Chairperson’s Letter
Dear Members,

The 4th International Congress of Paediatric Nursing hosted by ACCYPN was held in Melbourne in August. ACCYPN was invited by the International Congress Paediatrics to provide the nursing program. There were approximately 230 nursing delegates registered for the nursing program. The majority of delegates considered the scientific program to be good to excellent. Thank you to all delegates who completed the evaluation, your feedback is valued and we will use it in planning the 2014 Conference in Cairns. The Board of Directors decided to plan for 2014 to move the Conference back to the even year.

It is exciting to note that it has been 21 years since the creation of a National nursing organisation for children and young people’s nurses. The original organisation ACPCHN was formed in 1992. Some of the national committee members from across the 21 years met in Melbourne during the Conference to celebrate the achievement and acknowledge the significant voluntary contribution nurses have made during this time to support the national organisation.

Follow-up on the issues mentioned in the last newsletter:

- Children in detention: following the change of Government we have sent a new letter to the current Minister for Immigration.
- Queensland Mum’s and Bub’s initiative – ACCYPN has had a response from the Chief Executive of Metro South Hospital and Health Service (HHS). They have sub contracted the Metro South Medicare Local to deliver the program. Further correspondence has now been sent to the CEO of Metro South Medicare Local. There has been no response from the Metro North HHS. The concern of the BOD is to ensure that appropriately skilled and educationally prepared professionals are delivering the service.
- Ms Karen Berry, an ACCYPN member appeared before government committee - the findings of this review can be found at: http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/committees/HSC/2013/PH unvaccinatedchildren/rpt-029-26Sep2013.pdf

I would encourage all members to consider applying for a Director’s position at the upcoming Annual General Meeting. ACCYPN is Company Limited by Guarantee and experience as a Director can provide you with insight into the functioning of a Company which has different requirements than an Association.

The Board of Directors has had some changes. Ms Michele Howard has stepped down from the Board as both a Director and Secretary. The Board acknowledges the contribution of Michele at a national level for approximately eight years and thanks her for that contribution. Ms Jacquie Burton has taken on the role of Chair of the Board of Directors and I have taken on the role of Company Secretary.

This is my last letter to members as Chair. I feel privileged to have been in the role of Chair during the change over from ACPCHN to ACCYPN. This phase has been the development phase of the College. The next phase of the College needs to be one of growth in both professional development and advocacy for the health and well being of children and young people. I wish the incoming Chair all the best for the future. I think the best is yet to come for ACCYPN.

Regards,
Jan Pratt - Chairperson, Board of Directors, ACCYPN

ACCYPN Annual General Meeting
Thursday 28 November 7pm Eastern Standard Time (7pm Qld time)
Full details will be sent via email to ACCYPN Members
Chapter Reports

Queensland Chapter
Networking Evenings
Come and enjoy the networking opportunity and critical conversation on topical children’s health issues each month with your peers. Have a tea/coffee or a meal. (The drinks and food are self-funded)
Dates: 3rd Tuesday of each month (February to November)
Time: 6.00pm - 8.00pm
Venue: The Greek Club, 29 Edmondstone Street, South Brisbane

Western Australia Chapter
2013 ACCYPN Student Excellence Award
The ACCYPN (WA Chapter) give special recognition to the outstanding achievement of a student through the award of the Student Excellence Award. The recipient of this Award for the group that graduated August 2013 has demonstrated academic and clinical excellence throughout the Postgraduate Paediatric Nursing Program conducted by Princess Margaret Hospital for Children. We would like to congratulate Sam Bertacco. Sam has participated in the program with commitment and enthusiasm demonstrating both academic and clinical excellence. She has completed an extensive literature review into Nurses knowledge and attitude regarding paediatric pain management, the outcome of her project is submission of a completed Ethics Proposal to the PMH Ethics Committee. Sam is planning to go on to complete the Post Graduate Diploma at Curtin University.

Report from Clinical Supper – Thursday 6 August 2013
‘Something in the air: autism and the environment, epigenetics and CAM’ was presented by Dr Jenny Green and Dr William Hollaway from the State Child Development Centre.
The session was attended by 29 nurses working with children across a variety of settings.
The session was well received with very positive comments:
- ‘Interesting presentation, very relevant.’
- ‘Interesting, informative, thinking material.’
- ‘Great speakers, relevant topics, thank you.’
- ‘Thanks for a great session with new info presented’
- ‘Enjoyable update of research topics’
- ‘Excellent, very interesting, lots to think about’
The event was kindly sponsored by Bayer.

Expression of Interest – Position Statement
ACCYPN are looking for members interested in being a part of a working group to develop a Position Statement on Refugee & Asylum Children.
If you would like to peruse other ACCYPN Position Papers please click here.
Please email your Expression of Interest to the ACCYPN Secretariat info@accypn.org.au by COB Thursday 7 November 2013.
Australian and New Zealand Association research released!

ACCYPN participated in the Research Project below and Belinda Moore, Executive Officer of The Australasian Society of Association Executive (AuSAE) writes:

“I am pleased to announce the results of the Associations Matter research project that AuSAE is proud to be a part of. The researchers, Survey Matters, analysed 7,749 responses to produce a robust report specific to the Australian and New Zealand professional association sector.

Some of the key findings included:

• A stable or increasing demand for professional associations is predicted by an overwhelming majority of members.
• The increase in demand is more likely to be forecast by young members – despite industry concerns around difficulties recruiting and retaining members in the younger age brackets.
• The main reason for many members joining is for access to relevant information - they are looking to their association to be the leading, authoritative source of news about their profession.
• Members want quality professional development and accreditation programs that enhance their career prospects and protect the reputation of their profession.
• Advocacy is critical to members, yet only 63% of members are satisfied with their associations efforts in this area.
• Age, but more importantly career stage, plays a big part in how members want to receive information and interact with other members.

“One size does not fit all” was a dominant message that came out of the results. There is a definite need for clear segmentation in the way that professional associations deliver their messages to members.

To meet these needs the professional association of the future needs to be a journalist, an editor, a digital content manager, a researcher, a trainer and a curator – gathering, synthesising and disseminating quality information and learning resources in a timely and appropriate manner.

To download a full copy of the report please click here.

Finally, I’d like to take the opportunity to thank the team at Survey Matters for their hard work in producing this wonderful piece of work. This research provides associations with a blueprint to guide their decision making, and offers a great opportunity for individual associations to benchmark their own performance against these findings. Brenda and Rebecca have done a great job and we look forward to working with them to produce the upcoming Industry Association and Charity sector specific reports.

Thanks also to all those associations who participated. We really appreciate your support.”

Interesting Links...

The National Lead Clinicians Group (LCG) newsletter – monthly publication commenced in July 2013:

The Acting Commissioner for Children and Young People and Child Guardian (Queensland), Barry Salmon has released “Snapshot 2013: Children and young people in Queensland” and writes:

“Snapshot 2013, the eleventh in the Commission’s Snapshot series, draws together data from a wide range of sources to provide a contemporary representation of the health, safety and wellbeing of children and young people in Queensland. Where possible, data are supported by robust trend analyses to provide a longitudinal evidence base that can be used to highlight areas of particular concern and improvement and inform policy development across sectors.


The key data booklet is an easy reference accompaniment to the report that summarises the main findings and trends. I hope you find the Snapshot 2013 Key Data: Children and Young People in Queensland booklet to be a useful compilation of information relevant to your area of interest, as well as linking you to the challenges that face Queensland’s children and young people today.”