



# COAG Health Council

## Communiqué

20 December 2019

### Health Ministers announce National Board appointments

Health Ministers (Ministers), as the Ministerial Council for the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme (the National Scheme), are very pleased to announce new appointments and reappointments of practitioner members and community members to fill vacancies arising across five National Boards regulating health professions under the National Scheme. In addition, Ministers have decided to appoint one person to a sixth National Board in an acting capacity.

The vacancies are primarily a result of the scheduled expiry of terms for practitioner members and community members appointed to National Boards by the Ministerial Council in 2016. The vacancies were advertised in the national metropolitan press and on the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) National Board recruitment website earlier this year.

The details of the statutory appointments made by the Ministerial Council are set out in the attachment to this communiqué.

Ministers were pleased with the response to the call for registered practitioners and members of the community to apply for appointment to the National Boards and thanked everyone who took the time to apply. Overall, 72 applications were received for the advertised vacancies across National Boards – 9 applications for practitioner member vacancies and 63 applications for community member vacancies.

The appointment process enables renewal in the membership of National Boards and supports Ministers to consider the mix and balance of skills, experience and attributes that members may bring to the relevant board. There is an opportunity to introduce new members to bring a fresh perspective to the regulatory work of the boards and the National Scheme.

Ministers welcomed all new and returning members to the six National Boards. Ministers thanked them for expressing their interest in and commitment to the principles of the National Scheme and the regulation of health practitioners in the public interest and wished them well over the coming years with their important regulatory roles.

The Ministerial Council's appointments are made under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law, as in force in each state and territory and are consistent with the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) - endorsed *National Board Member Succession Planning Principles*.

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### Appointments made to National Boards

Appointments made to National Boards by resolution of the COAG Health Council on 22 November 2019 under the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law* as in force in each state and territory, for terms as indicated below.

#### Chinese Medicine Board of Australia

Ms Stephanie Campbell           Appointed as a community member for a period of 3 years (first term)

All other current National Board appointments continue. Chair and members are listed on the Board's website: <http://www.chinesemedicineboard.gov.au/>

#### Medical Radiation Practice Board of Australia

Ms Cara Miller                    Reappointed as practitioner member from South Australia for a period of 3 years (second term)

Mr Brendan McKernan           Reappointed as a practitioner member from Western Australia for a period of 3 years (second term)

Mr Richard Bialkowski         Reappointed as a community member for a period of 3 years (second term)

All other current National Board appointments continue. Chair and members are listed on the Board's website: <https://www.medicalradiationpracticeboard.gov.au/>

#### Occupational Therapy Board of Australia

Ms Sally Cunningham           Reappointed as a practitioner member from Victoria for a period of 3 years (second term)

All other current National Board appointments continue. Chair and members are listed on the Board's website: <http://www.occupationaltherapyboard.gov.au>

#### Paramedicine Board of Australia

Mrs Tiina-Liisa Sexton         Appointed as a community member for a period of 3 years (first term)

All other current National Board appointments continue. Chair and members are listed on the Board's website: <https://www.paramedicineboard.gov.au/>

#### Physiotherapy Board of Australia

Mr Lachlan Mortimer            Reappointed as a practitioner member from Tasmania for a period of 3 years (second term)

**Podiatry Board of Australia**

Mrs Maria Cosmidis                      Appointed as a community member in an acting capacity  
for a period of up to 1 year

All other current National Board appointments continue. Other members are listed on the Board's website: <https://www.podiatryboard.gov.au/>