

## ACT Health System Council Members

### Chair: Dr Nigel Lyons

Dr Lyons is a Specialist Advisor to a number of organisations including the NSW Ministry of Health. Dr Lyons has over 35 years' experience in the NSW Health System as a clinician, manager and executive. In his role as Deputy Secretary, he was responsible for strategic health policy development, interjurisdictional negotiations, funding strategies and system-wide planning of health services, including mental health. Dr Lyons was also responsible for setting the direction for child and family health policy. Dr Lyons' qualifications include a Bachelor of Medicine, University of Newcastle and Master of Health Administration, University of NSW. Dr Lyons has held appointments in state and regional executive roles, including as:

- Chief Executive of the Greater Southern Area Health Service (now Southern and Murrumbidgee Local Health Districts) and subsequently CE, Hunter New England Area Health Service
- Deputy Secretary, Health System Strategy and Planning, NSW Ministry of Health
- Chief Executive, NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation



### Ms Lauren Anthes

Ms Anthes is the CEO, Women's Health Matters, which is the peak body for women's health in the ACT. She has over 15 years' experience working in the health system from a clinical research, service delivery, health service design and health system improvement perspective. She has experience working in government, NGO, private and higher education sectors, providing her the unique ability to review health system issues from multiple perspectives and approach issues with innovative solutions. In the last 5 years she has been responsible for leading health system improvement activities through the ACT Primary Health Network and leading the design and implementation of living with COVID initiatives through the Commonwealth Department of Health.



## ACT Health System Council

### Ms Darlene Cox

Ms Cox is the Executive Director, Health Care Consumers' Association and is an eminent advocate for health consumers with an excellent knowledge of the health system, in the ACT and nationally.

She has a strong understanding of community engagement and is a board member of Capital Health Network and Meridian. She has participated in several ACT and National committees. Ms Cox has a long-standing interest in improving the quality and safety of health care and has been involved with the Australian Medical Council, Australian Commission for the Safety and Quality of Health Care, and the National Prescribing Service (NPS) *MedicineWise*. Ms Cox's qualifications include a Bachelor of Education, Australian Catholic University; Graduate Diploma of Applied Economics, University of Canberra; and Bachelor of Arts, Diploma in Education, Macquarie University, Sydney; and Australian Institute of Company Directors Course. Ms Cox is a member of a range of community organisations including ACOSS, ACT Shelter, Australian Queer Archives, Health Care Consumers' Association, Health Consumers NSW, LGBTIQ+ Health Australia, Meridian Inc and Women's Health Matters.



### Ms Rebecca Cross

Ms Cross is the Director-General, ACT Health Directorate and has over 39 years' experience in the public and private sector. Some of Ms Cross' previous roles include:

- Coordinator-General, Whole of Government (Non-Health) COVID-19 response
- Director-General, Community Services Directorate, ACT
- Deputy Secretary, Integrity and Information, Department of Human Services, Commonwealth Government
- Bupa Australia and New Zealand - Head of Government, Policy and Regulatory Affairs.

In 2021-22 Ms Cross led the ACT Health Directorate's COVID-19 response team through the constantly changing circumstances of the pandemic. Ms Cross is part of the Health Chief Executives Forum which has established 3 specialist working groups which support the Health Ministers' Meeting (HMM) to deliver national work priorities and its governance and processes align with the HMM and National Cabinet. Ms Cross' qualifications include a Graduate Certificate of Management and Bachelor of Arts (Secretarial Studies) from the University of Canberra.



## ACT Health System Council

### Mr Tom Cullen

Mr Cullen is Legal Counsel for the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF). He holds a Masters in Legal Practice from ANU and has more than 13 years' experience in industrial relations and labour law, inclusive of 5+ years as a legal practitioner representing workers and their interests across the public and private healthcare sectors. Mr Cullen is a ministerial appointee to the ACT Work Safety Council and holds an executive position with a local community-based Early Learning Centre. Mr Cullen is a former Prosecutor with the ACT DPP and has previously served on the Australian Labour and Employment Relations Association National Committee.



### Prof Russell Gruen

Prof Gruen is Dean at the College of Health and Medicine at the Australian National University. After training in Australia and the USA in general and trauma surgery, he spent 13 years as a consultant surgeon at The Alfred and Royal Melbourne Hospitals, and Tan Tock Seng Hospital in Singapore. During that time he was also Director of the Australian National Trauma Research Institute, and Director of the Institute for Health Technologies at NTU Singapore. In addition, Prof Gruen has a PhD in health service delivery to remote Aboriginal communities, and postdoc qualifications in health policy, medical ethics and business management from Harvard. He is recognised internationally as a health system leader, having established the Australian Trauma Registry and Australian Trauma Quality Improvement Program, a 5 year binational trauma system collaboration between the Australian and Indian Governments, multiple clinical trials, and the Australian satellite of the Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care Group. He co-founded the WHO Global Alliance for Care of the Injured, co-authored a history of the Victorian State Trauma System, and is a Lancet Commissioner in Global Surgery. He has received Australia's top clinician scientist awards, and is an elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences, the Academy of Medicine of Singapore, and the International Surgical Society. He serves on the AAHMS Council and the Board of Research Australia.



## Ms Stacy Leavens

Ms Leavens has 15 years' experience working in the non-profit primary and community health care sector in the US and Australia. Ms Leavens is currently Chief Executive Officer, Capital Health Network where she leads a team of specialists working on needs assessment, workforce planning, data analysis, policy and project management across CHN. Prior to this Ms Leavens worked as the General Manager, Primary Care Engagement, and Senior Manager, Population Health, Planning and Evaluation, Capital Health Network. She has previously worked for Marathon Health Australia, and the Asthma Foundation, as well as Boston Children's Hospital. Ms Leavens has a Master of Arts Sociology, Women's Health and a Bachelor of Arts, English. Ms Leavens holds a professional membership with the Australian College of Health Service Management.



