



**December 2015**

### **Important dates**

- February/March – online applications for 2016/17 practising certificate
- February 18/19 – Council meeting
- February 20/21 – co-location shift to 22 Willeston Street

### **New Council members appointed**

The Minister has just announced the re-appointment of two Council members for further terms and the appointment of two new midwife members of the Council.



Lay member Annette Black who brings particular knowledge and experience around continuing professional development and professional regulation has been appointed for a third term



Midwife member Debbie Fisher who is the Associate Director of Midwifery - Operations Manager at the Nelson Marlborough District Health Board brings a wide midwifery and maternity perspective to the Council. She has also been reappointed for a third term.



New member Chris Mallon is currently Director of Midwifery at Hutt Valley and Wairarapa DHBS, does part time maternity contract work and has a small caseload. She has extensive experience as an LMC, a core midwife and in midwifery leadership.



Kerry Adams, the other newly appointed member, is a senior lecturer in midwifery at Otago Polytechnic. She has worked both as an employed midwife and as an LMC, continuing to maintain a small caseload. She has been a member of the Professional Conduct Committee since 2010.

## November Council meeting

At the Council meeting on 27 November, items of interest include:

- Co-location with 9 other authorities to 22 Willeston St confirmed for 20 February
- Discussion around inaccuracies in the article that appeared in International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology which would have been clarified and corrected if the researchers had adopted a collegial approach during their research
- "Safety first" and "Be sure" plans as part of public awareness project approved
- Report from Chair and CEO on Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia Conference attended in Melbourne. Key theme was the use of regulatory data to achieve better regulation

## APC applications for 2016/17 practising year

Online applications for your 2016/17 annual practising certificate will open later in January. We urge you to log on to the website [www.midwiferycouncil.health.nz](http://www.midwiferycouncil.health.nz) before then so that you remember how to do so. If you have forgotten your username and password, click on Login tab on website homepage and then click "Forgot your Password" or "Forgot your Username". You will need to know the email address which is recorded for you in our Register – click [Easy guide to Logging In](#).

DHB-employed midwives will be required by their DHB to complete this process by Friday 26 February. If you apply for your practising certificate after that date, you will need to pay personally and seek reimbursement from your DHB.

Payment for all other applications must be made at the time of application. Credit card payments are available during the online application process. The account information is provided for direct internet banking and your reference must include your midwifery registration ID number. Unpaid applications will not be processed and will be declined if payment is not received within 3 working days.

Processing of applications takes some time, particularly if the midwife has overdue Recertification Programme items, or other issues. All applications should be completed by the end of the first week in March.

## Recertification Programme

### a) Review of Programme

The Recertification Programme was put in place by the Council in 2005 after extensive consultation. It was subsequently reviewed in 2007, 2010 and 2013, each review resulting in minor changes to the base programme. There is however emerging new evidence about what effective continuing competency is, so it is timely for the

Council to review the Recertification Programme, informed by this new evidence.

The Council called for nominations for a review steering group. The 14 member group met on 7 December to discuss the many questions that are to be explored over the coming months, leading to a revised Recertification Programme from 1 April 2017. It is intended to consult with the profession and other stakeholders in March 2016.

### **b) Record of your engagement in the Programme**

We are now three quarters through the practising year so we remind midwives to log on to your profile at the website to check what Recertification Programme requirements are due before the issue of APCs in February/March. This gives you sufficient time to make necessary course bookings.

We also remind midwives that the current 2014-17 Midwifery Practice Day with its particular topics needs to be completed within the period 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2017. Midwives who did not undertake a Practice Day between 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2014 have been required to complete a self-learning package which most have found rather more onerous than attendance at a Practice Day. Our records indicate more than 1500 of the 3000 midwives with practising certificates have already attended the Practice Day which is really good news.

## **Safeguarding Children eLearning**

The Safeguarding Children Initiative has asked the Council to circulate information about its new online learning.

Safeguarding Children Initiative (SCI) is changing the lives of children and the people who work with them - and we now have a new free eLearning tool to reach even more people. In four years we have trained 3,500 people in the Top of the South to spot the signs of potential abuse and understand what to do if they suspect abuse. But only a limited number of people can make our seminars.

Our new, free two hour [online eLearning package](#) covers key aspects of child protection training in four lessons. There are videos and other fun stuff, and a quiz at the end of each session, plus a certificate of participation when you complete it. Completion of the elearning enables midwives to gain one elective education point.



**The Midwifery Council of New Zealand  
Secretariat will be closed for the  
Christmas and New Year holiday from  
5pm, 23 December 2015 to 9.00am on  
Tuesday 5 January 2016**

***Merry Christmas and a  
Happy New Year!***

***Meri Kirihimete me ngā mihi  
o te tau hou ki a koe***



#### **Physical Address**

Level 9  
79 Boulcott Street  
Wellington 6011



#### **Postal Address**

PO Box 24448  
Manners Street  
Wellington 6142



#### **Telephone Numbers**

Reception: +64 (4) 499 5040  
Facsimile: +64 (4) 499 5045