

May 2021

Tēnā koutou,

Early last month I wrote to you all as our COVID-19 vaccination programme began rolling out. I am pleased to say we have now completed over 4524 vaccinations.

This week we began vaccinating our long term residential aged care residents. It was a great pleasure to see the residents of Gladys Mary amongst the first to receive the vaccine. This rest home was particularly affected by COVID and its residents spent many weeks in complete lockdown and unable to see family or friends until the care home was cleared.

We still have some way to go to vaccinate 80 percent of our population, but we are on track to complete this by the end of the year.

A large proportion of our frontline healthcare workforce has been vaccinated. The vaccine is now available to all DHB staff who can book into a vaccine clinic simply by filling out a form on Our Hub.

Health and Disability Sector reform

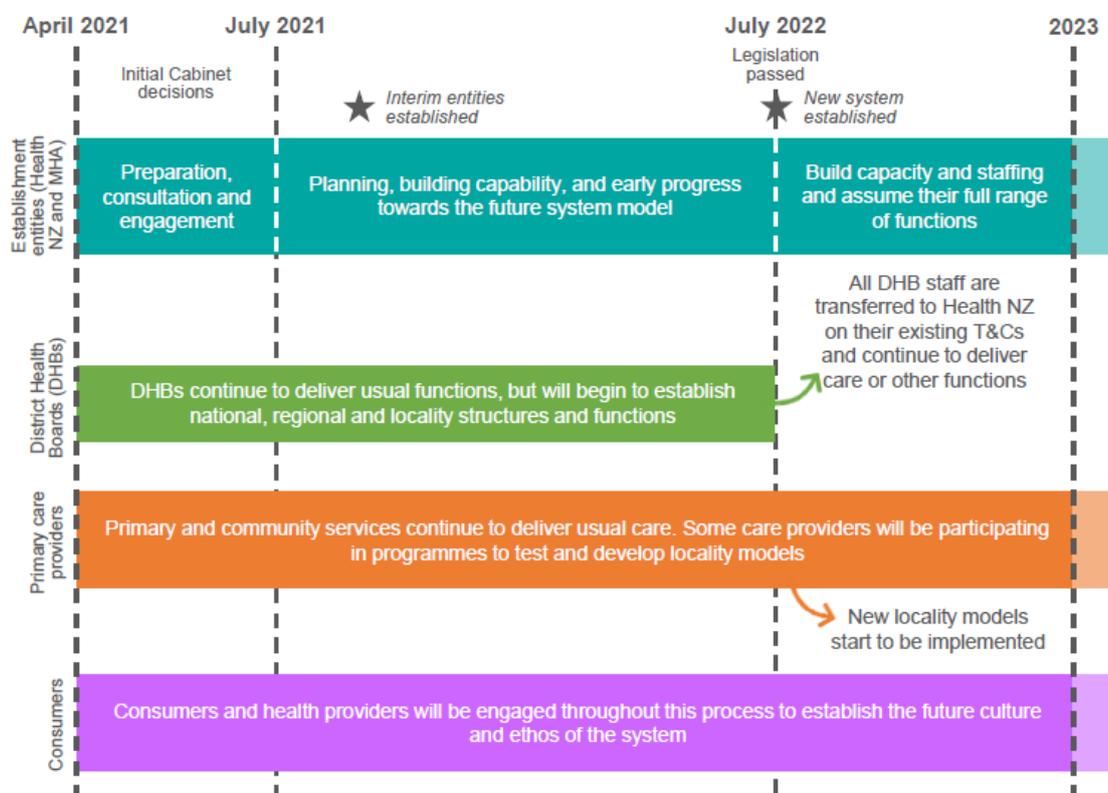
The vaccine rollout was somewhat overshadowed last week with the announcements of the Health and Disability System Reforms. I know many of you will be watching with interest as the details become available. In the meantime, our work continues. We have a lot on. A number of facility upgrades are already well underway and business cases are being prepared for future upgrades of Hawke's Bay Hospital - this work will continue at pace with the aim to have the business cases signed off before the transfer to Health New Zealand.

We have plenty of work to do to ensure we make a difference to the health of our community. I remain committed to Hawke's Bay and if you have any questions about the reforms please email healthreform@hbdhb.govt.nz and we will



Leanne Mabey team leader and senior caregiver at Bupa Gladys Mary Care Home with Edith Rothwell and Joan Humphrey celebrating the milestone of having had the COVID Pfizer vaccine (29 April).

endeavour to get an answer back to you. I will also be holding regular drop-in catch-ups for staff. I held my first today and it was great to be able to talk kanohi ki te kanohi with some of you. A good diagram of the timelines the Government has set out is below:



More information and what we know so far can be found [here](#).

