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### Kia ora koutou

**A very warm welcome to the first issue of midpoint for this year – my first as CE/Registrar. I have been on the job for just over a month now – it has been a whirlwind few weeks as I come to grips with the role and learn more about the challenges and opportunities facing the midwifery sector.**

I have had the pleasure of meeting many midwives across the spectrum of practice and am grateful for the warm support they have offered me.

My career to date has been in the Health Sector in a variety of leadership roles and I have had the privilege of working directly with a broad range of health professionals. I have developed an understanding of the environment that they work in, and have a deep appreciation of the value and commitment they bring to our communities and whānau.

I am honoured to have been appointed to this position. I bring a portfolio of knowledge about the wider medical system as

I come to grips with a new and exciting role. Board members and staff have made me feel very welcome and I am looking forward to meeting many of you over the coming months.

**“I believe a chief executive’s job is leadership first and foremost and it comes down to relationships and trust. You can’t lead people unless they trust you are doing the right things for the right reasons.”**

The new year has already presented a range of challenges and I am mindful of the stress on many midwives who are caring for whānau in areas that are impacted by floods and cyclones.

Please do contact us if you are concerned about your ability to comply with your continuing professional development obligations as we reach Annual Practising Certificate renewal time so that we can talk with you about your options.

Ngā mihi nui for all your mahi supporting whānau during their pregnancy and birth journeys.

Ngā manaakitanga,

**Lesley Clarke**

Tumu Whakahaere me te Pouroki | Chief Executive and Registrar

## APCs are open!



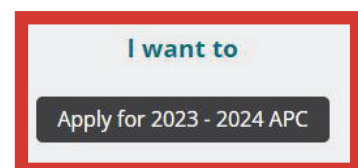
We have again reached the time when Annual Practising Certificates need to be renewed. Remember, all midwives who engage in practice need to have a current practising certificate.

Practice is not just clinical practice but includes education, quality improvement, regulation, professional policy advice etc... any role that requires you to use your midwifery knowledge and skills and that impacts on public safety. Midwives must hold an APC if they are providing antenatal education or lactation services because these skills sit under the midwifery scope of practice.

If you are not going to practice, you will need to log in to MyMCANZ complete the non-practising process and change your status to ‘Non practising’.

Log into [MyMCANZ](#) to complete your application.

If you have been affected by the floods or cyclone, and are worried about completing your APC application, please get in touch as soon as possible. If you need 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.



**If the above option is not available to you when you log into MyMCANZ, please contact the office.**

**Remember to [update your MyMCANZ](#) portal once education or activities are completed.**



## Abortion Law Reform education

**All practising midwives must complete the course Introduction to the Abortion Legislation and Midwifery Roles and Responsibilities by the end of March.**

This education is focused on the change in law and what that means for all health practitioners – midwives included - regardless of their belief systems.

Completion of this education does not mean a midwife will be able to provide abortion care – they will need to complete further education if they want to offer midwifery-led abortion care.

All midwives must complete this [education module](#) by March 31, 2023. This is part of the [recertification programme](#) for all midwives.

## Documentation and record keeping

Careful documentation and record keeping is essential to record the provision of safe and effective care and is an integral part of midwifery practice. Documents associated with the provision of health care will also form an important component of any practice.

Professional record keeping includes all forms of recorded communication that supports the midwifery care and includes all written and electronic health care records, audio and text, emails, laboratory reports, photos, videos or any other form of communication pertaining to a woman's care.

Maternity records must be retained for a minimum of 10 years following the date of the last entry.

Top Tips include:

- Handwriting should be legible.
- All entries should be signed and dated.
- Your records should be accurate and clear.
- Records should be factual and not include abbreviations, jargon, meaningless phrases or irrelevant speculation.
- Use your professional judgement to decide what is relevant and should be recorded.
- Records should identify risks or problems and show the actions taken to deal with them.
- Communicate fully and effectively with your colleagues, so they have all the information they need about the people in your care.
- Use professional language that can be easily understood by whānau in your care.
- Never amend or falsify records.
- Record the narrative and rationale for decisions.

