

Metro North Health

Message from the

Executive Director STARS

Dale Dally-Watkins



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Audience: All staff



Read time: 4 min



For: Information

Dear Colleagues,

The judging for our STARS, Oral Health Centre and VECS Staff Excellence Awards is well underway. The format for the presentations will be the same as last year, with the five award categories presented first, followed by the Length of Service Awards (20 years and above). The list of Excellence Award finalists and Length of Service recipients will be published next week.

I encourage everyone to come along to the award event and support their colleagues. There will be tea, coffee and light refreshments served following the formalities.



Metro North Business Case for Change vidcast

On Tuesday, Chief Executive Nick Steele, Chief Operating Officer Stephen Eaton and Chief People & Culture Officer Lorna Morton held the latest vidcast on the Metro North Business Case for Change.

The vidcast reviewed the key feedback received on the proposed implementation plan, the approach and timeframe. Staff also had the opportunity to ask questions.

As 20 of the feedback submissions related to the Chief Operating Officer (COO) portfolio, a Supplementary Consultation has been established. This consultation will provide staff, unions and relevant stakeholders the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the organisational changes in the COO portfolio. Documents for the COO Supplementary Consultation are now available on the [extranet](#). Feedback can be submitted by **Tuesday 6 October 2026**.

If you missed the vidcast, you can watch it on [QHEPS](#).

STEPtember update

Our leading team, Exclusives 15K have well and truly pulled away from the rest of the competitors, clocking up an amazing 2,448,172 steps. Our next three teams, The STEPtacular Five, Vitals Stable Legs Not and The IV League are reasonably close, so with five days to go until the finish it will be a race to see who makes the podium. Our top three individual steppers are Kyle Gardner with 562,020 steps, Suz Simon with 529,867 steps and Alice Morton with 524,048 steps.

I hope everyone who is participating in STEPtember this year has noticed some positive changes from their additional step count. I look forward to announcing the winners soon.

Metro North Staff Excellence Awards

Tickets are selling fast for the Metro North Staff Excellence Awards gala dinner event, on **Friday 13 November**. The event is a great option if you are looking for an end-of-year event for your team. This year, the awards are moving to a new venue, The STAR, which seems very appropriate for us.

The \$100 ticket price includes a four-hour food and drinks package, a sparkling awards ceremony, and live entertainment.

You can get your tickets [here](#).



Queensland Aphasia Research Centre finalists in Engagement Australia Excellence Awards

Congratulations to the Queensland Aphasia Research Centre (QARC) and partners for being selected as a finalist in the Engagement Australia 2026 Excellence Awards, in the Outstanding Engagement for Research Impact category.

The category recognises excellence in research that makes a substantial difference to the community, or Australian or New Zealand prosperity, undertaken jointly by researchers from tertiary education institutes and partners in community, business or industry contexts.

The awards will be held on Wednesday 11 November at Customs House and we wish the QARC team all the best.

Name badges

Thank you for your patience while we finalised the process for ordering name badges. To ensure consistency in design and ordering practices, Corporate Services will coordinate all name badge requests, placing orders on behalf of staff and business units. Please see attached the [Name Badge Request Form](#) and [ordering process](#).

If you don't already have a name badge, please consider ordering one. We know that patients really do appreciate being able to see the name of the staff caring for them, and they also help staff get to know each other too.



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!

Search Beyond Diversity on TMS

Beyond Diversity Workshop in October

Registrations are now open for the Metro North Health Beyond Diversity Workshop, an engaging and practical learning opportunity for health professionals that strengthens understanding of anti-racism and culturally safe care.

The Beyond Diversity Workshop is an immersive **two-day program** that helps participants develop practical skills to work more effectively with colleagues, patients and communities from diverse backgrounds.

Dates: 14-15 October 2026

Wednesday 8am-3.30pm and Thursday 8.30am-4.00pm.

[Register on TMS](#).

STARS in the socials

As part of Malnutrition Awareness Week last week, Dietitian Assistant Brooke was featured in a Metro North reel on Facebook, and Instagram discussing some things to watch out for that might indicate malnutrition. She also detailed what supports are in place for patients, including showcasing our fantastic dining room here at STARS.

You can [watch the reel here](#).



Patient compliment

This week's compliment is from one of our ophthalmology patients who had special thanks for Dr Ahmed. It is a great example of the impact that clear communication can have on the patient journey.

"Dr Ahmed was professional, listened to me and explained things clearly. He properly reviewed where things stood and brought my treatment to a conclusion. He provided a clear discharge letter explaining what had happened and the final outcome. I really appreciated the way he handled my final appointment. It was a positive way to finish a very long process, and I would like to personally thank Dr Ahmed for the care and professionalism he showed me".

Thank you to Dr Ahmed and the ophthalmology team for their excellent care.

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

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