Visits to Hawke’s Bay DHB

In the last few weeks we have had a number of visits to the DHB including the Director-General of Health Ashley Bloomfield and Minister of Health Andrew Little.

A number of you will have either attended the presentation from Ashley or watched the video. I have to remind myself that while this time last year we were in lockdown, we are now rolling out a vaccination campaign. We do, however, need to be cognisant that this virus is tricky. We should not underestimate how bad the consequences of a resurgence of the virus would be for our community as we watch with horror the toll it is taking in India. Our thoughts and prayers are with our staff and community who have loved ones in India.

Minister of Health Andrew Little visited us also in late March. He spent a lot of time talking to clinicians in our acute areas of ICU and ED. The Minister understood the need for us to upgrade these acute areas urgently. The business case and planning for this work is underway.

International Nurses and Midwives Day – May 12

In May we will celebrate International Nurses and Midwives Day. The theme for this year is A Voice to lead – A Vision for Future Healthcare. The DHB will be celebrating this important day and recognising our nursing and midwifery workforce for all they do each and every day.

Executive Leadership Structure

We welcomed the new Executive Director of People and Culture, Martin Price in March. Martin has moved from Taranaki to Hawke's Bay. He spent the last four years working for Taranaki DHB and, prior to this, worked in the private sector. We have also congratulated Patrick Le Geyt on his permanent appointment to the role of Executive Director Māori Health and will continue in an acting role as Executive Director Health Improvement and Equity. Our Executive Director Financial Services Carriann Hall leaves us in July to take up her new and exciting role as chief executive of Auckland based CHT Healthcare Trust, a provider of residential aged care. We are currently working to fill her role.

While I understand many of you will be waiting for the detail of the health reforms, we do know that for at least the next 18 months it will be very much business as usual.

We will make sure you have all the information as soon as it comes to us.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Keriana

Latest news

New X-Ray Unit Delivering Benefits for Patients and Staff

[A new fluoroscopy machine installed at Hawke's Bay Hospital in February as part of the Radiology Refurbishment Project is saving time and travel for patients and allowing clinicians to diagnosis health issues more quickly.](#)

Speech and Language Therapist Bridget Oliver says the new machine, which uses x-rays to create moving images, is already worth its weight in gold for her team of seven speech and language therapists.

“We see around 1,000 patients who are having speech, language or swallowing difficulties at Hawke's Bay Hospital each year. That's not including young people or those we see out in the community,” says Bridget.

“We use the fluoroscopy machine in about 200 cases to assess patients with swallowing difficulties for conditions such as stroke, motor neurone disease, Parkinson’s disease and cleft palate.

“The new machine is able to capture about 30 images per second, while the old machine was able to capture around six. This means we get a much clearer image and can diagnose issues more accurately and quickly,” she says

Recently the team saw a young girl with a cleft palate who was having trouble with food and drink entering her nose when she swallowed, but the doctor was unable to identify the problem through an oral exam.

“Previously the young girl would have had to go to Starship Hospital or Wellington for a fluoroscopy procedure but the new machine meant we could see exactly what the issue was here, allowing the doctor to find the problem more quickly.

“The new machine has improved radiation dose reduction which means we won’t have to repeat the procedure and we are also preventing unnecessary radiation exposure,” says Bridget.

The machine was funded as part of the radiology refurbishment project, one of two Hawke’s Bay DHB redevelopment and construction projects that are underway at Hawke’s Bay Hospital and one of several planned over the next few years.

Radiology Manager Angela Fuller says the department is excited to have started replacing equipment as part of the refurbishment project.

“The project is a great example of strong collaboration and partnership between the services. The SLT teams joined the radiology equipment procurement team and by working together we have a unit with increased capability and reduced radiation dose. A win for both our patients and staff,” says Angela.

As part of the upgrade, TIMS editing software was also purchased for easy editing, re-watching and faster, clearer diagnosis.

Construction for the radiology refurbishment project is due to start later in the year. More information on the redevelopment projects is available at <http://hbdhbprojects.nz/>



Pictured: Angela Fuller, Radiology Manager demonstrates procedure used for patients with swallowing difficulties during training on the new machine with Nicola Cornes, Diagnostic Imaging Team Leader.



Pictured: **Bridget Oliver**, Professional Lead Speech & Language Therapy.



Pictured left to right: Before - image of a patient swallowing using the old machine, which captures six images per second. After - image of a patient swallowing using the new machine, which captures 30 images per second.

A nod to our wāhine as hundreds gather for Anzac Day service at Hawke's Bay Hospital

Hundreds gathered under a blue sky outside the Memorial Chapel for a special Anzac service to honour those that have served and continue to serve in conflicts around the globe. This year's theme, 'Service and Sacrifice', was to recognise the work and sacrifice of women with a special nod given to our nurses at the DHB service.

