

September 2021

Tēnā Koe

As you are no doubt aware, it is a very interesting time to be involved in health in Aotearoa as we embark on an ambitious programme of sector-wide reforms. The reforms will take time to implement and GPNZ has an important role to play in ensuring the primary care sector remains up-to-date and is delivering equitable, quality first level services to the people of New Zealand.

Over the past three years GPNZ's membership has grown to cover 24 of the 30 PHOs. Our recent growth reflects the sector's on-going need to be connected, to share knowledge and expertise and to be supported in the delivery of front-line services. The role of primary care throughout the Covid 19 pandemic has been immense and GPNZ has played a pivotal role in ensuring information has been shared with the sector in an appropriate and timely manner and in advocating for the resources to support general practice and primary care providers in their work.

Our services include facilitating the primary care clinical leaders group, running the PHO CEO network, our Māori leadership group and nursing leadership group. GPNZ also provides the secretariat support for the primary care caucus at PSAAP (The PHO Services Agreement negotiation forum). We maintain strategic relationships with sector partners and work closely with the Ministry of Health and other agencies to ensure primary care service delivery is well supported.

The next phase for the organisation will involve a review of the services we deliver and to whom, the constitution under which we operate, and the way we position our organisation in a changing system, including our brand. We also need to explicitly operationalise our commitment to Tikanga Māori and the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

While very rewarding and highly valued by the sector, this role is not an easy one. There is a balance between being a strategic leader conducting discussions with other senior leaders and politicians, and delivering the work programme of the organisation.

Our members resource GPNZ well, and in return the expectations of sector visibility and service delivery are high. The CEO is expected to do a lot of the work, to be available and responsive to members and to the sector, to engage with partners and sustain the organisation. The CEO is also expected to co-ordinate member input into strategic discussions relating to sector developments and national negotiations.

The new CEO will have responsibility for the resources of GPNZ and will be able to engage and contract people as necessary to sustain the programme of work. The CEO will have flexibility to work from home, although there are also options for office space in Wellington that can be explored if this is the appointee's preference. The incumbent has been present in Wellington for around two days per week, but the location of the role is flexible.

We are looking for a candidate who demonstrates strategic thinking, can deliver operationally and is highly skilled in communications and relationship management. Success is dependent on the ability to engage people, to organise things logically and to deliver on expectations. The candidate must demonstrate a high degree of integrity and political astuteness.

GPNZ acknowledges the Government's clear obligations under the Te Tiriti o Waitangi to enhance and improve the design of access to, delivery and evaluation of health and disability support services and programmes which impact Māori. GPNZ will always demonstrate a willingness and ability to recognise and respect Māori values and customs.

If the role feels like a good fit with your skills and capabilities, I look forward to receiving your application. Please send your CV and covering letter clearly demonstrating how you meet the person specification to: admin@GPNZ.org.nz by close of business on Monday 18 October.

I would like to thank you for showing an interest in working with GPNZ. Should you have any questions, or if you would like to have a conversation about this role, please call Liz on 0212898832.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Lowe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Jeff Lowe
Chair, GPNZ