

Executive Director STARS

Dale Dally-Watkins



Summary:

- Winter Warmer
- Metro North Business Case for Change - next steps
- Metro North SET Forum
- Painting program completion
- Staff achievements
- STARS Research Committee EOI
- Patient compliment

Message feedback



Audience: All staff



Read time: 4 min



For: Information

Dear Colleagues,

With the winter weather well and truly here, we are experiencing an increase in respiratory illnesses in the community. Please remember to:

- Stay home if you're unwell and let your line manager know as soon as possible via Smart Leave on MyHR
- Practice your hand and respiratory hygiene
- Keep up to date with vaccinations (it's not too late).

This morning, members of our executive team and Staff Council visited different areas for our version of the 'Winter Warmer'. We handed out Tim Tams and hot chocolate sachets as a small token of appreciation for everyone's hard work. Thanks to the STARS Staff Council for sponsoring the 'Winter Warmer'.





Metro North Business Case for Change

The Metro North Business Case for Change proposes a reorganisation of some functions and work areas within directorates and across Metro North and a restructure of the Metro North Senior Executive Team.

Last week, Metro North Chief Executive Nick Steele and Chief People and Culture Officer Lorna Morton held the second vidcast about the Business Case for Change. If you missed the vidcast you can [access the recording here](#).

Thank you to everyone who submitted feedback during the consultation period. The feedback will now be considered with the final decision and next steps being shared in early July.

If you are concerned about the proposed changes, please speak with your line manager, or utilise one of the staff wellbeing support services available. You can find further information about Peer Responders, our staff psychologist or Telus Health on the [staff wellbeing extranet page](#).

Surgical, Treatment & Rehabilitation Service

SET Staff Forum

Meet with Chief Executive Nick Steele and members of the Metro North Senior Executive Team

Thursday 2 July
12:00 noon – 1:00pm
Room 101/115,
Level 1, STARS

Join via teams

Metro North SET Staff Forum

Join Chief Executive Nick Steele and the Metro North Senior Executive Team (SET) to hear updates,

ask questions and provide feedback at the next SET Staff Forum.

It will be held next Thursday 2 July from noon to 1pm. Room 101/115, Level 1, STARS.

You can also [ask a question](#) in advance.

Please note that the room has limited capacity. In the event that the room reaches capacity on the day, staff will be asked to instead join on Teams.

STARS painting program completion

This was the final week of our lifecycle painting program. I'd like to thank everyone involved with the coordination and operational requirements of the program, including Cushman and Wakefield. It was a large exercise with many considerations but was carried out on schedule and with minimal disruption to patients. I'm sure patients are appreciative of their rooms having had a refresh and that the hospital is so well maintained.

Congratulations to Dr Kim Hansen

I would like to congratulate Dr Kim Hansen who was recently awarded the Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators (RACMA) Bernard Nicholson Prize. This award is given to the candidate who demonstrates outstanding performance in the Oral Examination, recognising excellence in medical administration knowledge and practice. The prize is awarded in memory of Dr Bernard Nicholson, a past President of the College who played a major role in the establishment of the Oral Examination.

More accolades for PODSS

Last week, PODSS team members from across the state came together to receive an award at the Clinical Excellence Showcase.

The Honourable Tim Nicholls MP, Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, presented the inaugural *Showcase Excellence Award*, recognising a project that has demonstrated exceptional growth, momentum, and impact across Queensland.

The STARS PODSS team were there to celebrate—adding yet another award to the trophy cabinet. It is wonderful to see the ongoing impact of an initiative born out of STARS, and the difference it continues to make for patients across Queensland.



Executive Leadership Program 25/26 graduates

Congratulations to Archana Mishra and Nicola Harper who recently graduated from the Executive Leadership Program (ELP). The graduation was held at Brisbane City Hall, where participants showcased the innovation projects they had been developing throughout the program. The ELP program is designed for senior leaders who aspire to progress into an executive leadership role over the next five years.

Nominations for the next cohort will open over the coming months, until then, we encourage interested individuals to register their EOI by contacting MNTraining@health.qld.gov.au.



NAIDOC Week event date claimer

A reminder that our NAIDOC week celebration will take place on Wednesday 8 July on the Lady Lamington lawn. The event will include guest speakers, deadly performers and light refreshments. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to STARS_CC@health.qld.gov.au by Friday 3 July, due to catering requirements.

Expression of interest for STARS Research Committee

The STARS Research Committee is currently seeking Expressions of Interest from experienced professionals to join this influential group.

We are specifically looking to appoint representatives for the following roles:

- STARS Senior Medical Officer
- STARS Senior Nursing
- STARS VECS Senior Clinician

Chaired by SERA Co-Director Professor Pip Logan and STARS DMS Dr Gail Robinson, the committee meets monthly for one hour and offers members a valuable opportunity to contribute to STARS research leadership over a three-year term.

This is a unique opportunity to help shape the future of research at STARS, contribute your expertise, and strengthen a culture of innovation and collaboration. [Submit your Expression of Interest](#) by COB today, 26 June 2026.

Patient compliment

This week's patient compliment comes from one of our ophthalmology patients. It is an important reminder of how even small gestures can make a difference to a patient's journey with us.

"Was always treated with respect and told what was happening or what was about to happen. Loved the cuppa and sandwiches after surgery, was so hungry. Access is easy at 80+ - I had no problem getting to the different areas at each visit. The general atmosphere is lovely and to be accompanied to the car which was waiting for me out front. A big thank you to all".

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.



**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](#)