



► Minutes of The Upper North Island Anaesthetic Technicians' Meeting for 14th November 2003

Held at Intermed Medical Office, North Shore, AUCKLAND

Present:

Karen Absil *Whangarei*, Caroline Alderson *Brightside*, Phil Alderson *Brightside*, Gary Boxall *NSH*, Mark Bruntan *Quay Park*, Patrick Connor *Middlemore*, Muriel Cooper *CMDHB*, Imogen Davies *Auckland*, Simon Donald *ACH*, Alan Craig *Whangarei*, Pauline Jacobs *CMDHB*, Nga Kairua *Auck S Centre*, Diana Korach *Kensington*, Stephanie Lewis *CMDHB*, Sarah-Jayne McGowan *Auckland*, Liz McRae *Whangarei*, Michele Peak *Northshore*, Anthony Shaw *CMDHB*, Nicola Smith Guerin *National Womens*, June Southall *Whangarei*, Janne Spehr *Whangarei*, Rebecca White *Brightside*, Pat Wallace *Whangarei*.

Apologies:

Mark Jackson (Chairperson, NZATS), Lindsay Butler (Secretary, NZATS), Pat O'Brien, Julie Bromley, Charlotte Waiariki Lynn Body

Meeting opened at 2000hrs by Simon Donald

Minutes Karen Absil

Agenda Items

Registration Name Feedback:

Was to be presented by Mark Jackson, unfortunately was unable to attend due to unforeseen work commitments.

Simon Donald gave an overview on name change.

The NZAATN's name has been changed to **NZATS** (New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians Society). We were requested to change our name by the HPCA select committee. This is in light of the fact we may in the future have nurse anaesthetists, which may cause confusion with the title anaesthetic nurse. Given that we only had two submissions for the name change, the Executive Board voted between the two.

Industrial Relations:

Alan Craig & Karen Absil

Discussion on the Northland wage negotiations, Northland and BOP started off as a MECCA, Northland has completed wage negotiations, BOP is still in negotiations. Contact Karen Absil for any details.

Simon Donald & Sarah-Jayne McGowan, gave us insight into Auckland's recent negotiations with PSA.

Discussion followed re MECA's, and national awards.



Regional Representation:

Stephanie Lewis led discussion in needing more regional representation, a person in each DHB.

Stephanie Lewis nominated Muriel Cooper

Seconded by Nicola Smith Guerin

Majority all in favour.

Regional Representatives are:

Karen Absil - Whangarei

Muriel Cooper - Counties Middlemore District Health Board

Simon Donald - Auckland

Members felt that there should be a Society rep in each hospital. The more people involved with the Society the better. This was passed by all.

Suggestion from the meeting

That every 3-4 months a meeting between the North and South Island groups be held.

Feedback form Hotel de Vin

Stephanie Lewis & Nga Kairua

The meeting held in June on suicide. This was following the suicide of a Technician in Middlemore hospital. Since this meeting in June, another technician has committed suicide.

Nga has presented his talk he gave at Hotel de Vin, 8 times since then and more still to be delivered.

Stephanie discussed the Substance abuse policy and survey that ANSCA has, which we may be able to modify and get a snapshot of critical events in the Anaesthetic Technician community. The need to set up a welfare group for technicians was discussed.

If anyone wishes to join in on this task - contact Stephanie Lewis.

If anyone would like Nga or Stephanie to talk to their group, please get in touch with either of them.

Feedback from Gold Coast Conference

Nicola Smith Guerin

Conference, Back to Basics.



Great Venue, Good attendance of Anaesthetic Technicians from New Zealand, 7 from ADHB and 2 from CMDHB.

Pat O'Brien and Nicola Smith Guerin presented the New Zealand Exam Processes to the conference.

Item arising from Gold Coast Conference. That the UK register is closed to Australia and New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians. Pat is taking this item up with the executive team.

Next ASAPO Conference is in Perth.

Patrick Connor talked about the dilemma of working in UK. New regulations have been put in place, preventing overseas technicians gaining even temporary registration. This is ongoing and we look to the board for more information.

Lively debated followed this item.

Moving to the new Auckland City Hospital

Simon Donald

An informative talk from Simon, who took everyone through the migration process.

Any other business

Future meetings.

Decided that we would like to have meetings every 3 months with the meeting to coincide 2 months before NZATS conference allow discussion on remits, and 1 month after conference for feedback for those who didn't attend.

Regional Representatives to send an e-mail to Anaesthetic Technicians in region asking for agenda items.

Would like to see the Register up to date, currently people who are qualified are on the training register and also some on both.

Simon addressing our concerns with the board.

A new website is under development and input would be greatly appreciated by Lindsay Butler.

Also that there is a forum for all technicians on the Futuremed website. Thanks to Futuremed for letting use their web space.

Jin had been asked to pass along, thanks to the organising team for the recent Anaesthetic Exams held at South Auckland Super Clinic, that they had done a great job. Well Done.

A big thank you for Jin & Cam and the Team at Intermed, for providing a great venue, nice wine, nibbles and the festive touch.



Meeting Closed at 2200hrs.

Next Meeting: TBA, probably March