

# Executive Director STARS

Dale Dally-Watkins



## Summary:

- National Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week
- Beyond Diversity workshop reminder
- Special Pandemic Leave
- Walk in My Shoes
- Giving Day coming up
- Patient compliment

Message feedback



**Audience:** All staff



**Read time:** 4 min



**For:** Information

Dear Colleagues,

With winter on our doorstep, just a few reminders about staying well this flu season. If you missed our staff vaccination clinic you can access free flu vaccinations at your local pharmacy. If you have children that you are planning on getting vaccinated, the FluMist nasal spray has now been extended to children aged 6-17 who struggle with getting a needle. You can find out [more information here](#).

While the flu vaccination is a great strategy to prevent serious illness, it is also important to practice good hand hygiene and stay home if we are unwell.



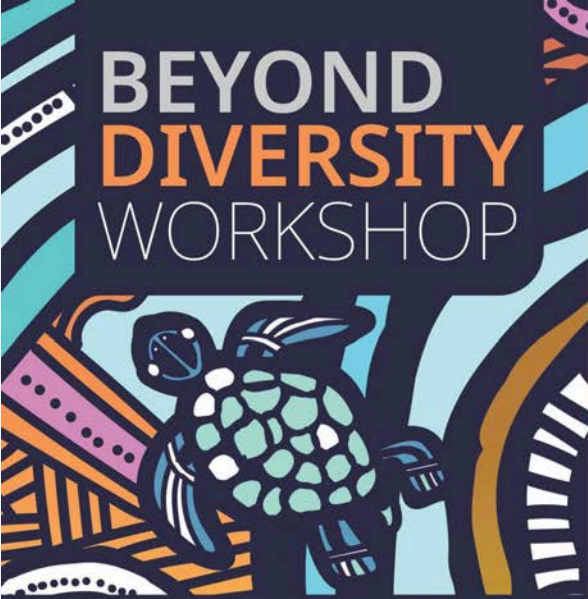
## National Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week

On Tuesday we acknowledged National Sorry Day, a day which recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (the Stolen Generations) who were forcibly removed from their families.

Wednesday marked the beginning of National Reconciliation Week (27 May – 3 June) with this year's theme, 'All In', calling on all Australians to commit to making a change. It is a reminder that reconciliation is not the sole responsibility of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, instead requiring everyone to take action. You can learn more on the [National Reconciliation Week](#)

[website](#).

At STARS we will hold our National Reconciliation Week event next Wednesday 3 June on the Level 7 balcony, from 9.00am-10.00am. I hope you can join us.



The **BEYOND DIVERSITY** WORKSHOP is a powerful, personally transforming, two day staff workshop that helps participants understand the impact of race on their lives, their work, and the community they serve.

**All staff are invited to attend!**

How to register  
- Search '**BEYOND DIVERSITY WORKSHOP**' on TMS.

For more information, please call 3170 4467 or email: [ATSILT\\_CapacityBuilding@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:ATSILT_CapacityBuilding@health.qld.gov.au)

### Beyond Diversity Workshop reminder

One of the ways staff can commit to taking action on reconciliation is attending the Beyond Diversity Workshop. The workshop is an immersive two-day learning experience designed to build the skills and confidence needed to talk about race intentionally, respectfully and effectively. It provides a powerful learning opportunity that strengthens our collective commitment to anti-racism and culturally safe care.

These sessions directly support Metro North Health's commitment to addressing racism, strengthening cultural capability and improving equity and outcomes across our services.

The next Beyond Diversity Workshop is 10-11 June, 8.30am-4.30pm (both days) at Brighton Health Campus. [Register on TMS](#).

### Special Pandemic Leave (SPL) provision to cease

The Director-General has advised that the temporary Special Pandemic Leave (SPL) provision for Queensland Health and Queensland Ambulance Service employees will cease from Monday 1 June 2026.

Queensland Health employees continue to be supported by a range of leave entitlements, including sick leave, carer's leave, annual leave and long service leave, as provided for under our various certified agreements.

Employees who may have started a period of SPL prior to the cessation date will be permitted to utilise the SPL until they return to work. You can read the full [message from the Director General](#) about SPL here.

### EOI Metro North Clinical Council Deputy Chair

Metro North Clinical Council is calling for nominations for Deputy Chair.

The Deputy Chair will be a practising clinician who demonstrates strong leadership capability, professionalism, and the ability to influence and engage across multidisciplinary teams. Working in partnership with the Chair, Executive, and clinical staff, the Deputy Chair will support the Council in

fostering collaboration, clinician engagement, and strategic leadership across Metro North.

To be eligible, you need to hold a permanent position within Metro North Health and be actively involved in providing or supporting patient care.

Applications close 5 June 2026. For more information, contact [MetroNorthClinicalCouncil@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:MetroNorthClinicalCouncil@health.qld.gov.au).

## Walk in Your Shoes

Earlier today, I held my latest 'Walk in Your Shoes' with Pamu from Outpatients. We discussed the Patient Initiated Follow Up (PIFU) trial which is currently taking place with ENT patients. PIFU is empowering patients to participate in a follow up Outpatients Specialist appointment, when required, rather than attend a routine appointment unnecessarily.

We also spoke about how we are looking to increase our fleet of reusable scopes for the department in line with demand across the volume of patients being seen in clinics. Reusable scopes are a more sustainable option, reducing the amount of medical waste produced.

I also had the opportunity to speak with some patients and ask about their experience from a wait time perspective and how they found their experience at STARS. It was a great morning getting to know a bit more about how our outpatient clinics operate.

If you would like to nominate your team for 'Walk in Your Shoes' send an email to [STARS\\_Executive@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:STARS_Executive@health.qld.gov.au) with your name, details and a day/time that suits you for the visit.



**GAME ON**  
**FOR GIVING DAY**  
**AT STARS**  
**JUNE 10TH**

**Fundraise**  
*with Purpose*

**RBWH Foundation**  
**GIVING DAY**

**Your Way. Your Reason. Your Impact.**  
**Get involved!**

## Giving Day

It is just over a week until Giving Day, on Wednesday 10 June. This special day is all about coming together to make a real difference by supporting advancements in patient care and vital, life-saving research.

There are a number of activities happening at STARS to celebrate including a bake sale on 4 June, from 9.30am-11.30am (Level 3) and a wear your jersey day. Keep an eye out for further details.

## Traffic/pedestrian changes

Please be aware that from 1-5 June the footpath from Fourth Avenue to Bramston Terrace will be closed. Pedestrian access to the Heritage Precinct will need to be via the Spanish Steps or Herston Rd lift and access from STARS to the Oral Health Centre via Herston Rd.



## Patient compliment

This fortnight's message is from one of our ophthalmology patients who was very impressed with all aspects of their care at STARS. Well done to everyone involved that was involved.

*"From the moment of my arrival to departure I experienced nothing short of first-class treatment - reception staff were so efficient and polite - the ophthalmology ward staff were just wonderful - so caring and professional - explaining every process and procedure in clear detail. Thank you sincerely. My follow up call the next day was thorough and so appreciated. Special mention - all ophthalmology staff level 2".*

Kind Regards

**Dale Dally-Watkins**  
Executive Director  
STARS



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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