



▶ North Island Regional Meeting 2nd July 2004

Meeting opened: 1900 hours

Chairperson: Karen Absil

Attendees: Karen Absil (Whangarei), Pat O'Brien (Auckland), Patrick Conner (Middlemore), Lindsay Butler (ADHB), Kevin Butler ADHB PICU, Rebecca Murray (Middlemore), Steph Lewis (CMDHB), Erin Baker (CMDHB), Brenda Knowles (ADHB), Natale Forster (ADHB), Janne Spehr (Whangarei), Liz McRae (Whangarei), Simon Donald (North Shore), Dianna Korach (Kensington), Gary Boxall (NSH), Nga

Apologies:

Muriel Cooper (CMDHB), Vinnie Neva (CMDHB), Anthony Shaw (CMDHB), Ian Boxsell.

Regional Representative Election:

Patrick Connor was asked to outline why he applied for the vacant Regional representative position. Ian Scott was not present at the meeting. Karen informed the meeting that she had requested that the candidates submit a profile of themselves. Only one received from Patrick Connor. Simon Donald was thanked for the contribution he has made during his time as Auckland Regional Representative. Ballot papers were then distributed for completion.

Education memo:

Patricia O'Brein distributed a memo in regard to education. This was to enable those present to read the document before Patricia spoke to the group.

Presentation:

Jonathon Shaw delivered a presentation on his recent trip to Palestine and Jerusalem where a team performed basic life saving cardiac operations on paediatric patients. The trip was organised by the Palestine Children's Relief Fund.

Previous Minutes:

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted. Moved Simon Donald Seconded Diana Korach.

Health Practitioners Competency Act:

Patricia O'Brien outlined the recent trip to Wellington made by Patricia and Mark Jackson. The outcome of the trip was extremely positive and there is a lot to be resolved. Patricia and Mark met with The RBS who hold the register for up to 10 different bodies including Chiropractors. They also met with Marilyn Goddard at the Ministry of Health, who drafted the HPCA. Patricia has been liaising with Ms Goddard since 2001. The process for registration can take up to 6 months. Psychotherapists will be the first to go through. The act comes into place on September 18th 2004.

Clinical Training Agency:

Patricia outlined the rejection by the CTA to fund the proposed Diploma level. The application was put forward by the executive in September 2003. The CTA notified the executive of the decision in May 2004. There is a move by university institutions to reduce the number of Diploma papers they deliver Under the HPCA, the Tertiary Education Board will decide what level we will need to do ie Level 5000, 6000 or 7000. Patricia would like to see the new qualification move under the Health Sciences banner with clinical papers available such as ACLS and Difficult Airway Management course at Level 7000. Hamzi Mahagna asked Patricia why the move to a diploma/degree wasn't made 3 years ago. Patricia replied that there had been no indication from the CTA that a diploma would not be approved. Simon Donald asked if that meant it would be a degree Patricia replied that as the universities had been asked to reduce Diplomas and certificates, it will be a degree (Level 7000) or Masters (Level 8000) Stephanie Lewis asked if the provider could be changed Patricia replied no, not without CTA approval. She noted that Massey was a good provider.

Education Meeting 9th August 2004 at ADHB:



Patricia outlined the upcoming meeting for the Education committee and other interested parties to revise the current Anaesthesia 5A and 5B papers.
Please let Patricia know if you are interested in attending as spaces are limited.



BOP meeting feedback:

Hamzi gave a report on the BOP regional meeting held recently.
Lots of positive feedback on The Script. Excellent reports on a magazine well received.
Gary Boxall suggested that regional representatives contact him to place meeting notifications on the NZATS website to allow members the opportunity to attend.

The Script:

Lindsay Butler talked of the difficulties she has in getting technicians to submit articles to place in The Script. This is an excellent tool for communicating on a national level. Advertising space is also available.
There are 600 copies produced per issue (4 issues per year)
Please ensure that articles are submitted in Word form.
All articles gratefully received please for the upcoming issues.
Simon Donald suggested that the editorship should move throughout the country to spread the workload around.
Lindsay stated she would love to be able to hand it over (easy to do as all of the groundwork has been done) but no one had expressed an interest to date.
Simon suggested that this could be discussed further at the conference.

CMDHB Staffing Model Transition Plan:

Hamzi asked the meeting if anyone was aware of the existence and contents of this document. Stephanie stated that this was a confidential document of CMDHB. The author of the document has now left CMDHB. The Anaesthetic Technicians of CMDHB are unhappy with points made in the document. The Technicians are currently meeting with the PSA and the new manager. Progress on issues is now underway. There are 4 different Version 1 documents. . Stephanie reiterated that work on the document was ongoing. This involved Patsy Rose, as Unit Manager for Anaesthesia at CMDHB who has been a stalwart for the Anaesthetic Technician profession on a local and national level.
Debate and questioning on the document ensued. Stephanie stated that she is unable to comment on the contents of the document. Simon asked that this be respected
Lindsay has arranged a meeting with Dr David Chamley this week re an interview on the document to appear in an upcoming The Script issue. A meeting is being held between Patsy Rose and the NZATS executive this week to discuss the document.
Erin Baker expressed dismay at the distribution of the document on a national level and the associated affect this has had on staff at CMDHB.

Meeting times:

The timing of upcoming meeting was discussed. It was decided that 1815 assembly for 1900 meeting. It was decided that this should remain given the traffic and traveling woes experienced by most on their way through to the meeting.
A big thank you to Jin, her husband and Intermed for hosting the evening at the Intermed Headquarters in Albany.

Career development:

Patrick asked how the NZATS could promote the Anaesthetic Technician further. Several initiatives have been undertaken on a local level.
Hamzi outlined the career day the Waikato technicians held.
Lindsay outlined the presentation she has given to students from St Peters.



Steph outlined the Workchoice days she has participated in, the NZ Labour article she and Patricia had participated in and an upcoming article to be done in the NZ Herald. Patricia suggested that this would be a good role for the Public Relations Officer to undertake.

Ceiling limit on upcoming examinations:

Patrick queried why a ceiling limit of 25 candidates only per NZCOP examinations has been implemented. This is of concern to trainees who may miss out on positions in upcoming examinations and be required to wait a further 7 months before having the opportunity to sit. Patricia explained the new examination format. There are 3 teams of examiners who examine over 3 days. This can be very stressful on candidates. Patricia assured those present that if the numbers were high, consideration for another examination may be given.

Agenda Items:

Karen requested that these are sent to the Regional representatives at least 2 days before the next Regional meeting.

Regional Representative Confirmation:

All votes submitted at the meeting and via proxy were counted and checked against the Register. Patrick Connor was confirmed as Auckland Regional representative. Congratulations to Patrick.

Meeting closed at 2145 hours

Please note:

Please send any remits you would like to raise at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (November in Wellington) through to Karen and Patrick as soon as possible. These will be discussed at the next Regional Meeting.