



MEDIA RELEASE

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Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council and the Nursing Council of New Zealand

On 18 February the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council (ANMC) and the Nursing Council of New Zealand renewed their Memorandum of Understanding which was first signed in 2001.

“The ANMC and Nursing Council of New Zealand have long enjoyed a close collaborative relationship. The Memorandum of Understanding serves to confirm those links and establish mechanisms for joint work between the two countries in the development of standards for the statutory regulation of nurses” said Professor Mary Chiarella, Chairperson of the ANMC. “For example the two organisations are currently partners in a project to develop Guidelines on Professional Boundaries for Nurses in both Australia and New Zealand. Nurses on both sides of the Tasman have been consulted in the development of the Guidelines which will be implemented by the Nursing Council of New Zealand, the ANMC, and the each of the Australian State and Territory Nursing and Midwifery Regulatory Authorities, who are the members of the ANMC.”

“By seeking the input of each organisation into agreed cooperative activities; exchanging information about key professional, political and policy issues; and collaborating on strategic research projects, the two organisations facilitate the free exchange of professional knowledge that contributes to the development of standards and the protection of the public” said Ms Beverly Rayna, Chairperson of the Nursing Council of New Zealand. “In this way both organisations smooth the progress of the Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition Act and benefit the movement of nurses between Australia and New Zealand.”

“As the health care environment is continuously changing it is vitally important that nurses are able to respond and adapt their practice to continue to meet the needs of the community. By working together our organisations are able to support the nursing profession to be flexible and responsive and provide quality care to the community and facilitate the movement of safe and competent nurses between our respective countries” said Ms Marion Clark Chief Executive Officer of the Nursing Council of New Zealand.

The signing of the MOU took place at the ANMC in the presence of representatives of both organisations and each of the Australian State and Territory Nursing and Midwifery Regulatory Authorities.

“Building on our past achievements in a number of joint projects including supporting the bi-annual meetings of the regulatory authorities of the Western Pacific and South

East Asian regions we are now commencing work on a detailed scope of activities for the agreement. We are excited by the opportunities this partnership provides for us to support nurses across the Tasman in their professional practice” said Ms Karen Cook, Chief Executive Officer of the ANMC.



Seated from left - Professor Mary Chiarella and Beverly Rayna
Standing from left - Karen Cook and Marion Clark

ANMC www.anmc.org.au

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Media contacts:
Ms Karen Cook. CEO, ANMC.
Tel: 02 6274 9102 or 0410 663 895

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council is a peak national nursing and midwifery body established in 1992 to lead a national approach, with the state and territory nursing and midwifery regulatory authorities in evolving national standards for statutory nursing and midwifery regulation which are flexible, effective and responsive to the health care needs of the Australian population.

It is also the national body that assesses the qualifications of overseas nurses and midwives for migration purposes.