

We hope you will enjoy this new publication to keep you in the loop with the going on in the committee with work projects, education, and news from around the country—in little snippets for you to share with your teams. Share it, print it for your tea rooms, let us know if you have anything we can include it to share. *It's for everyone.*

## From the Chairperson...

### Haere Mai, Welcome to Our New Newsletter

Well we hope you're all keeping well in this season of changeable weather and avoiding the winter plagues of cold, flu, Covid and now RSV too. Hopefully bird flu will stay with the birds and not cross the ditch from Australia.

From Ageing Orion planes, ferries running aground and electric pylons not being secured it has been an interesting few weeks and no doubt following the weather events in Tairāwhiti and Hawkes Bay whether at home or at work some of us will have been impacted. We send our aroha, and best wishes.

There has been a flurry of activity around the aged care space recently, leading up to the budget. NZNO are promoting Ratios for nursing, and the College are actively participating in the planning for the Age Safe Campaign. We are very interested in hearing from those of you working in aged care and how you believe that we can engage and sustain a workforce that is passionate about our older adults and their needs.

The committee have been very busy recently with several submissions to various organisations. We have made submissions to:

- the Future of Aged Care Service and funding models, a monster document..
- Law Commission's review of Adult Decision making capacity law, and
- Consultation for Meeting the Preliminary Notification of Death.

We are currently working on the HDC submission, which is reviewing the Act and the Code to ensure it is fit for purpose for all. If you have any comments you would like us to include in our submission then please contact us or make your own submission at [review.hdc.org.nz](http://review.hdc.org.nz).

Our keynote speaker at Conference next year Victoria Traynor has contacted us with a request to provide a speaker for the upcoming webinar on August 1<sup>st</sup>, for the Gerontological Alliance of Nurses Australia (GANA) - and our Vice Chair Aloha Sison is presenting. We are waiting on the flyer to send out to you all so that you can also join the webinar.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter and please send us an email if you have something to share with us all.

**Bridget Richards, Chairperson**

### Your committee now consists of

Bridget Richards—*Chair*

Anna Carey—*Treasurer*

Gayleen Watkins—*Secretary, Membership*

Aloha Sison—*Committee Member, Social Media*

Christy Reedy—*Committee Member*

Sarah McIntosh—*Committee Member*

Regan Gilchrist, *Committee Member, Newsletter*

Rosie Winters—*Committee Member*

Marg Bisgsby—*Professional Nursing Advisor, NZNO*

We last met in May in person, and have our next meeting in Christchurch in early August.

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# College Activity

## HCA Oversight Committee

At our last Committee meeting, the College met with Michael Derbert, Chair of the HCA oversight committee. This group represents HCAs employed in Home Support as well as Aged Care Facilities and Hospitals. This group approached the College after our last newsletter, seeing how we might be able to connect, and help. One of the consideration raised by this group was that there are not clear definitions of exactly the HCA role.

## Aged Safe Campaign

Discussions are underway to utilize the Case Mix system, which is used in Australia, and based on InterRAI, which has resulted in some RN/EN care minutes overseas. The system in New Zealand is different, and in distress—due to factors such as individuals not being able to sell their house as fast anymore, and many providers with financial pressures. Bridget is involved with the first Aged Safe Oversight Meeting—and will feedback at the next committee meeting.



Pictured (L-R): Donna Burkett (Child Health Colleges), Aloha Sison, Bridget Richards

## NZNO College & Sections Day

Bridget and Aloha attended the annual College and Section Day earlier this year, where Aloha presented from the College. Anne Daniels, President presented around that nursing is about the whole, not just tasks.

The Women's Health College is providing training to upskill their RNs.

The Pacific Nurses College are exploring Pathways to Registration—consultation ahead with Nursing Council around this.

The Nursing Research section is completing a twice yearly journal, and support individuals with their research.

The EN Section presented, and reiterated the message around not forgetting ENs and the role they play. 200 hours have now been removed from their training, now 700 are required.

Rob Zorn (NZNO Media & Communications) wants to increase the profile of Colleges and Sections and individual colleges can approach him for help as needed.

## Knowledge & Skills Framework

Knowledge and Skills Framework  
At our last Committee meeting, we met with a technical writer who will be providing us some assistance with finalizing the Gerontology Knowledge and Skills Framework. The Committee has contracted out this service, and we hope to be able to share a finalised KSF in the coming months.

