

Communiqué

Meeting of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia 26 June 2014 in the AHPRA office, Melbourne

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (the National Board or NMBA) is the national regulator for the nursing and midwifery professions in Australia. It is established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory ([the National Law](#)).

The National Board meets monthly and considers a range of matters, the most important of which are published in this Communiqué.

In order to facilitate engagement with local stakeholders across states and territories, the National Board now holds its monthly meeting in a different state and territory every two to three months.

This helps the National Board to gain a better understanding of the jurisdictional matters relating to the regulation of enrolled nurses, registered nurses, midwives and students.

It also supports information sharing on the National Board's strategic priorities, projects and regulatory functions with local representatives from the professional and industrial organisations, education providers and employers, health department and members of the local state or territory board of the NMBA.

Midwifery planning day

As a follow up to a [midwifery stakeholder workshop](#) in late 2013, National Board members held a midwifery planning day in June 2014.

The objectives of the planning day were to discuss the regulation of midwifery practice in the Australian health care context and international midwifery trends.

Participants looked at the role of the National Board in the following areas:

- regulation of midwives
- accreditation of programs of study
- midwifery workforce, and
- engagement with stakeholders on midwifery issues.

The National Board is developing a strategy for the future regulation of midwives in Australia.

Criminal history standard

The National Board has approved a revised Criminal history registration standard that was part of an all-Boards review of common registration standards.

Public consultation on the revised Criminal history registration standard closed on 23 December 2013. The National Board analysed feedback, revised the registration standard and will submit it to the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council for approval as part of a submission from all National Boards.

Thank you to all who gave feedback to the consultation.

[Welcome to Adjunct A/ Prof Veronica Casey, new member from Queensland](#)

The National Board welcomed Adjunct A/Prof Veronica Casey to her first meeting of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia. Members congratulated Adjunct A/ Prof Veronica Casey on her appointment to the National Board as the new health practitioner member for Queensland from 6 May 2014, for a period of three years.

Adjunct A/Prof Casey is a registered nurse and midwife, and a fellow of the Australian College of Nursing. She is also one of the practitioner members of the Queensland Board of the NMBA. She brings invaluable experience, including regulatory experience gained as a state board member, to her role with the National Board. Please join us in welcoming Adjunct A/Prof Casey.

Visit the [Board member page](#) on our website to see the profiles of our National Board members.

[Thank you to Ms Alyson Smith, former Executive Officer](#)

The National Board bade farewell to Ms Alyson Smith from the role of Executive Officer, and thanked her for her guidance and support over the past three years.

Members especially acknowledged her contribution to developing the work of the National Board during those three years and wished her all the best in her new role as Program Coordinator within AHPRA.

[Welcome to Ms Tanya Vogt, new Executive Officer](#)

The National Board welcomed Ms Tanya Vogt on her appointment as the new Executive Officer for the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia. Ms Vogt took up her position as Executive Officer in June 2014.

In this role, Ms Vogt will support and guide the National Board in matters of policy, governance, regulation, standards development and accreditation. She will also facilitate cross-professional collaboration, maintain National Board stakeholder relationships and contribute to our work in the National Scheme.

Ms Vogt brings to her role a strong background in health and regulation.

[National Board member presents Northern Territory 2014 Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards](#)

National Board member Ms Angela Brannelly presented an award on behalf of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia at the Northern Territory 2014 Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards. Ms Brannelly awarded the winner Ms Sandra Markovich in the category of Enrolled Nursing.

The Minister for Health hosted the annual event at Parliament House, celebrating the skills and contributions of Northern Territory nurses and midwives employed in a variety of clinical health services.

Find out more about the excellence awards from the [Department of Health website](#).

[Congratulations to Dr Rosemary Bryant](#)

The National Board takes this opportunity to congratulate Dr Rosemary Bryant, Commonwealth Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer, for recognition of her work in the Queen's Birthday honours list this year.

Dr Bryant was honoured as an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to the profession of nursing through national and international leadership, and as a supporter of access and equity in healthcare.

In her nursing and midwifery position within the Commonwealth government, Dr Bryant represents an important stakeholder in the work of the National Board.

Approved programs of study leading to registration and endorsement

The National Board approved for five years the following program of study as providing a qualification for the purposes of registration as an enrolled nurse:

Education provider	Program	Campus
Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (Victorian Branch)	Diploma of Nursing	ANF House

The National Board approved major modifications to the following programs:

Education provider	Program	Modification
New South Wales Health RTO	Diploma of Nursing	Additional campus at Liverpool, NSW
University of New England	Bachelor of Nursing	Additional campus at Tamworth

The National Board approved the prolongation of accreditation for the following nursing programs:

Education provider	Program	Revised expiry date
Mercy Health Training Institute	Initial Registration Course for Division 1 Overseas Registered Nurses	28 February 2015
Mercy Health Training Institute	Return to Practice Program for Division 1 Nurses	28 February 2015
University of Southern Queensland	Postgraduate Certificate Advanced Nursing Practice (Rural and Remote)	1 August 2014
Wimmera Health Care Group	Initial Registration Course For Division 1 Overseas Registered Nurses	20 November 2015
Wimmera Health Care Group	Initial Registration Course For Division 2 Overseas Registered Nurses	20 November 2015
Wimmera Health Care Group	Return to Practice Program For Division 1 Nurses	20 November 2015
Wimmera Health Care Group	Return to Practice Program For Division 2 Nurses	20 November 2015

The National Board approved the following program to move into 'inactive' in the nursing list of approved programs of study (this program is no longer approved for new enrolments):

Education provider	Program	Details
Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (Victorian Branch)	Diploma of Nursing	Expiry date 1 January 2015

For more detailed information please go to the [approved program of study lists](#) for nursing and midwifery on the National Board website.

Dr Lynette Cusack, Registered Nurse
Chair, Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
10 July 2014

For more information

- Keep up to date with regular news and updates on the National Board website www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au
- Visit www.nursingmidwiferyboard.gov.au under *Contact Us* to lodge an online enquiry form
- For registration enquiries: 1300 419 495 (within Australia) +61 3 8708 9001 (overseas callers)
- For media enquiries: (03) 8708 9200