

Office of the Chief Nurse – Communiqué

May 2010

Nurse Policy: Building capacity and capability in the Victorian nursing workforce.

Please circulate me to wards/areas where nurses and midwives work in your organisation!

The Nurses Board of Victoria (NBV) has been an important institution in Victoria for many years and 30 June, 2010 heralds a new era as the regulation of Nursing and Midwifery transitions to the Nursing & Midwifery Board of Australia.

The past year or two has been a particularly busy and challenging time for the NBV as it has managed the lead up to the transition. The President, the Board and the CEO and staff are to be commended for their focus and hard work in this time.

My view is that the NBV has been a leader in the professional regulatory environment. Leadership is necessarily about change and strategic positioning and this entails being brave and challenging the status quo. In adopting a leadership position the Board has made a number of controversial decisions and adopted strategic positions that have challenged their peers and nurses and midwives.

At times this has been an uncomfortable journey but important in terms of positioning nursing and midwifery for the future. Nurse Policy has worked closely with Nigel and his staff and have enjoyed a respectful and collaborative relationship with them. I wish them all the very best for the future. I am sorry to see the NBV go but it has positioned Victorian nurses and midwives very well for the transition to a national scheme and the future.



Adj Professor Belinda Moyes
Chief Nursing Advisor

BNBW ceases

In line with the recent Federal Budget announcement, there are to be **no new commencements** under the BNBW Program from **12 May 2010**. The Commonwealth will meet all funding liabilities under the program including for those places allocated in May (correspondence regarding these places is on the way). Information will be provided regarding recall of surplus/uncommitted funds.

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Office of the Chief Nurse Communiqués are produced monthly for Directors of Nursing of public health services. Communiqués are also available on the *Nursing in Victoria* website <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/principal>

Department of Health

Photographic exhibition

A regional tour of the 2010 Images of Victorian Nurses and Midwives amateur photographic exhibition is currently being arranged.

Metropolitan health services that would also like to host the exhibition over the coming year (**2010**) are invited to contact:

NP Contact: Lisa.broun@health.vic.gov.au

MBS Quality Framework consultation

DoHA are currently inviting submissions on a discussion paper on "Development Of A Quality Framework For The Medicare Benefits Schedule". The deadline for submissions is the **25 June 2010**. With the upcoming changes (including greater access to MBS for NP and eligible midwives), this consultation may be of interest.

[http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/C38EFE94C3035988CA257713001DA46C/\\$File/Development%20of%20a%20Quality%20Framework%20for%20the%20MBS%20-%20Discussion%20Paper.pdf](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/C38EFE94C3035988CA257713001DA46C/$File/Development%20of%20a%20Quality%20Framework%20for%20the%20MBS%20-%20Discussion%20Paper.pdf)

Postgraduate Nurse Scholarship reconciliation

Completed Nursing Scholarship Reconciliation and Evaluation Forms are now due to be forwarded to Nurse Policy. This data will assist in evaluating the program and setting priorities for scholarships in 2010-2011. Health services are asked to submit their forms **ASAP** to:

NP contact: Christine.breakwell@health.vic.gov.au

Nursing Student Employment survey

As part of the Nursing Student Employment Project, public health services will be asked to complete a brief web-based survey to assist the DH to scope the extent and nature of planned nursing student employment. Further details will be communicated when the survey opens.

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