## ***College Submission—HDC Code and Act Review***

The College has prepared a submission as part of the HDC Act and Code Review consultation. The key aspects of feedback HDC asked as part of this consultation included:

- Supporting better and equitable complaint resolution
- Making the Act and the Code more effective for, and responsive to the needs of Maori
- Making the Act and Code work better for disabled people
- Considering options for a right of appeal to HDC decisions
- Minor and technical improvements

The College considered this document, and shared the following feedback as part of the consultation process:

- Importance of encouraging complainants to engage with the provider in the first instance,
- In terms of supporting better complaint resolution, the College agreed with the proposed changes around broadening purpose statement and including ‘upholding mana’, more inclusive language and feedback around the term ‘no investigative action’, as this felt it could be misleading
- The College agreed that Tikana should be included in the Code, as well as practical effects from the Treaty
- The College agreed that there should be a right of appeal for consumers and healthcare providers, and when a review is undertaken, it should be an independent review.
- Concerns expressed by the College around advancing technology were also shared.

The final consultation closes on 31 July and members can make an independent consultation via: <https://review.hdc.org.nz>;



**CSSANZ NURSES AWARDS**  
**\*\*Publications & Educational Materials Category\*\***  
**\*\*Professional Excellence Category\*\***  
Encourage eligible Nurses to apply  
**Applications close: 1 August 2024**

APPLY NOW

[www.cssanz.org](http://www.cssanz.org)

The banner features a dark blue background with teal and light blue circular accents. On the left, there are two circular images: the top one shows a smiling female nurse in blue scrubs, and the bottom one shows three male nurses in green scrubs. A teal button with a white cursor icon and the text 'APPLY NOW' is positioned below the images. The text on the right is in white and red, with the award categories in red. The closing date is highlighted in white.

# *Nurse Maude Assessment Centre*

In May, Marg (Professional Nursing Advisor) attended the official opening of the Nurse Maude Simulation and Assessment Centre held at the Nurse Maude complex in Christchurch.

The Centre is part of Te Kaunihera Tapihi o Aotearoa - Nursing Council of New Zealand's new model for assessing the competence of Internationally Qualified Nurses (IQNs) seeking registration to work in NZ.

The new process requires applicants to undertake an orientation and preparation course (OPC) and objective structured clinical examinations (OCSEs) in Christchurch. It replaces the Competency Assessment Programme (CAP) course that has been used until now.

The official opening was led by representatives from Tuahiwi Marae, in conjunction with Nurse Maude leaders. The opening honoured the contributions of many whose input had led to the development of the new facility. Those contributions included Nursing Council; Nurse Maude who were the successful bidders to run the national facility; University of Canterbury who are partners and facilitate the 2-day orientation and preparation course; the contractors who designed and refurbished the existing building to fulfil its new purpose; and the members of the new team who will run the OSCEs. The ceremony was attended by local nursing leaders of health services that newly registered nurses will seek positions at, and other stakeholders in nursing workforce development.

After the official blessing, there was an opportunity to visit the assessment centre and to see the rooms where 'patients' will be assessed to demonstrate clinical knowledge and skills in practice. There are ten rooms – one for each scenario. Each candidate completes all ten scenarios. Candidates are given 2 minutes to read the scenario before entering the room and 8 minutes to complete it once in the room.

The OPC and OSCE process represents a new way for some IQNs required to demonstrate their competence for registration as a nurse in New Zealand.

Pictured: Kaumātua speaking to the group at the Assessment Open Day. On the left are manuhiri (representatives from Tuahiwi Marae, the right—Nursing Council representatives, NZNO, and local nursing leadership



## Membership

The College currently has 423 member across Aotearoa.

Remind your colleagues that as an NZNO Member they can join up to three Sections, and we would love for more membership in our College!



## Social Media

The College now has an active presence on social media which includes Facebook and LinkedIn. the activity of the College.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063928788474&mibextid=ZbWKwL>



LinkedIn:

[https://www.linkedin.com/in/ontologynursing-nzno?profile&utm\\_medium=android\\_app](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ontologynursing-nzno?profile&utm_medium=android_app)



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The Mobile Health Group | Hauora Taiwhenua Scholarships are now open for 2024! This opportunity provides financial support to four rural students with health related studies.

The scholarships each offer \$5000 and offered to any rural youth entering first year study (undergraduate) in Nursing, Medicine or Allied Health across New Zealand universities or polytechnics. The closing date for applications is 30th September 2024.

