

Metro North Health

Message from the **Board Chair**

Bernard Curran



Summary:

- May Board meeting summary
- Cohort 2 of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Program
- Orientation workshop for new Board members.

[Message feedback](#)



Audience: All staff



Read time: 3 min



For: Information

Dear colleagues,

May Board meeting

In late May, members of the Metro North Hospital and Health Board had the pleasure of visiting Kilcoy Hospital to spend time on the ground getting to know local staff and the community.

It is always a highlight for us as a Board to visit our hospitals and see firsthand the commitment, professionalism and care that our teams demonstrate every day.

During our time at Kilcoy, we were warmly welcomed by staff and had the opportunity to meet with a number of community stakeholders, including members of the Kilcoy Hospital Auxiliary. I would like to extend a special thank you to Auxiliary President Lesley and Secretary Shane for taking the time to speak with us. Their dedication and ongoing support of the hospital is deeply appreciated and makes a meaningful difference to local services.

The Board also noted, with appreciation, Metro North's improved performance in activity (QWAU), POST and elective surgery lists. Management also continue to inform the Board on preparation of budgets and performance management for 2026-27. This will include continuation of sustainability planning, which will build on the early progress made in this financial year, to support the delivery of high reliability, high value health care moving forward.

The Board was also briefed on outpatient strategies, and Metro North's Digital Priorities 2026-2029 roadmap, which included initiatives to strengthen referral and queue management and deliver more seamless, digital-first access to care across the patient journey.

Overall, the visit provided a valuable opportunity to connect directly with staff and the community, and was particularly beneficial for our newest Board members in gaining a greater understanding of local services and priorities.



Board Chair Bernard Curran, Deputy Chair Meg Cairns, and Chair of the Consumer and Community Engagement Committee Hon. Jane Prentice with Kilcoy Hospital Auxiliary Secretary Shane and President Lesley.

Cohort 2 of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Program kicks off

Sherry Holzapfel, Executive Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and I recently attended the welcome event for the second cohort of the Metro North Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Program. It was wonderful to meet the cultural leaders supporting the program, along with the 17 Identified staff members participating in the program and the mentors who are supporting them through the journey.

Growing our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce and future leaders is a priority and the program aligns with Metro North Health's Health Equity Strategy, Priority 1.3: *Strengthening and empowering the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce*. The program includes individual mentoring and development planning, as well as face-to-face workshops which aim to build the confidence of participants to effectively navigate the unique challenges and opportunities in the health system and deepen cultural awareness. Achieving balance between cultural connection and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff roles in the health services is a key health equity theme.

Best of luck to the participants, I hope you gain a lot out of this experience. And thank you also to the mentors supporting the individuals throughout their program journey. If you would like any further information on the Program, please email MNtraining@health.qld.gov.au.



Welcoming the second cohort of the Metro North Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Program

Orientation workshop for new Board members

I recently attended the Queensland Health Hospital and Health Board Orientation Workshop on 28 and 29 May. It was a valuable opportunity to hear perspectives from board members across Queensland and to strengthen our shared understanding of system-wide priorities. We heard directly from the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services and the Director-General about delivering on the Government's priorities, particularly improving access to our services. The Minister also emphasised the importance of engaging with our communities and building confidence in our services, which remains a key focus for our Board.

The Board will next meet on 23 June at Redcliffe Hospital, and we look forward to continuing to visit our facilities across Metro North and strengthening our connection with staff and community.

Regards,
Bernard

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.



**Queensland
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