

**Julia Creek MPHS
(Monthly Update No 5. April, 2021)**

There have been an increased number of applicants for Nursing positions at the Julia Creek MPHS. With interest increasing, travel freeing up and vaccinations rolling out, we expect that this trend should continue across the NWHHS and elsewhere.

Interviews for positions are continuing to ensure applicants have the right qualifications for the roles advertised, and to build more permanency under the Director of Nursing and the model for Julia Creek. We want to sustain this model properly, and so the facility won't return to its original level of service if there is any danger of it going through an unstable rotation of openings and closures.

Nevertheless, there is now room for some optimism I believe and all due thanks and credit to the DON and staff at Julia Creek MPHS, as well as senior NWHHS staff who have been working through not only this problem for Julia Creek but other facilities across the region since late last year when support for staff and access to staff became a bigger issue and affected our operations.

Thanks also to Mayor Philip Curr, Deputy Mayor Janene Fegan and the Council, who have been very proactive in promoting this problem on behalf of the community.

While this is the Nursing news, I'm aware we had a recent hiccup with Medical services. There are some multi party discussions going on today around Medical with the NWHHS Chief Executive Dr Murphy and others, the results of which won't not be known before this update goes out. In order to update the Medical news, I or Dr Murphy will write again next week.

Please continue to support the hospital, and make use of it and the professional staff there whenever necessary.

Paul Woodhouse
NWHHS Board Chair