
Health and Wellbeing Report

Madam President, distinguished guests, fellow state councillors, members, ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to present my final Health and Well-Being Report for ICPA-NSW at the 2025 State Conference.

ICPA has raised with the Minister of Health and Minister for Regional Health the following issues:

- The availability of on the ground youth and adolescent Mental Health services in rural schools and communities, furthermore, provide incentives for these specialists to remain in our communities”.
- Enable access for parents/carers of remote students, vital allied health support through funding and/or subsidies.”
- Extension of the “Brighter Beginnings” program to include developmental screeners, closely reflective of the Royal Far West Healthy Kids Bus Stop, for three-year-olds in rural and remote areas.”
- A more accessible school-based platform for assessment and diagnosis of any learning and well-being support requirements of children living in rural and remote NSW. This enables early identification and timely interventions without the need to access consultation outside the school.”

ICPA-NSW were also invited to present ongoing evidence at the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into the Implementation of Portfolio Committee No2 - Recommendations relating to the delivery of specific health services and specialist care in remote, rural and regional NSW.

I would like to thank Tanya Mitchell and Britt Anderson for attending this review on behalf of the Portfolio. Speaking at the review, albeit a nervous experience they were able to raise the above-mentioned issues and the significant impact that these have on families. These have now been tabled in Parliament so hopefully some resolution may not be too far away.

The NSW Ministry of Health is continuing the Rural Health Workforce Incentive Scheme aimed at stabilising the supply of health workers in rural and remote locations. The incentive scheme allows for financial and non-financial incentives to be offered to health workers such as nurses and allied health professionals who have recently taken up an identified vacancy.

These incentives can include a payment up to \$10,000, additional personal leave, additional base salary, subsidised accommodation and relocation benefits. Each individual health district can identify positions and roles that meet the eligibility criteria and apply to have the incentive scheme applied to the position.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on State Council, and I encourage people to consider joining a wonderful group of people who continue to strive to implement change.

Myfi Kellahan
Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Leader