



New Zealand Dietitians Board

REPORT TO THE PROFESSION

Comments from the Chair

Dietitians Board Leaflet

The Board on occasions receives letters concerning the status of Dietitians and Nutritionists. Although nutritionists usually have completed a degree in Human Nutrition or Science, they are not required to be registered. The Board is not in a position to comment on their role unless they are holding themselves out to be dietitians.

The leaflet included with this newsletter has been developed to give an overview of the functions of the Dietitians Board under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003. The principal purpose of this Act is to protect the health and safety of members of the public, by providing for mechanisms to ensure that dietitians are competent and fit to practise their profession. The leaflet will be distributed widely to employers and potential employers to promote dietitians as registered health professionals.

For further copies of the leaflet please contact the Registrar.

New Board Member

The Board welcomes Eruera Maxted, who has recently been appointed as the new Board member to replace Makuini McKerchar.

Eruera has worked in the past as a dietitian for Northland Health in various positions



Barbara Ryan

including diabetes, renal, cardiac care and public health promotion. He is currently the Portfolio Manager for Public Health & Maori Primary Health at Te Tai Tokerau MAPO Trust, which is the co-funder of health & disability services in Northland. Eruera also provides dietetic support for the Northland Maori Health Providers and operates a private practice in Whangarei.

Current Board

The current Board is:

Barbara Ryan of Blenheim
(Board Chair)

Mary McNab of Whangarei
(Board Deputy Chair)

Avis McIntosh of Invercargill
Eruera Maxted of Whangarei

Winsome Parnell of Dunedin

Vicki Robinson of Wellington

Vernon Tile of Wellington

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MAY 2006

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Period of Transition – Nominations for Board Members

Below are some extracts from a letter from Rachel Askew on behalf of the Minister of Health, to gather nominations for membership of the Dietitians Board.

“The Board is currently finishing a ‘period of transition’, which was created by the passing of new legislation, the HPCA Act 2003. Members of the Board now need to be appointed pursuant to this new Act (Sections 219–222 refer). This means as well as a general call for nominations taking place, all current members of the Board are required to re-apply for their positions.

The Minister is seeking candidates for both health practitioners and lay vacancies. There are up to six health practitioner vacancies and two lay vacancies. Health practitioner members must be registered as a dietitian and hold an Annual Practising Certificate (APC). A lay person is defined in the Act as ‘a person who is neither registered nor qualified to be registered as a health practitioner’.

Ideally, candidates should have a high level of expertise in their profession, as well as have some previous governance experience. Health practitioner members should be able to represent the major areas of dietetic practice including clinical, community, public health, management and food service.

The Board would also prefer that at least one of the members be a registered dietitian with wide clinical experience in a tertiary hospital setting.”

If you or anyone you know, is interested in being nominated for the Board, please update your CV and complete an application form.

Application forms can be completed online by accessing <http://www.moh.govt.nz/apps/statcommittees.nsf/application?open>

Nominations should reach Rachel Askew by **Wednesday 24 May, 2006.**

Rachel Askew
Corporate Planning and Reporting
Ministry of Health
P.O.Box 5013
Wellington

Any questions: please contact:
rachel_askew@moh.govt.nz

Comments from the Registrar

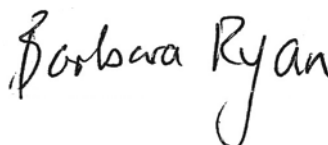
The recent APC round is nearly complete. A big thank you to the majority who filled in their forms correctly and returned them well before the end of March. Newsletters are only posted to those dietitians who have current APC's. If you are aware of any dietitians who have not yet renewed their APC, nor let the Board know that they wish to be ‘Inactive’, please ask them to contact the Registrar on dietitians@regboards.co.nz immediately.

The fourth Continuing Competency Programme Audit is now under way. Please ensure you have sent your Audit material in by now if you are one of the ‘selected’ dietitians.

There is still a lot of interest from overseas trained dietitians wishing to register and practise in New Zealand. Information on the processes involved is posted on the website – please refer any enquiries to the website and/or the Registrar.

The new-look website is finally in operation. Please check your registration details on the on-line register.

Best wishes



Barbara Ryan
Chairperson



Contacting the Dietitians Board ...

Contact with the Board is through its Wellington office at:
Level 21, Grand Plimmer Tower
2-6 Gilmer Terrace

Post all correspondence to the:
Dietitians Board
PO Box 10-140

Phone (04) 474 0746
Fax (04) 472 2350
Email dietitians@regboards.co.nz
Website www.dietitiansboard.org.nz

The Board is supported by its Registrar:
Jane de Lisle