

Executive Director The Prince Charles Hospital

Tami Photinos



Summary:

- Infrastructure Update
- National Diabetes Audit
- National Reconciliation Week
- Liz Grove compliment
- Farewell Margaret Porra

[Message feedback](#)



Audience: All staff



Read Time: 5 Minutes



For: Information

Dear Team,

TPCH campus planning is continuing, including a review of current clinical projections.

Master planning is also progressing and will shape how the project moves forward. A draft master plan is expected to be available within the coming weeks.

Once the draft is ready, broad consultation will begin with staff, consumers, Traditional Owners, the community and other stakeholders, currently anticipated to start around June.

In parallel, the expansion project team is assessing options for the first stage of works under the Hospital Rescue Plan. This first stage will deliver at least 93 additional beds, alongside improvements targeting key clinical priorities and pressures.



Executive Update

Gillian Nasato (left) will be joining the TPCH Executive Leadership Team as our new Director of Nursing. She will start Monday 1 June.

Gill brings more than 30 years of experience in the nursing profession having started her hospital-based general training at the RBWH in 1986.

Since then, she has held a range of senior leadership roles across Metro North Health, consistently demonstrating a strong commitment to excellence in patient and family-centred care.

Dr Francesca Arcidiacono has been appointed to the TPCH Paediatric Services Medical Director role.

Dr Arcidiacono is a highly experienced paediatrician and clinical leader with a broad background in service delivery, governance and strategic development across Queensland Health.

She is currently serving as Acting Medical Director of Children's Services, where she has demonstrated strong capability in clinical leadership, service improvement, and organisational governance.

Finally, thank you to Dr Peter Stevenson. We wish him well.



Metro North Senior Executive Team (SET) Business Case for Change

Consultation for the Metro North Senior Executive Team (SET) Business Case for Change (BCFC) is now open.

The BCFC proposes a reorganisation of some functions and work areas within directorates and across Metro North Health. Feedback is open until Wednesday 17 June.

More details - including a recording of the vidcast announcing the proposed changes - are available on the Extranet [here](#).

National Diabetes Audit

TPCH was part of the Australian National Diabetes Inpatient Audit this week. The audit is a nationwide benchmarking program that evaluates and improves the safety and quality of hospital care for patients with diabetes.

I started with Audit Team G in Ward 1A (right).



At TPCH, the audit enables us to identify the prevalence of people in hospital with diabetes at a point in time, hypoglycaemic / hyperglycaemic events, medication errors, and access to diabetes team members.

A job well done to everyone involved in the audit, with representation of auditors from credentialed diabetes educators, pharmacists, dietitians, podiatrists and nursing. I look forward to sharing insights from the results later in the year.



National Reconciliation Week

It was great to see strong support for National Reconciliation Week activities across TPCH this week.

This year's theme 'All In' really challenges us to commit wholeheartedly to reconciliation every single day.

For me, reconciliation is about taking the time to acknowledge and better understand our history and the significant impact it continues to have to this day.

Providing culturally appropriate and accessible healthcare services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will help us bridge the gap and work towards achieving Health Equity.



Nurse Navigators and Practitioners take centre stage at annual showcase event



Nurse Navigators and Nurse Practitioners from TPCH (right) joined colleagues from across Queensland for their annual showcase event recently.

A great opportunity to acknowledge the significant contribution that Navigators and Practitioners make to health outcomes of patients at TPCH, Metro North and across Queensland.

The conference included presentations from three TPCH staff:

- Nurse Practitioner Heart Failure **Cameron Greenland** presented on 'Early Intervention, Better Outcomes': evaluating a Nurse Practitioner-Led Rapid Access Heart Failure Clinic.
- Nurse Navigator Pre-Op Surgical Care **Elizabeth Grove** presented a case study 'Co-Navigating Chaos to Success': Achieving the pillars of navigation from community to complex mental health and across to surgery in two chaotic months.'
- Nurse Practitioner Heart Failure **Hannah Rheault** led the Great Debate, 'NPs as Epistemic Stewards in the Age of AI'.

What a compliment!

Speaking of Nurse Navigators, we recently received a strong compliment on the care provided by Pre Op Surgical Care Nurse Navigator Liz Grove (right) from an 82-year-old former patient from Bundaberg who came to TPCH for hip-replacement surgery.



A few highlights below:

"It is impossible to put into words the gratitude and appreciation for the assistance I have received to ameliorate my perceived difficulty of travel, admission and hospital stay at the time, all while having restricted mobility and constant, incessant and severe pain."

"I have never seen anybody who together with their team displays such interest and willingness to help as Nurse Navigator Elizabeth (Liz) Grove."

"I believe it would be hard to find a better example of patient-focused service by a staff member."

Volunteers Week

On Monday (25 May), more than 80 Charlies Angels gathered in the TPCH Education Centre to celebrate National Volunteer Week and to complete annual mandatory training.

I opened the morning by thanking the volunteers for the difference they make across the TPCH campus and at Kallangur Satellite Health Centre (Kalangoor).



EOI - Deputy Chair for Metro North Clinical Council

The 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 actively involved in providing or supporting patient care. Applications will close 5 June 2026.

For more information, contact MetroNorthClinicalCouncil@health.qld.gov.au

Farewell to Margaret Porra

Margaret Porra has been a Registered Nurse for 45 years. She started at TPCH in 2005, working predominantly in the Heart Lung Program in a range of roles including Registered Nurse, Clinical Nurse, Clinical Nurse Facilitator, Nurse Unit Manager and, since 2018, Assistant Nursing Director.

Throughout her career at TPCH, Margaret has been a passionate advocate for patients, consistently striving to improve patient outcomes and the quality of care. Her commitment to ensuring patients receive the right care in the most appropriate setting has been a defining feature of her practice.

Margaret has made a significant impact through her leadership within the Heart Lung Program, as well as across the broader TPCH nursing community. She will be greatly missed by her colleagues and all who have had the privilege of working with her over the past 21 years.

One of the highlights of Margaret's career was meeting Princess Diana at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney and showing her around the Heart and Lung transplant Unit and working with the late Dr Victor Chang.

We wish Margaret every happiness as she embarks on the next chapter of her life.



Still need to have your free flu vaccination?

We've now provided a free flu vaccination to 2639 TPCH staff, which is 56 per cent of our workforce.

The TPCH staff clinic continues to provide free flu vaccinations for staff. It is open 7am to 4pm weekdays on Level 3 of the Clinical Sciences Building. Simply drop-in - no appointment required.

For more details, visit the Metro North [Staff Extranet](#).

Kind regards,

Tami Photinos
Executive Director
The Prince Charles Hospital



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 we 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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