

Metro North Health

Message from the

Executive Director Community and Oral Health

Glynis Schultz



Summary:

- Geriatric Evaluation and Management Service
- Fifty Years of Deadly - NAIDOC Week (6 to 13 July)
- Community Cultural Yarns Sessions
- COH - All In for Reconciliation Week 2026
- COH Staff Excellence Awards nominations open
- Compliment - Safety Ambassador

Message feedback



Audience: All staff



Read time: 5+ min



For: Information

Dear Team,

It has been another great six months for our directorate with many important upgrades and developments occurring around COH and more broadly Metro North Health.

To start, I want to congratulate our Geriatric Evaluation and Management Service (GEMS) at Brighton Health Campus for their amazing work supporting our elderly patients getting home safe and well.

This exceptional team continues to deliver a high standard of care to help our elderly patients recover physical and cognitive function.

Recently, this important work was recognised at the Metro North Medicines Steering Committee with COH being acknowledged as a standout performer following the 27 per cent reduction of Average Length of Stay (ALOS) for patients.

COH ALOS has also been significantly reduced from 20 to 14.5 days and the GEMS team where the main contributor of this great outcome.

The statistics show that:

- GEMS have increased separations from 500 to 600, and reduced ALOS from 35 to 23 days.
- Brighton Rehabilitation has also increased separations from 500 to 656, and reduced ALOS from 22 to 20 days.

Thank you to the GEMS team and everyone across our service who have contributed to this great outcome, but also for your work each day supporting our patients and residents.



 **NAIDOC WEEK** 
50 YEARS DEADLY 
5-12 JULY 2026

Fifty Years of Deadly - NAIDOC Week (6 to 13 July)

For five decades, NAIDOC Week has celebrated the voices of our communities — steady, unapologetic and proud.

Each year, its themes have called for truth and celebrated culture. This is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth.

This moment is about recognising how far we've come. It's also about the here and now, who we are today. Grounded in culture.

This year, we will continue our strong tradition of supporting NAIDOC Week with Community Cultural Yarns at both our community and oral health sites.

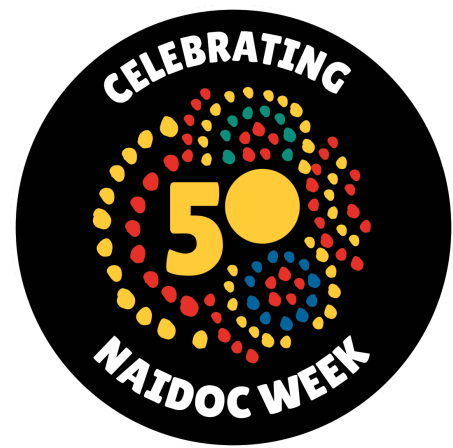
Community and Oral Health Clinic Cultural Yarns

If you've been wanting to learn more about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture but haven't known where to go, who to ask, or been worried about finding the right words, this is your chance.

Register for the [cultural learning session](#) at COH or find out more about the scheduled [Oral Health Clinic Yarns](#).

Simply bring your curiosity, open mind and kindness. First session is at the Brighton Wellness Hub, Wednesday, 8 July 2026 at 9:30 am.

[Register for the Community Cultural Yarn.](#)



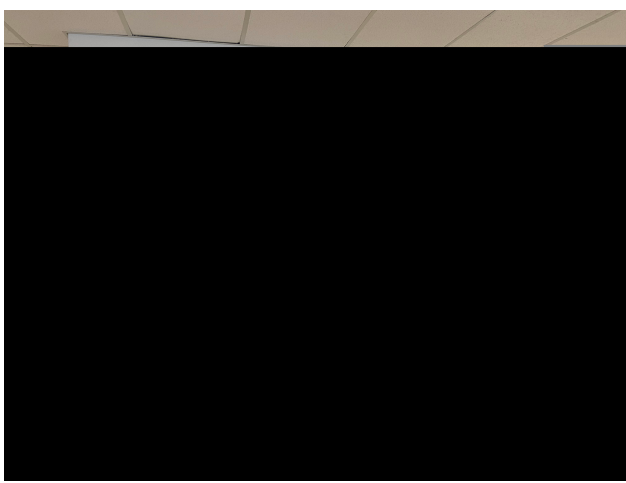
COH - All in for Reconciliation Week 2026

Along side the release in March of our Second Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2026-2027, the 10th Annual Reconciliation Shield was held at the Brighton Wellness Hub on Friday 26th June.

Since its inception in 2016, the Reconciliation Shield has become a cornerstone event for staff connection. This year, staff were invited to participate in some friendly and somewhat competitive bowls to reflect on a decade of reconciliation within COH and step up to the challenge of being 'All In' shifting from simple allyship to true advocacy.

To visually anchor these principles in the physical environment, this year a Facility Decoration Competition was introduced to challenge teams across our sites to decorate their workspaces to align with the powerful national reconciliation theme: 'All In'.

The winners of the Facility Decoration Competition were the **Brighton Rehabilitation Unit** (below left) and second place was **Ebbtide House** (below right).



Progress will be assessed by answering three core questions: Are attitudes changing? Are behaviours becoming more culturally responsive? Are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients, consumers and community experiencing safer, more respectful, and more empowering care across our services?

In embracing the RAP, we embrace the possibility of a future where reconciliation is no longer a vision, but a lived reality and reconciliation leadership is shared.

Together we must be **'All In'**.



Reconciliation Bowls 2026 Champions – Bowls Just
Want to Have Fun



Best Dressed Team - Ebowla

Community and Oral Health

Staff Excellence Awards 2026



Compliment - Safety

I would like to do a big shout out to Mark Reminisi for his compassion and respect which he has shown to our cognitive impaired patients who are at risk of absconding.

When we call upon security to support us with our patient's it is often because they are distressed and are at risk of harming themselves.

Mark is always very receptive to the patient's needs meeting them where they are and being a friendly face to share their concerns.

Thank you Mark for being such a wonderful Connecting Care Champion and safety conscious ambassador for our services.

Your help is highly appreciated.



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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