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Kia ora koutou,

My thanks go to all the midwives who have applied for their APCs. March passed in a blur as the Secretariat staff spent many hours on the phone assisting midwives with queries about their applications.

Thank you as well for the time you took filling in the workforce survey. The data that this generates is immensely valuable – it helps the Council plan to address issues and direct its workstreams accordingly. It also provides useful information which is shared nationally with

decision makers so that midwives' voices are heard. We will publish the results of the workforce survey later this year.

The Midwifery Steering Group, currently co-led by Julie Patterson (Director, Women's Health, Te Whatu Ora Toka Tumai) and Michelle Vincent (as interim Co-Chair) is part of the Workforce Taskforce set up by Te Whatu Ora and Te Aka Whai Ora. I am honoured to represent Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu on

this Group. At our meeting in February, we discussed current issues and possible initiatives as well as work in progress across the sector.

It is exciting to be involved in this Group at a time when health care in Aotearoa is undergoing such a significant period of change. I will report developments back to you as work progresses.

In April we commemorate ANZAC day – and I would like to draw your attention to an amazing kiwi woman who was one of our earliest campaigners on sexual health and women's rights in the early part of the twentieth century - Ettie Rout. Her book 'Safe Marriage' – encouraging women to own their own bodies and take responsibility for their own sexual health - was banned in Aotearoa.

She endured huge opposition here, including a ban on her name being mentioned in the newspapers, as her views were considered to be so at odds with the morality of that time.

Midwives have always been at the forefront of sexual health education so I believe the life and work of Ettie Rout will resonate with many of you.

Thank you for all you do caring for whānau during their pregnancy and health journeys. Ngā manaakitanga,

Lesley Clarke

Tumu Whakahaere me te Pouroki | Chief Executive and Registrar



Protect your tamariki for life

Immunisation is one of the most effective ways to prevent infectious diseases

www.immunise.health.nz

Te Aka Whai Ora
Māori Health Authority

Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand

Following on from an email sent to all midwives earlier this month, Te Aka Whai Ora and Te Whatu Ora launched a new information campaign in April supporting parents and caregivers to better protect their tamariki from a host of vaccine-preventable diseases.

To help normalise immunisations as one of the things parents can do to protect their children, and to encourage whānau to catch up on any missed vaccinations, the campaign offers a range of resources to support this mahi. Find out more at this [website](#).

New campaign aims to lift vaccination rates for tamariki

Have you heard of Ettie Rout?

Ettie Rout, born in 1877, lived in Wellington and Christchurch, and was one of New Zealand's earliest and most embattled sexual health campaigners: providing sexual health and welfare services for troops during World War I in the face of strong moralist opposition.

Ahead of her time, Ettie was awarded the Reconnaissance française medal (Medal of French Gratitude) for her work in Paris and with the French Red Cross in 1919-20, and King George V sent her a letter of commendation.



To contact the office, please call us on 04 499 5040, [email us](#) or contact us through Facebook Messenger and one of the team will be able to assist you.

Meet the team - Lucy O'Loughlin

Kaiawhina Matua | Executive Assistant and Board Secretary

Kia ora koutou,

Kia ora, I have recently started at Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu as Executive Assistant to Lesley Clarke and Board Secretary.

Following a Bachelor of Dance degree at Auckland University of Technology, I went to live in London for four years where I started my career as an Executive Assistant in the Investment Banking sector. Connecting with a broad range of nationalities and cultures was the best part of working in London - it really challenged and developed my communication skills.

My husband and I moved from Auckland to Wellington for his job in 2018 and eventually set up home in Belmont, Lower Hutt. We have since welcomed two children (both under five years). Through my pregnancies, I developed a keen interest in midwifery. I experienced the huge impact that midwives can have on the people they care for and the array of benefits the profession provides to society. I'm excited to be involved in a sector/organisation that I personally care so much about.



I joined my local Toastmasters Club about nine months ago to tackle my fear of public speaking, which has surprisingly turned into a passion of mine! In my spare time, you will find me at playgrounds with my children or strolling along Petone beach and shopping precinct.