Chief executive Keriana Brooking who welcomed the crowd paid a tribute to her Grandmother, Dorothy Vivienne Gard who was born in 1919 and died in 2014.

Keriana described her grandmother as the epitome of 'wahine toa' – a woman who was brave, bold, accomplished and capable.

"Although she was tiny, she was fierce," Keriana said. "She was a corporal in the Women's Army Auxiliary Core, stationed in Wellington and New Caledonia as a postmistress during WWII... She was the epitome of wahine toa and I wear her service medals with pride and fond remembrance."



Pictured: Keriana with husband Jack wearing her Grandmother's medals.

Keriana acknowledged and thanked Rev Barbara Walker QSO, lead chaplain at the hospital, for her service to the DHB and for running the ANZAC service for the last 12 years with this year being her last.

Barb said the service was moving. “I was pleased that we were able to physically come together again this year, which was very different to last year when we conducted the service over the hospital intercom due to COVID restrictions.

“Acknowledging wahine and their role in serving our country, and supporting those who serve, specifically our nurses, was also particularly special for me given my history as missionary nurse and midwife in war-torn countries.”

In honour of the theme, Captain Buffy Little, Acting Officer in Command was MC for the service, while Captain Sarah Linehan, a Nursing Officer for the Royal NZ Nursing Corps, was guest speaker.



Barbara Walker with Jill Lowrey (Nurse Director) Pam Winfield (Duty Manager), Sheryll Petrie (Duty Manager) and Rosie Feliuai (Duty Nurse Manager).

With this year being 120 years since nurses were registered in New Zealand, a tribute was also paid to nurses and a framed history created by Sheryll Petrie (Duty Manager) was presented and later placed on the wall in the Nurse Chapel.

At the service Jill Lowrey, Nurse Director, said, “This year on the 12th of September we celebrate the 120th Year of Nursing Registration in New Zealand. We can take pride in the fact that New Zealand was the first country in the world to have Nursing Registration and it is fitting to honour this today ... on the footsteps of our Memorial Chapel and near the Nurse Chapel, through the door behind me.

“The simple yet memorable tribute made and presented today reminds us of former and present day nurses who serve with compassion, courage and strength as they care and serve Hawke’s Bay. It signifies an era now past and will be around for some time as a reminder of the vision and compassion by those who wore the colours.”



Pictured (left to right): Some of the crowd at the service; Hawke’s bay East Coast Aero Club flyover; wreath laying service and parade to attention, including the Last Post played by Greg McEwen.

Five Minutes with Nohorua Parata, Communications Assistant

Meet Noho who joined our Communications Team in March. His video, social media and Te Reo skills along with this positive, can-do attitude and vibrant personality have quickly made him an invaluable member of the team.

1. Tell us about the career path that led you to us Noho.

I graduated from Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington in Dec 2019, majoring in Te Reo Māori and media studies, with a minor in film. Before starting at the DHB I was heavily involved in student voice work, in particular our Māori students' association both locally and nationally, and was co-president of Te Mana Ākonga, the National Māori tertiary students' association.

2. What are you enjoying most about your job?

The friendly and kind nature of the people at the DHB. I have been welcomed with open arms and met staff from right across the DHB, who have all provided me with a glimpse into the different areas of our organisation. I have also enjoyed getting out into the community alongside our COVID-19 vaccination team chatting to people about why they're getting vaccinated. It's really cool when you get to meet the people that you serve.

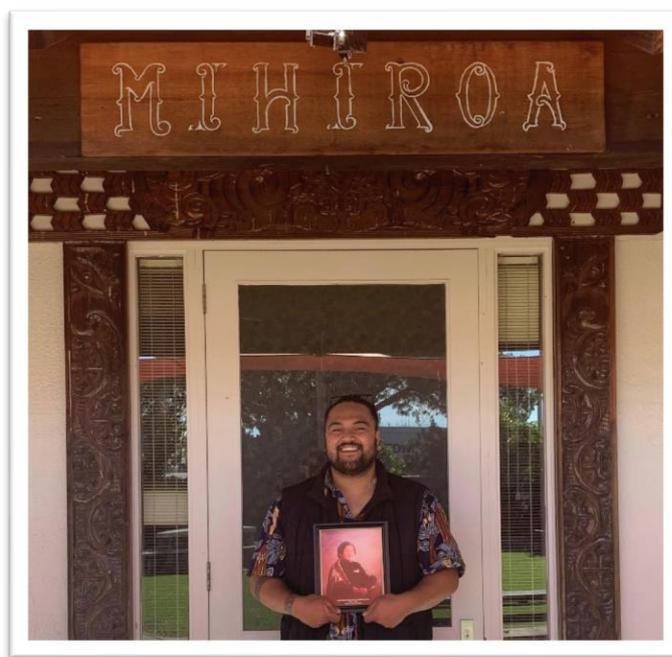
3. At your pōwhiri you found a photo of your Great Nan at Mihiroa Marae. What is her connection with the DHB?