## Prof Michelle Lincoln

Prof Lincoln is the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic and Vice President, and most recently was the Executive Dean of Health, University of Canberra. She is an Honorary Professor, University of Sydney. Prof Lincoln was formerly:

- the Deputy Dean, Strategy, Faculty of Health Sciences, the University of Sydney
- Head of Discipline of Speech Pathology
- The inaugural chair of the Asia Pacific Education Collaboration in Speech Pathology

Prof Lincoln has over 30 years' experience in facilitating student learning both in the classroom and on clinical placement. She writes and researches in the areas of allied health service delivery and workforce particularly in rural, remote and Indigenous communities. Prof Lincoln currently holds professional memberships with Speech Pathology Association of Australia and is a Graduate and Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



## ACT Health System Council

### Ms Donna Murray

Ms Murray is a proud Wiradyuri and Wonnarua woman of NSW who has spent the last 20 years living and working in the ACT. Ms Murray is the Chief Executive Officer and Company Secretary Indigenous Allied Health Australia Ltd; Board Director Gayaa Dhuwi (Proud Spirit) Australia; and Board Chairperson Thirrili Ltd. Ms Murray is an Adjunct Associate Professor with the University of Technology Sydney and brings over 30 years' experience across Indigenous Affairs in government policy; education; business leadership and governance; workforce development; community development and engagement. Previously Ms Murray has worked across Commonwealth government roles; tertiary education and support; and the Aboriginal community controlled sector. Ms Murray was Co-Chair, in the development of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan and Implementation Plan while Chair of the National Health Leadership Forum . She participates in community and volunteer work in communities and for several organisations.



### Ms Maddy Northam

Ms Northam is the Regional Secretary of the Community and Public Sector Union and the President of Unions ACT. As Regional Secretary, Ms Northam represents members across the ACTPS including allied health and administrative staff at Canberra Health Services. These workers make up a large part of the health workforce in Canberra. Ms Northam provides advice on health workforce issues, including culture, attraction and retention and workforce planning. She served on the Culture Reform Oversight Group over a number of years. As President of Unions ACT, Ms Northam is well placed to engage with other health related unions.



## Mr Dave Peffer

Mr Peffer is currently the Chief Executive Officer, Canberra Health Services which is the largest public hospital in the region, supporting a population of almost 540,000. Mr Peffer's previous roles include:

- Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Interim Chief Executive Officer, Canberra Health Services
- Deputy Director-General, Access Canberra
- Deputy Director-General, Policy and Cabinet.

During Mr Peffer's tenure as Deputy Director-General, Policy and Cabinet, he was responsible for leading a team that delivered Canberra's first free public Wi-Fi network – CBRfree, which is available in Canberra's Central Business District and town centres. He holds a Master of Financial Management, Finance, General from the Australian National University and a Bachelor of Economics, Applied Economics from The University of Canberra.



## Dr Elaine Pretorius

Dr Pretorius is currently the General Manager at North Canberra Hospital and Chair of the ACT Health Clinical Systems Governance Committee. Dr Pretorius' previous roles include:

- Acting Chief Medical Officer, ACT Health Directorate
- Executive Director of Medical Services, Calvary Public Hospital Bruce
- Executive Director of Medical Services Limestone Coast Local Health Network, South Australia.

Dr Pretorius holds a number of Professional Memberships and is a member and chair of multiple committees. Dr Pretorius' qualifications consist of: Fellowship Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators; Master's Degree in Health Care Administration, Flinders University; Endocrinology, General and Internal Medicine; and Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, University of Pretoria, South Africa.





## ACT Health System Council

### Mr Matt Sharp

Mr Sharp is currently employed as Chief Executive, Goulburn Valley Health in Victoria, in addition to being an associate fellow of the Australian College of Health Services Executives. He is on the Board of Directors for the Murray Primary Health Network. Mr Sharp has over 18 years' experience as a healthcare executive, over eight years as a chief executive, overseeing primary, acute, subacute, aged, mental health, NDIS as well as alcohol and drug services in metropolitan and rural Victoria. Mr Sharp has worked with state and federal governments to secure funding for health services and has a clinical background in nursing. He holds a Master of Business and Post Graduate Diploma Critical Care Nursing from LaTrobe University and Bachelor of Nursing, Australian Catholic University.

He has held various executive positions in rural, regional, and city areas. Mr Sharp's previous positions include:

- Executive Director of Clinical Operations at Eastern Health
- Director of Clinical Service and CEO, Rochester and Elmore District Health Service.



### Prof Eugene Soh

Prof Soh is Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer, Integrated Care, National Healthcare Group, Singapore, and Chief Executive Office at Tock Seng Hospital & Central Health. With the National Healthcare Group, Prof Soh has brought together primary care providers and community partners to serve 1.5 million residents living in Central and North Singapore.

At Tan Tock Seng Hospital with 1927 licensed beds, he leads the development of future tertiary care models, digitalisation, and workforce transformation towards a Hospital Without Walls. He leads the development of the 17 hectare *HealthCity Novena Master Plan* as an integrated healthcare hub. Prof Soh has been pivotal in establishing the Centre for Healthcare Innovation; bringing together 87 innovation partners from across local and international health systems, academia, industries, and government agencies to co-learn and co-create value. Prof Soh is Adjunct Professor at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine. He is a medical doctor by training and holds a Master of Public Health (Health Care Management) Harvard University, School of Public Health and Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, National University of Singapore.

