

Metro North Health

Message from the

# Executive Director Community and Oral Health

Glynis Schultz



## Summary:

- Metro North Business Case for Change
- Staff flu vaccination program
- Reconciliation Week celebrations
- Metro North Shout Outs
- A good read - Death Cafe.

Message feedback



**Audience:** All staff



**Read time:** 5+ min



**For:** Information

Dear team,

To support improved care for our community, there's a focus on providing care outside of bricks and mortar facilities as well as the patient-care initiatives underway.

New models and modalities of care are essential in allowing us to continue meeting the needs of our patients into the future, particularly as our communities grow and the demand for health services increases. This is why I'm excited that our directorate can provide the location to support the introduction of new medical imaging services at the Brighton Health campus. Operating under the governance of Redcliffe Hospital, this service will provide patients from across northern Brisbane with better access to high-quality diagnostic care. It will also help reduce waiting times and ease some of the pressure from imaging services at our other Metro North hospitals.

I am also pleased to share that work is progressing well on the 16-bed clinical inpatient Older Persons Specialist Dementia Unit at the Brighton Campus. I would like to reiterate my thanks to staff who responded to make this space available so that we can support the growing number of patients in our community who require access to specialist dementia care. Currently, the leadership team are working across sites but remain contactable via phone or email, and are available to speak about the changes in person, so please reach out.

[Metro North Business Case for Change](#)

In response to feedback following the release of the Metro North Business Case for Change (BCFC), a survey has been extended to all staff to provide suggestions on the proposed name of this directorate. Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide feedback; the response has been very impressive. The suggestions will be reviewed by a panel and submitted as part of the feedback for the BCFC.

Staff can still provide feedback on the [Business Case for Change](#) until next Wednesday 17 June.

## Staff Flu Vaccination Program

As the days get cooler, please consider how you can protect yourself and people around you at work, at home and in the community. Flu vaccinations are available at the Brighton Health Campus every Monday in Clinic Room 2, Dolphin House. Staff are welcome to walk-in and please bring your Medicare card.



If you have been vaccinated outside of COH, please complete the [Online Poll 2026 COH Influenza Vaccine form](#).

## Reconciliation Week celebrations

### *Cultural Yarns*

Community and Oral Health (COH) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Team, hosted series of Cultural Yarns across COH across facilities in recognition of Reconciliation Week that is held each year from 27 May to 3 June. The Cultural Yarns, as a commitment within our COH Reconciliation Action Plan 2026-2027, is an opportunity to create a safe space for COH staff to connect and chat informally with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colleagues on cultural beliefs, best practice, health and social issues and other topics. As open agenda, topics discussed have included cultural issues, current political intersectionality's, demystifying beliefs and myths and cultural capability. Most importantly, it facilitates an opportunity for connection between non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff and their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colleagues that may not otherwise present.

The Cultural Yarns are being scheduled across Oral Health sites in acknowledgement of NAIDOC Week, 5 to 12 July, and will continue to be held throughout the year across COH facilities.

### *MABO Day*

Brighton Health Campus was once again privileged to host the Metro North Health Mabo Day acknowledgement and celebrations. The day offered a vital space for community and staff to share stories and honour the monumental legacy of Eddie Koiki Mabo and his fellow plaintiffs. By recognising the unbroken strength and enduring tie of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country, the event reminded us all of the vital importance of truth-telling and walking together on the path to equity and reconciliation.



### *North Lakes Dialysis Unit Aboriginal artwork unveiling*

The nine Metro North facility and directorate Aboriginal artworks were unveiled at the North Lakes Dialysis Unit. Paul Drahm, Director Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Kylie Dunbar-Reid, Nurse Unit Manager collaborated to create a welcoming and culturally safe space for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients presenting for services. This is currently the only location across Metro North where all of the artworks are located in one place. Feedback has already been positive with patients and staff commenting on how lovely the artwork and taking interest in the associated stories of each individual artwork.



### *10th Anniversary Annual COH Reconciliation Shield*

Alongside the recent release of our **Second Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (2026-2027)**, the Community and Oral Health Rap Working Group is proud to celebrate a major milestone in 2026, this being the **10th Anniversary of our annual Reconciliation Shield**. Since 2016, this event has become a cherished tradition, and we once again invite all staff to celebrate this decade of connection:

**Date:** Friday, 26 June 2026

**Time:** 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

**Location:** Brighton Wellness Hub

**Included:** Afternoon tea provided

Please send your completed form nominations to: [COH-A\\_TSI\\_HLTHTeam@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:COH-A_TSI_HLTHTeam@health.qld.gov.au) by 5pm, Friday 19 June 2026.

We invite you to nominate a team of four (4) and join in with other colleagues and our respected Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders from our Yarning Circle for this milestone event. This celebration also serves as a bridge to NAIDOC Week (5-12 July),

where we will honour the 2026 theme - *50 years of Deadly*.

The winning team will earn bragging rights with their name on the shield with prizes also awarded for the best dressed team! For all enquiries, please email: [COH-A\\_TSI\\_HLTHTeam@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:COH-A_TSI_HLTHTeam@health.qld.gov.au)

## Metro North Shout Outs

Staff from across COH continue to receive **Metro North Staff Shout Outs**. For the month of May the recipients were:

- **Charlotte Coomber, Nurse Complex Chronic Disease Team:** For her compassion in supporting complex clients to access the care they need across Metro North
- **Kristie Wiesner, Nurse Navigator, Patient Access and Flow:** For her fantastic organisational skills which have been pivotal in minimising disruption to business operations while planning multiple office moves.
- **Taylah Rosbrook, Senior Administration Officer BEMS:** For her efficiency and support in providing timely and accurate information to COH facilities.

I encourage you to share the [Staff Shout Out QHEPS](#) page with your teams to encourage submissions and promote the Metro North Values.

## A good read

Last weekend, there was an ABC article about the Brighton Wellness Hub's Death Cafe. I invite you to read the article [here](#).

The Death Café, which is run by Grief and Bereavement Coordinator Kylie White (pictured with co-founder and University of Sunshine Coast Lecturer Dr John Rosenberg), aims to facilitate more conversations about death and dying, and break societal taboos that prevent people talking about the subject.



As a result of the article, the team has received 10 new registrations for the next Death Café in August which is extremely positive. Well done!

This initiative highlights the important role we play in supporting people through the entire journey of life.

**Glynis Schultz**  
**Executive Director**

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**

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