

# Message from the **Board Chair**

Bernard Curran



## Summary:

- Board meeting at Redcliffe Hospital
- Metro North Research
- Brisbane Watchhouse visit
- Board member profile – Professor Peter Hopkins

Message feedback



**Audience:** All staff



**Read time:** 4 min



**For:** Information

Dear colleagues,

### Board Meeting at Redcliffe Hospital

Board members, including Deputy Chair, Meg Cairns and Christopher Blue (pictured), greatly enjoyed the opportunity to meet staff and some very special four-legged visitors when we visited Redcliffe Hospital for our monthly board meeting this week.

We valued the chance to talk to members of the Redcliffe Staff Council and to take part in a wonderful wellness initiative organised by REDDY Fun and Fitness.

During the visit, the Board toured key priority projects and services, including:

- Future planning for the forthcoming Redcliffe Hospital expansion
- Palliative Care and ICU
- The Emergency Department and Transit Lounge where we observed patient flow and frontline service delivery

These visits are an important opportunity for Board members to hear directly from staff, better understand local priorities, and see firsthand the dedication and care being delivered every day.



## Metro North Research

The Board recently heard about the significant achievements delivered through Metro North's Research Strategy over the past 12 months, reflecting the strength of our research culture and its impact on patient care and outcomes.

Highlights include:

- Continued growth in research output, with more than 1,500 journal articles published in 2025 and over 11,600 publications across the past decade
- Strong success in competitive funding, with \$28 million in NHMRC and MRFF grants awarded this year
- Ongoing investment in clinician-led research, including 33 clinician research fellowships supporting innovation across our services
- Expansion of innovation capability through the Leading Health Innovation Program, with 129 graduates to date

We also heard about the breadth of research underway across Metro North, from advancing clinical care and improving patient safety, to driving innovation through emerging technologies and strengthening culturally responsive models of care.

We look forward to the upcoming Research Summit on 30 July, which will be an important opportunity to showcase and celebrate the exceptional work of our researchers and clinicians.

Importantly, this work is strengthened by the ongoing support of our hospital foundations. The RBWH Foundation and The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation (through The Common Good) play a vital role in enabling research, funding innovation, and supporting clinicians to deliver better outcomes for our community.



### Brisbane Watchhouse visit

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to visit the healthcare service delivered by Metro North at the Brisbane City Watchhouse.

This visit provided valuable insight into the complexity of delivering healthcare in a custodial environment and the important role our teams play in supporting the health and wellbeing of people in custody.

I was particularly impressed by the professionalism, teamwork and adaptability demonstrated by staff, and their ability to provide safe, compassionate care in a challenging and fast-paced setting.

Visits like this are an important opportunity for the Board to better understand the environments in which care is delivered and to hear directly from staff about the opportunities and challenges they experience.

I would like to sincerely thank all staff involved for their time, openness and commitment, and for the warm welcome extended during the visit.

## Board Member Profile - Professor Peter Hopkins

Each month, I will introduce a member of our Board and highlight the important work of our Board committees.

This month, I am pleased to introduce Professor Peter Hopkins (pictured, right), who was appointed as Metro North's clinician Board member on 1 April. Peter is a member of both the Safety and Quality Committee and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Health Equity Committee.



Peter has dedicated more than 23 years to Metro North as a Consultant within the Thoracic Program at The Prince Charles Hospital and has served as the Clinical Director of the Queensland Lung Transplant Service since 2007. He is also a Professor with the University of Queensland's School of Medicine and has contributed extensively to research, with more than 140 publications.

Peter has held significant leadership roles, most recently as Executive Director of the Heart-Lung Clinical Stream from March 2020 to January 2026. He is also co-founder of the Heart Outreach Program for Health Equity (HOPE) and the Urban Respiratory Outreach Clinic (UROC), which provide vital cardiac and respiratory services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients across Metro North.

Reflecting his standing as a global leader in his field, Peter is the President of the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation, headquartered in Chicago, USA, and is now a recently appointed member of the Metro North Board.

*"I applied to serve on the Metro North Hospital Board to share insights from clinicians working in the health service, and, through listening and engagement with staff on the ground, provide strategic vision to enhance patient care"*

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  
Government**

If you have received this email and do not work for Metro North please follow this link to be removed from the mailing list.

[Email us](#)