

Metro North Health

Message from the

## Executive Director RBWH

Louise Oriti



### Summary:

- End of an era for RBWH Staff Council
- Celebrating our midwives
- ieMR classroom training underway
- RBWH award success
- Last chance for flu vaccination at RBWH

Message feedback



**Audience:** All staff



**Read time:** 4 min



**For:** Information

Dear team,

This week marked the end of an era for the RBWH Staff Council as Liz Bennett (pictured, right) chaired her final Council meeting, a role she has held since December 2020. Along with other RBWH executives, I have appreciated her advocacy for our staff and her dedication to seeing meaningful and positive changes implemented.



Liz has proudly spent her career as a nurse and cites the increase in membership and diversity of the Staff Council, as well as the work in promoting health equity alongside our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce, as among the highlights of her time as Chair.

Thank you, Liz, for your contribution to making our hospital community a better place to work.

Following Liz's departure, Physiotherapy Team Leader Cath Willis (pictured, left) has been appointed as Staff Council Chair. The next Council meeting will take place on 3 June and is open to all staff. Look out for more information about this soon. You can learn more about the Staff Council and how to contact them [here](#).

### SET Staff Forum

Yesterday, we welcomed Metro North Chief Executive Nick Steele and the Senior

Executive Team (SET) to the Education Centre for a staff forum. At the session, they discussed current initiatives, including occupational violence prevention, Olympic planning, ieMR implementation, long-stay patients, and plans for Metro North's 2041 future strategy, and answered questions from staff in the room and online. Thanks to Nick and the SET for the visit, and to everyone who attended and asked questions.

### Celebrating our midwives

Tuesday marked International Day of the Midwife, a moment to acknowledge and celebrate the vital contribution midwives make to our hospital and community. Staff came together for an event to reflect on their work and to celebrate the day with one another.

Graduate midwife Laura and midwife of more than 30 years, Shelly (pictured below), spoke about what being a midwife means to them. Although at very different stages of their careers, their reflections shared a common thread: a deep sense of care and compassion for the families they support, and the privilege of being part of some of the most significant moments in a parent's life.

Each year, more than 4,000 babies are born at RBWH. Thank you to all our midwives for the skill, dedication, and heart you bring to safely welcoming these new arrivals into the world.



### ieMR classroom training underway

Some of our wonderful midwives (pictured) were also among the first to participate in ieMR instructor-led training, which kicked off for RBWH staff this week. This is a major milestone on our ieMR journey ahead of the go-live in October.

Midwife Alicia (pictured second from right) said the small-group format and supportive facilitators helped build confidence and quickly resolve questions. She's looking forward to improved patient care and better connectivity across Metro North and Queensland Health once ieMR is live.

Many disciplines will need to complete this training before go-live. Your manager will let you know about your training requirements. Please ensure any online prerequisites are completed before attending the classroom training. Please [email](#) the ieMR team with any questions your line manager is not able to answer.



### MN Nursing and Midwifery Awards

Last week, the annual Metro North Nursing and Midwifery Awards took place. I am delighted to announce that RBWH staff were among the winners:

- Dr Lesley Fleming OAM Professional Practice and Clinical Excellence Award was awarded to **Michael Smith** (Nursing Director – Cancer Care)
- Assistant in Nursing of the Year — **Glenisa Robles** (Neonatology).

Congratulations to Michael (pictured) and Glenisa (who was not able to attend the ceremony).



*Michael with DONM, Tracey Daelman*

### Buddha's Birthday with our Foundation

Along with RBWH Foundation CEO Simone Garske, I had the pleasure of attending the annual Buddha's Birthday Festival at Fo Guang Shan Chung Tian Temple in Priestdale, on Brisbane's southside last weekend.



Our Foundation has been a beneficiary of the event since 2002, and this year we were honoured to receive a \$5,000 donation. Many of its members have been

supporters and donors to the Foundation since the 1990s.

The festival is considered one of Queensland's most significant cultural celebrations and one of the largest of its kind in the world. The temple and festival are well worth a visit!

### Free staff flu vaccinations at RBWH

The chilly start this morning was a reminder that winter is almost with us. And, with it, comes an increase in seasonal illnesses, including influenza. If you haven't already, now is the time to protect yourself and our hospital community by getting a flu vaccination. Our free RBWH staff clinic is available on the level 2 walkway until Friday, 15 May, or you can get the jab at any community pharmacy in Queensland.

Finally, for today, this Sunday is Mother's Day. I'd like to extend warm wishes to all our RBWH mothers and hope you enjoy a special day with the people who matter most to you. I also want to acknowledge those in our community for whom the day brings mixed emotions. Special thanks to the mothers working on the day and caring for our patients.

Thank you all for everything you do for our community.

Kind Regards

**Louise Oriti**  
Executive Director,  
Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital

**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.

**Metro North Health's vision**  
Creating healthier futures together—where  
innovation and research meets compassionate  
care and community voices shape our services.



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