



*Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tuohu koe me he maunga teitei*

*Pursue that which is precious, and do not be deterred by anything less than a high mountain*

MESSAGE TO ACHSM – AOTEAROA MEMBERS

Winter 2025

### Nau mai Haere mai - Welcome to the ACHSM - Aotearoa Winter 2025 newsletter.

There is a lot happening at ACHSM Board and your Aotearoa Branch Council that I am keen to update you on in the newsletter. Thank you to everyone who joined our June 2025 AGM – we surpassed our quorum requirement of 15% of our membership present so a BIG thank you to all attendees. A brief update on the key topics covered at the AGM follow.

### Aotearoa Branch AGM June 2025

Thanks were expressed to outgoing Council member and past President Cathy Cooney MNZM, FCHSM, CHE, after 9 years on Council. Cathy has made an enormous contribution over her time and we are very pleased she has agreed to stay in an ex-officio capacity. Congratulations to incoming Council members, Jalal Mohammed FCHSM, CHE and student member Naomi Jeffs. Sincere thanks for being willing to participate in the Aotearoa Branch governance role.

*Some key points from the President's AGM Report:*

- **Journal Club** - Veronique Gibbons was thanked for her role in coordinating the

monthly Journal Club. This is an important cornerstone event unique to our Aotearoa Branch. If you have a completed research project and would like to be considered for a Journal Club presentation please contact Veronique [Veronique.Gibbons@pinnacle.health.nz](mailto:Veronique.Gibbons@pinnacle.health.nz)

- **Aotearoa Branch application to participate in the Te Whatu Ora Leadership Development Institute** – we have been informed that this development is not proceeding.
- **Certification Programme** – completion of certification is now an essential step in the career pathway and required before entry to the Fellowship programme. Mentorship is offered as part of the Certification programme. <https://www.achsm.org.au/certification/undertaking-certification/>
- **College Career Pathway** – The graphic developed by the Aotearoa Branch has now been adopted by the College.



### Your Aotearoa Branch Council Members

Jan Adams, Branch President, ACHSM Board rep  
Cathy Cummings, Secretary  
Thérèse Jeffs, Treasurer, ACHSM Finance Committee rep  
Dave Nicholls, Te Wai Pounamu  
Jalal Mohammed, Te Wai Pounamu  
Natalie Lindsay, Central  
Jacqueline Jeffs, Te Manawa Taki  
Craig Tamblyn, Central  
Tamzin Brott, North  
Christine Clark, North  
Naomi Jeffs, Student rep  
*Ex-Officio*  
Jagpal Benipal, Fellowship Coordinator  
Cathy Cooney, Fellowship Examiner

### Letters of Congratulations to Dr Lester Levy and Dr Dale Bramley:

Letters of congratulations have been sent to both Dr Lester Levy and Dr Dale Bramley on their appointments as Chair and CEO of Te Whatu Ora – Health NZ respectively. Both have been invited to speak at the March 2026 Conference and plans are underway for Lester to present an ACHSM Webinar hosted by ACHSM President Dr Neale Fong. Aotearoa Council is also seeking a meeting with Dale to explain the important role

ACHSM - Aotearoa have with providing a professional career pathway for sector leaders.

#### ACHSM-A Council Priorities for 2025/26:

- Develop an early career supportive pathway
- Continue to promote the benefits of membership
- Look to offer regional events where possible

#### Aotearoa Hosted One-day Conference, Auckland, 13 March 2026:

Planning is progressing for the programme for the 2026 conference in Auckland to be held at The Cordis Hotel. For the first time this will be a joint conference of ACHSM and RACMA (Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators).



ACHSM President Dr Neale Fong was presented with a korowai at the 2024 Auckland Conference in recognition of his ACHSM mahi and support for Aotearoa Branch

Please book this day in your diaries early and we will have more information coming out shortly including in the Spring newsletter. The March ACHSM conference comes to Aotearoa every two years and it is critical that we support it. It is a terrific opportunity for both our members and non-members to hear from a mix of NZ and international speakers on the latest plans and thinking about health and social services leadership and management. This conference we have booked a larger venue and need at least 250 attendees so please

spread the word about the value of this Aotearoa based conference.



Kaumātua Brian Emery opening the 2024 ACHSM Conference, Auckland

#### ACHSM Annual College Congress, Darwin, 22-24 October, 2025

<https://www.achsm.org.au/congress>

Attending the College Congress provides a unique opportunity to hear from a range of international speakers, to present a paper or poster, and to build an international network. It is the pinnacle event for College members and is brilliant at expanding your professional leadership/management horizon and taking some time to reflect on your current leadership style and to add evidence-based knowledge to the management tools in your kete.



Aotearoa Branch attendees at the 2024 Congress, Brisbane

A reminder to all Aotearoa members of the special networking that occurs at the Fellowship dinner on the Tuesday night following the AGM during which new Fellows and those who have completed Certification are presented with their awards.



If you are planning to attend Congress please let me know so we can include you in the Aotearoa Branch whānau attending.

#### ACHSM Board update

The ACHSM website has been updated and is now live – this is the result of many months of hard work by The College to ensure the look and feel of the website is more interactive and user friendly.

A membership manager has been appointed, Todd Shipp. He is refining the annual membership processes across all branches and has been in regular contact regarding the non-renewals this year. We have 115 members to date, down from 2024 but reflective of the free membership given at the 2024 Conference, and the significant changes across Te Whatu Ora. Discussing the value of membership with your colleagues is critical because the College is the peak professional body for health managers across Australasia, and brings together health leaders to learn, network and share ideas.

#### Upcoming Aotearoa Webinars

Soon to be announced: we have two webinars planned, one for August and one for November and I encourage you to attend these.

We are always keen to hear from our members, in terms of what you may like more of, which can be discussed at the National Council monthly meeting. Please feel free to approach any of the National Council members directly.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou  
Jan Adams FCHSM CHE  
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