Link: [Mobile-Health-Group-and-Hauora-Taiwhenua-Scholarship-Information-and-Guidelines-2024-with-link.pdf](https://www.htrhn.org.nz/files/2023/09/Mobile-Health-Group-and-Hauora-Taiwhenua-Scholarship-Information-and-Guidelines-2024-with-link.pdf) ([htrhn.org.nz](https://www.htrhn.org.nz))

# Rural New Zealand Health Scholarships



Applications for 2024  
**NOW OPEN**

## ***Upcoming Professional Development***

Dementia Knowledge to Action Programme	Online (link) Commences October 2024	Register online: <a href="#">Dementia Knowledge to Action Program   DTA</a>
Dementia Mate Wareware Network	Online 25th July 2024 10am—12pm	Register: <a href="#">Dementia Mate Wareware Network Te Tūhononga mō te Mate Wareware Supporting Communication (office.com)</a>

## ***Nurses in Policy—Webinar Feedback (Marg Bigsby, PNA)***

I recently attended a series of four one-hour webinars as part of a Nurses in Policy course that was promoted by the College of Nurses Aotearoa, and led by two facilitators from NZIER. The workshops were themed as follows:

1. The machinery of government and policy process – facilitated by Todd Kriebler
2. Policy tools and options – facilitated by Sarah Hogan
3. Cabinet briefings and the art and craft of advising – facilitated by Sarah Hogan
4. Working with Crown entities and course consolidation – facilitated by Todd Kriebler

Todd Kriebler is a deputy director of NZIER. Sarah Hogan is Principal Economist with NZIER. Both presenters have extensive experience in a range of leadership roles in Ministry of Health and health governance, both nationally and overseas. They tailored the presentation content to contexts relevant to nurses.

There were ~ 15 participants on the course who came from a range of nursing leadership roles, including 2 chairs of NZNO colleges. Learners sought to achieve the 3 objectives of the series:

1. Increase nurses’ input to decision-making
2. Navigate the ‘system’
3. Construct winning arguments

The structure of sessions included: information sharing of key ideas; discussion about specific questions in break out rooms and representatives feeding back to the whole group; reading sample documents; and reviewing “Master class” notes on relevant topics.

The workshops were useful in increasing my understanding of factors that contribute to exerting influence over decision-making. Working as a NZNO Professional Nursing Advisor, I participate in consultation opportunities (for example, the current Health and Disability Commission Act and Code Review, and the Future of Aged Care Funding and Service Delivery Models Engagement Survey). I support College committees to engage in numerous consultation opportunities relevant to their clinical contexts. PNAs participate in working groups of NZNO staff, for example the College and Section Lifting Influence and Reach Project, and support the work of groups of member representatives, for example NZNO’s Age Safe National Oversight group, or where members are faced with a proposal for change in the nature of their clinical work. Even working with individual members provides the opportunity to create a case to influence the decision-making.

I found this professional development to be valuable and recommend it to other nurses seeking to strengthen their knowledge and skills in decision-making. The resources and strategies presented support influencing decision-making at highest levels of government, however they are also broadly applicable to any setting that nurses work in. The workshops are offered once or twice/year

# 2025 Conference



## 3RD BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2025

THE SILVER TSUNAMI:  
SURFING THE WAVES OF AGEING

[WWW.GERONTOLOGYNURSING.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.GERONTOLOGYNURSING.ORG.NZ)

19-20 MAY 2025  
WAIPUNA HOTEL  
AUCKLAND



The Committee has been busy preparing and organising all things Conference. The theme for this conference, is **“The Silver Tsunami: Surfing the Waves of Ageing”**. This reflects the challenges and opportunities of an aging population and workforce in the health and social sector. The conference aims to showcase the latest research, best practice and innovations in gerontology nursing across all settings and disciplines. We are pleased to be able to confirm date and venue for this conference, as well as confirmation of our keynote speaker, Victoria Traynor (pictured)

We encourage all members to start thinking about attendance, discussing with your manager and organisation around your professional development, and attend.

**We have confirmed the Waipuna Hotel in Auckland, across two busy days of 19th and 20th May, 2025.**

This year, as a Committee, we discussed having an healthcare assistant stream, which was supported by all members of the Committee.

We are still finalising the run of speakers, so if you have any suggestions, please contact us!

Updates on the conference will be posted across social media, as well on our website:

<http://www.gerontologynursing.org.nz/>

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Professor Victoria Traynor

Conference details available:

[WWW.GERONTOLOGYNURSING.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.GERONTOLOGYNURSING.ORG.NZ)



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*We hope you have enjoyed reading this edition of our Newsletter. We look forward to connecting with you all, and hearing from you throughout the year. Till next time, take care and thank you all for the hard mahi you all do to support our older people.*

*Bridget on behalf the COGN Committee*

Send feedback, ideas for stories etc to:  
Regan Gilchrist, Committee Member at [nznogerontology@gmail.com](mailto:nznogerontology@gmail.com)