

# ANMAC Board Communique

## February 2020

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) meets bimonthly to discuss issues and make decisions regarding governance of the Council. ANMAC is the independent accreditation authority for Nursing and Midwifery in Australia as appointed by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

### **Ann Kinnear Ends Term as Chair of the ANMAC Board**

It is with regret that the Directors of ANMAC accepted Ann Kinnear's resignation as the Chair of ANMAC today. Ann will be remaining on the Board as a Director of ANMAC, at the same time developing her independent leadership role in midwifery at the national and international level.

Ann became a member Director of ANMAC in March 2014, shortly after her appointment as Chief Executive Officer of the Australian College of Midwives (ACM). She became chair of ANMAC in October 2015 and was reappointed in 2018. She retired from her ACM role towards the end of 2019. Prior to becoming the Chief Executive Officer of the ACM, Ann had an extensive career in midwifery spanning several decades working in practice and in the Department of Health in NSW as the Principal Midwifery Advisor.

Ann brought many qualities to her Director role at ANMAC with;

- Her extensive experience in governance, management and policy.
- Her strong commitment to working with others to build an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Midwifery workforce was translated through to the Strategic Plan that the Board developed for 2018-21 as one of the 5 strategic objectives, *Improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health*.
- Complementing this Ann is also an inaugural Director on the Board of the Rodanthe Lipsett Indigenous Midwifery Charitable Fund and the Public Officer.

During Ann's term as Chair ANMAC has worked towards;

- Managing the cycle of accreditation to smooth out the peaks and troughs of workload and ensuring financial stability each year.
- Moving towards a more efficient risk-based accreditation process using an automated application process.
- Ensuring contemporaneous governance to keep up with the dynamic health education context.
- Managing the last three intense years of reviews into the National Regulation and Accreditation Scheme followed by the Accreditation Systems Review.

Ann has ensured that we have steered our way through both reviews resulting in another agreement to provide the Independent Accreditation Functions for the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.

The Board and staff at ANMAC would like to thank Ann for the work she has undertaken as Chair of ANMAC over the last six years.

## **Professor Wendy Cross Takes the Helm as the Chair of the Board of ANMAC**

The Board appointed Professor Wendy Cross as the interim Chair of the ANMAC Board until the Annual General Meeting in October this year. Professor Cross is the Dean of School of Nursing and Healthcare Professions at Federation University. Until August 2019 she was a National Mental Health Commissioner and is the immediate past Chair of the Council of Deans and Midwifery (Australia and New Zealand) and immediate past President of the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses. Wendy has been a Board Director at ANMAC since 2013 and is a member of the Governance Committee.

Wendy has published over 120 articles across all domains (most peer reviewed) and her primary research interests include mental health and resilience, clinical supervision, practice development and health service evaluation. Wendy will be fifth Chair of the ANMAC Board.

Wendy paid tribute to Ann's tenure as Chair of the Board and thanked her for the many skills and strategic leadership qualities that she brought to the Board over the last six years, as well as her dignity and person-centred communication style.