board meeting

The Metro North Board held its monthly Board meeting earlier this week at Kilcoy Hospital – our smallest hospital but one which plays an important role in serving the local community.

My board colleagues and I, along with the senior executive team, enjoyed meeting hospital staff as well as Lesley the President and Denise the Vice President of the Kilcoy Hospital Auxiliary. Congratulations to the Kilcoy Hospital Auxiliary which celebrated its 50th anniversary and held another very successful fete last weekend.



L to r: Kilcoy Hospital Wound Care Nurse Practitioner Kathy Hocking, Board Chair Bernard Curran and Jessica Peele Operational Support Services



L to r: Board Deputy Chair Dr Meg Cairns, Kilcoy Hospital Auxiliary Vice President Denise Modistach and President Lesley Warren, Parker Michaels CKW Manager of Culture and Engagement

National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week

During the National Day of Healing on 26 May and National Reconciliation Week (27 May to 3 June), we reflect and acknowledge the journey towards healing and reconciliation and the work to address the health disparities among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The Board heard from Dr Jason Jenkins, Executive Director Clinical Services and Annie

Redhead Nursing Director, who gave a wonderful report and presentation on the work of the surgery clinical stream over the past 12 months. Annie gave a warm and genuine acknowledgment of National Sorry Day and the significance of Reconciliation Week. Engaging with the community is seeing changes to deliver culturally safe care which has increased the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients on our surgery wait lists – a good sign of feeling comfortable to access care. Regular audits of waitlists to identify high risk patients and ensure treatment plans are in place, are underway across our hospitals. This is helping our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients with better access to care, closer to home when possible.

The Board also recognised the support provided by the Metro North elective and emergency surgical teams across not only our hospital and health service, but across the state with referrals from many other HHSs.



Board member profile

Each month I will introduce you to a Board member and talk about the work of our board committees. This week I spoke to Aimee McVeigh, Chair of the Board Consumer and Community Engagement Committee.

Aimee McVeigh

Joining Metro North in April 2024, Aimee is the Chief Executive Officer of Queensland Council of Social Service (QCOSS) and a strong advocate for equality, opportunity and wellbeing for all Queenslanders.

As a community lawyer and human rights advocate, Aimee led the successful campaign for a Human Rights Act for Queensland. Her work as a lawyer focussed on human rights and discrimination, guardianship, estate planning, child protection and domestic violence. Prior to joining QCOSS, she worked in various senior and advisory roles, including at the Disability Royal Commission, Disability Law Queensland, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Legal and Advocacy Service and as a gender advisor for the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The role of the Board Consumer and Community Engagement Committee is to support and oversee the development of consumer and community engagement strategies. The Committee seeks to ensure the experience of consumers is understood, including through reviewing and improving data related to groups of people who can be vulnerable in health systems, ensuring diverse views and perspectives are sought and listened to, providing opportunities for consumer engagement and supporting co-design.

Aimee sees access to public health services as a fundamental right and through the Committee she is focused on ensuring the voices of consumers influence work across Metro North Health, so this right is properly realised.

Regards,
Bernard



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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