We look forward to celebrating the International Day of the Midwife on Friday, May 5, 2023



Referral Guidelines



Te Whatu Ora has published an update of the [Guidelines for Consultation with Obstetric and Related Medical Services \(Referral Guidelines\)](#) to be implemented within maternity services and professional practice.

A number of changes that have been made have implications for practice. In summary the main changes to the Referral Guidelines include:

1. The inclusion and acknowledgement of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and cultural safety
2. Recognition of Ngā Paerewa Health and Disability Services Standards
3. Amendments to the guiding principles
4. Additive language (throughout) and terminology changes
5. Updated table of conditions and referral categories
6. Updated process maps and the addition of a sixth process map/flow chart, "When a woman/person declines a referral, consultation, transfer of clinical responsibility for care, emergency treatment or emergency transport".

Calling all Internationally Qualified Midwives working in Aotearoa

We hope you are enjoying living and working in Aotearoa New Zealand. As a midwife new to Aotearoa we would like to invite you to a zoom hui with Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council and the New Zealand College of Midwives (NZCOM) to discuss how we improve the education and support provided to internationally qualified midwives.

To register with the Council you will have completed (or are still completing) some mandatory education. We are revising these courses and would like your input into:

- what works well and what doesn't
- suggestions for improvement

We would like to know about your experience of working in New Zealand and how we can support you to fully integrate into the midwifery workforce and maternity system.

Join our Zoom hui on Monday 15th May

12pm and again at 4pm

Please [register your interest](#) in attending and we will send you the zoom link. If you are unable to attend, we would still love to hear from you. Please send your [thoughts](#) or request an individual discussion.

Changes to education courses for recertification

Midwives are able to claim eight hours of education from any provider on any topic which has direct relevance to the midwife's role, and they can demonstrate the learning has been applied to their midwifery practice.

Going forward, the Council will only accredit education providers and their courses for mandatory education required for recertification. This change reflects the diversity of education that can be invaluable to improving practice, as well as remove barriers for education providers.

This means individuals or groups of educators will not need to apply to the Council to have their courses approved, instead it will be expected that reflective learning is integrated within all teaching. As per the Recertification policy, a percentage of midwives are audited each year to ensure they have undertaken the required education and can demonstrate the application to their practice.

Education providers who are already accredited for non-mandatory training will continue to be accredited until December 2023.

If you have any questions please contact education@midwiferycouncil.health.nz

Have you recently graduated as a midwife?

Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council is calling for expressions of interest from recently graduated midwives to be members of the Midwifery Assessment Committee | Midwifery Whakamātautau Komiti.

This Komiti has been established to provide expertise and oversight on the function, appropriateness and sustainability of the assessment of midwives applying to register with the Council.

Underpinning the purpose and function of the Komiti is its adoption of Te Tiriti o Waitangi Governance Relationship Framework policy. The Komiti will ensure all systems and processes honour Tiriti o Waitangi.

There are two positions available:

Tangata Whenua recently graduated midwife (new position)

Tangata Tiriti recently graduated midwife (new position)

To be considered for these roles you must have:

- Registration with the Midwifery Council
- A current practising certificate with no special conditions or requirements
- At least one year post registration experience
- The ability to attend online meetings once a month, with some work in between
- An interest in midwifery education and regulatory processes.

These are key, paid, positions that support the Council to protect the health and safety of whānau.

Please [email](#) your expressions of interest and CV to Diana Austin (Senior Advisor Midwifery Education) or call 04 498 8995 x 864 if you have any questions or want to discuss these roles.

Expressions of Interest close Monday 29th May, 2023.

Te Tatau o Te Whare Kahu ki Hine Pae Ora | Aotearoa Midwifery Project update

Council has considered the independent report of feedback received during last year's consultation on the Scope of Practise and is discussing next steps with key people to progress the important Kaupapa of the Project.

As a Board, we remain committed to completing this mahi to make sure we deliver a Tiriti-led, evidence-based review of the Scope of Practise of a midwife, Standards of Competence and Standards of Approval of Pre-Registration Midwifery Education programmes and Accreditation of Tertiary Education Organisations.

We will continue to keep you updated as this work progresses.

Ngarangi Pritchard

Tangata Whenua Co-Chair, Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council

Kerry Adams

Tangata Tiriti Co-Chair, Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council