## A word from the Co-chairs



Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa,

Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council recognises the recent catastrophic floods and cyclone that have affected so many communities around the motu may have created difficulties for some midwives as they work to comply with ongoing education needed for recertification.

The Board is sensitive to the fact that plans to complete Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements may have been impacted by the recent emergency and its aftermath.

Please contact the office as soon as possible if you do not think that you will be able to complete your recertification requirements, so we can discuss the options for your next practising certificate.

All members of the Board, who are also impacted by the cyclone and floods, acknowledge the mahi you are doing to support your whānau and communities who are struggling to come to terms with the destruction.

Ngā mihi and please remember to take care of yourselves as even when you are busy caring for others.

Kia kaha, Kia māia, Kia manawanui,

**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

**If you need 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.**

# Te Tatau o Te Whare Kahu ki Hine Pae Ora Aotearoa Midwifery Project - An update

Work on the project has resumed after the summer break. Once again, thank you to all those who took time to provide thoughtful and detailed feedback on the revised Scope of Practice.

An independent analysis of the feedback is now underway and will include a Te Ao Māori perspective consistent with Te Tiriti project framework. It will be presented to the Board as soon as it is complete.

Work continues on the Standards of Competence. The drafting is being undertaken by a subset of the Collaborative Reference Group and input from a broader set of stakeholders across the health and disability sector.

The Council intends to put the Standards of Competence out for feedback from the sector this year.

Preparation for the development of the Standards for approval of pre-registration midwifery education programmes and accreditation of tertiary education organisations will begin in due course.

The Council anticipates that all three documents will be finalised later in 2023, whereupon there will be a period of transition for the sector supported by appropriate education.

We will continue to keep you updated as the Project progresses.

## Returning to Practice?

Do you know anyone who is thinking of returning to the Midwifery profession but isn't sure what is involved?

We will hold a zoom hui on requirements of the Return to Practice programme. Attendees will be invited to ask questions about the process and receive guidance from members of the education team.

Please pass on the details below to anyone who you think may be interested.

### Return to Practice Programme

Zoom drop in

2nd March from 11am-12noon

Click here to join the Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92680906033?pwd=V0R5OUEzbG9Nbm5ONkI2RU5yd29Ndz09>

Meeting ID: 926 8090 6033

Passcode: 891119



Catherine Falconer  
Programmes  
Officer



Nicky Jackson  
Senior Advisor  
Midwifery Regulation

## In brief



HEALTH QUALITY & SAFETY  
COMMISSION NEW ZEALAND

*Kupu Taurangi Hauora o Aotearoa*

### Adverse events review workshops

The Health Quality & Safety Commission's adverse events review workshops welcome enrolments for the February-May programmes. Two of these will be virtual and two in-person sessions in Auckland and Christchurch if your preference is kanohi ki te kanohi.

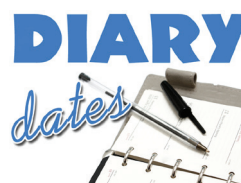
There are spaces available for the 22 March virtual session, with a focus on women's health and includes a maternity scenario developed in collaboration with the sector.

More information, and the link to register, is available on our [AELP](#) website. More information about our [e-learning modules](#) is available online.

### Your mental health and well being

This has been a challenging start to the year - on top of a few stressful years and many midwives are feeling the strain. There are a range of resources and services available that can provide you with confidential support and advice from trained professionals. We encourage you to reach out if you are feeling overwhelmed.

- Free call or text 1737 at any time to talk to a counsellor
- [Ministry of Health](#)
- [College of Midwives](#)



- 2nd March 2023, 11am Return to Practice Programme zoom drop in
- 23rd March 2023, the Council meets