

## **Infection Prevention & Control Nurses College Chair's Report for 2024 AGM**

There were significant changes to the committee in 2024, with the committee farewelling Amy Leese and Jessy Shaji due to other commitments. We hope to have them return to the committee when they have the capacity.

Many thanks to my current committee for their time and energy to take up their committee role.

This year's conference organisers have toiled to make this a memorable conference and I am excited to be at Hamilton this year. Funding for our members to attend has been raised as an issue with the current financial constraints many employers have found themselves under.

Looking back at my last report, the national space is still grappling with changes and there are more changes looming. The Infection Services Network Aotearoa has met once, and I am enthused by the membership and engagement. This looks to have the potential to have impacts to make positive changes in how IPC and Infection Services are undertaken in NZ.

I had the honour and privilege to represent infection Prevention and Control Nurses at the Royal Commission into COVID, and share the lived experience of members within both the public and private sectors. It's interesting (not sure that's the right word) to think back and realise we have been living with COVID for the last four years.

This year saw an increase in requests for members to represent the college in pieces of work.

We currently have members on:

- Sharps Standard review
- PPE Standard Review
- NZNO Membership Committee
- IPC Technical Advisory Group, Ministry of Health
- HQSC SIPCAG
- Antibiotic Conservation Aotearoa
- HNZ PPE procurement project and others.

The committee is planning to develop a database of members who would be open to represent the college. This is a way to dip your toes into the national scene, or to be part of a group in your sphere of interest. We will update you all once we figure out the process.

This year Jane Barnett reviewed and aligned our Professional Framework. This document is for IPC practitioners (and their managers) to guide what level they are working at. It can be used to support education priorities to assist and enable the growth of our members. The aim is to have a document to compliment the framework for members to provide evidence of practicing at each level. A huge thank you to Jane for her mahi.

At this AGM we say farewell to Anne-Maree Wagg, who has been the Controlla publisher for the last few years, I would like to acknowledge the work that goes into each publication. Thank you for your passion and prodding for the content to make each issue an enjoyable read.

Ngā Mihi,

**Lisa Gilbert**  
IPCNC Chair