



In this issue

Council welcome and farewell | Register review requirements | Working together to provide safe care for whānau | Your opinion on Whānuitanga o Te Mahi | Scope of Practice is important | Diary | Webinars about the Scope of Practise statement



March is always a busy month for Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council, as it is the time when we open the APC application process for the next practising year.

Things went smoothly this year, until the last day of the application period, when a computer glitch caused problems for some other Responsible Authorities, not just the Council. We would like to apologise if you were affected by this,

we worked with our IT provider and the problem was resolved within 24 hours.

Our sincere thanks to all the midwives who have been granted

their 2022/2023 APCs – and a special welcome to all new graduates who are embarking on their midwifery careers. As I write this newsletter, we are pleased to let you know that we have issued over 3,000 APCs to midwives across the motu.

As schools break up and people head away for a well-deserved Easter break, we know that many midwives will still be caring for whānau and coping with the challenges of working during a pandemic.

The Council and staff want to acknowledge you in your mahi with whānau and hope that you get a chance to have some down time so that you can replenish your reserves.

Dr Susan Calvert

Tumu Whakahaere me te Pouroki | Chief Executive and Registrar

Changes at Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council Board



Beatrice Latham
Incoming Board member

I am delighted to welcome a new member of Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council who was appointed by the Minister of Health in March. Beatrice Latham has worked for over 20 years as an LMC, caring predominately for Māori. She has also practised as a CORE midwife, and as an educator. Based in Gisborne, Beatrice holds a MHSc and is currently a DHSc candidate. We are excited that Beatrice will be joining us and look forward to working along side her.



Debbie Fawcett
Retiring Board member

Thanks to Debbie Fawcett who completed her second term on the Council in March. Debbie served on Council since 2017 and was a valuable member of the Finance, Audit and Risk sub-committee and was able to provide an important LMC perspective

to all Council decision making. We have valued Debbie's professionalism, common sense, humour and great passion for midwifery in Aotearoa and would like to thank her for her service on the Council.

Register review requirements

A recommendation from the Auditors, who carried out the Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council performance review last year, was to make sure that the Midwifery Register was up to date and reflected midwifery in Aotearoa.

In order to implement this recommendation, we intend to manage our Registration database, so that only practising midwives, or midwives that are non-practising but have contacted the Council to remain on the Register, are included. This process will take some time as the Council must attempt to contact individuals who have not responded to requests to update their information.

Non-practising midwives

If you have not applied for an APC, please go online and apply to be non-practising. The Council will be contacting midwives who have not completed this process as it is a necessary part of our Register management.



- 11 April 2022 First webinar on revised Scope of Practise statement
- 26 April 2022 Feedback on revised Scope closes
- 5 May 2022 the Council meets

Working together to provide safe care for whānau



Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council and Kaunihera Manapou | Paramedic Council released a joint statement in March which acknowledged that, as regulators, both professions know that the care they provide impacts on healthcare consumers and their whānau.

“Interdisciplinary relationships are central to ensuring the safety and effectiveness of this care,” says Dr Sue Calvert. Collaborative practice is explicitly addressed in The Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers’ Rights. Right 4 identifies the right to services of an appropriate standard and states that “Every consumer has the right to co-operation among providers to ensure quality and continuity of services”.

Both Councils require members of their profession to demonstrate effective and respectful inter-professional communication and collaborative practice that promotes individual and whanau safety. Effective interprofessional practice is an expectation of the Codes of Conduct for both professions and is specifically identified as a standard of competence. We invite you to read the [joint statement](#).

Left: Jacqueline Manley, Registrar Kaunihera Manapou / Paramedic Council with Dr Sue Calvert.

Your opinion is important

Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council welcomes feedback on the revised Scope of Practice statement.

The Scope review was undertaken by the [Collaborative Reference Group](#) (CRG) led by Co-Chairs Dr Hope Tupara and Dr Judith McAra-Couper.

The CRG was comprised of 17 members who were drawn from a broad range of midwives and consumers across Aotearoa.

The CRG used the three-whare [Tiriti-led framework](#), to review and develop a contemporary Scope of Practice for Midwifery Practice in Aotearoa.

The journey that ensued was sometimes challenging, but the commitment, respect, and trust that developed, generated new and deeper understandings from members of the CRG that formed the foundation of the revised Scope of Practice.

The CRG has met regularly since June 2020. Pandemic restrictions meant that it worked entirely via Huitopa | Zoom. The Scope of Practice phase of the project ended in November 2021 and the revised Scope is now being circulated for comment.

The project has move on to the development of the Standards of Competence and is about to review the Standards for approval of pre-registration midwifery education programmes and accreditation of tertiary education organisations.

We are grateful to CRG Co-Chair Dr Hope Tupara for her guidance as we embark on this journey to an authentic Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership in action. Also, to Dr Judith McAra Couper

for her enthusiasm and professionalism in co-chairing the CRG with Hope. And our thanks go to all members of the CRG who invested time, energy and emotion into that work. Their input has been invaluable as they worked together to craft the Scope statement.

We invite you to read the revised [Scope statement](#) and to send us your [comments](#).

We have already received a lot of great constructive feedback from midwives and we hope to hear more before the consultation closes in April. All the feedback we receive will be collated and may be published on our website.

Work is nearing completion on the draft Standards of Competence for Entry to the Register of Midwives and a group is about to commence working on the Pre-Registration Standards for Midwifery Education.

Webinars about the Scope of Practise statement

Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council will host webinars in April to discuss issues raised by the revised Scope of Practise statement before the feedback period finishes. Watch our website and Facebook page for more details.

In order to give plenty of time for midwives to share their views, the Council has decided to extend that closing date for feedback to April 26.

Webinars about the Scope of Practise statement

Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu | Midwifery Council will host webinars in April to discuss issues raised by the revised Midwifery Scope of Practise statement. The first webinar will be at:

11:00am on Monday April 11.

It will cover relevant background information and an exploration of the statement in more detail. You will be able to ask questions at the end during a Q+A session. Please register your details on our [website](#). We look forward to seeing you online.