My Nanny Lulu, Ruruhira Robin (nee Nepe-Apatu) was a kuia of the people. Her involvement at the DHB and, in particular Mihiroa Whare, was a fragment of her mahi and what she did for her people. She was a caring wāhine who had a huge passion for supporting and nurturing our tamariki to become leaders. She was a kaumātua of Mihora whare and part of a cohort of leaders who had visions of establishing a foundation of te ao Māori here at the DHB.

4. What is your connection to Hawke's Bay?

On my mother's side I'm Ngāti Kahungunu ki Heretaunga. My connection to Hawke's Bay is my whakapapa (genealogy) and the land I walk on every day. My Nan was born and raised here in Hawke's Bay, my mother grew up in Hawke's Bay and now my whānau live here so it is a place we call home.

5. I hear your Nan was the model for the Pania of the Reef Statue. Tell us about that.



Pictured: Noho with a photo of his Great Nan.

My Nan was selected back in the early 50s as a junior at Hukarere High School to model for the Pania of the Reef statue. I like to think it was Nan’s beauty and beaming smile that made her stand out from the crowd. They dressed her in this lovely korowai and heitiki and began to model some photos for the sculptor. To my understanding the sculptor was Italian, and he went back to Italy to start the sculpting process. By the time it was completed and ready for its opening along the Marine parade, my Nan had reached her senior years at Hukarere, which puts the time of sculpting Pania in to perspective. To this day, Pania of the reef holds a special place in our whānau and in particular a special place in nan’s heart.

Noho’s pepeha

Ki te taha o tōku māmā (on my mother’s side):

Ko Kahuranaki te maunga

Ko Takitimu te waka

Ko Ngaruroro te awa

Ko Kohupatiki te marae

Ko Ngāti Kahungunu te iwi

Ki te taha o tōku pāpā (on my father’s side):

Ko Taranaki te maunga

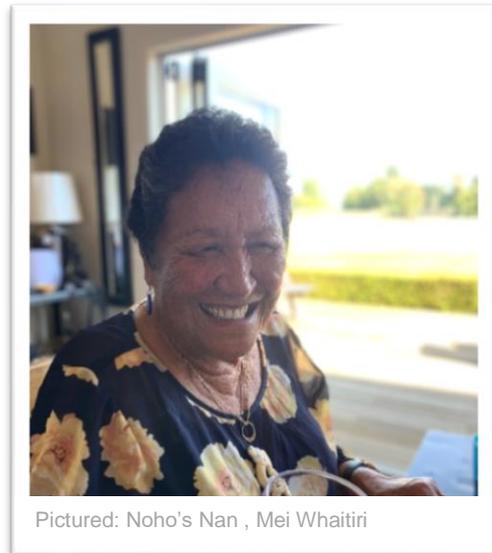
Ko Aotea te waka

Ko Tanga ‘oe te awa

Ko Taiporo’ēnui te pā

Ko Ngāti Ruanui te iwi

Ko ‘āmua me ‘āpotiki ngā ‘apū



Pictured: Noho’s Nan , Mei Whaitiri

Thank you to our superhero staff

We have nearly completed vaccinating our healthcare workforce. There is one remaining clinic at Hawke’s Bay Hospital next Friday 7 May for healthcare workers to have their first dose of the vaccine and some walk-in clinics in Napier have also been held this week. It has been great to see so many of our workforce become the super heroes of our community – thank you!



Picture: congrats to all our staff members that have rolled up their sleeves.

I would like to offer my thanks to the staff of Hastings Hospital for their great service (made difficult often by ongoing building renovations at times.) This includes orderlies who were unfailingly polite and upbeat moving beds all around the hospital, and the cleaning and meal staff. From my arrival at day surgery through to recovery then ICU after complications then finally to Ortho ward B3, I have been looked after extremely well.

Very happy with the services we have had over the years. Glad that you can help a lot of whānau out because there's a lot of people needing your help. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you all for the help.

FABULOUS FEEDBACK

Last night I was in ED. I got let out at 2:30am and I asked the receptionist could someone unlock the main entrance doors for me because I didn't want to walk through the car park to get to the main car park. A security guard came and meet me in the ED waiting area and walked me through the hospital and took me right to my car, and waited till I started driving out. He said I'd hate to think if I just opened the door and something happened to you getting to your car, I couldn't forgive myself. I really appreciated he took time to do that.