

Workplace Reps Conference

9am – 4pm, Wednesday, 11 November 2020

Quality Inn, Parnell

“Midwives Leading Midwives”

The Workplace Reps Forum is being run as an approved Employment Relations Education course titled “Democracy and Industry Economics”, Course 712. This means we will be applying for Employment Relations Education Leave on your behalf. You will be copied into that request and can show your manager if there is any question about this.

The course aims to develop an understanding of our history over the last century to inspire and enable future participation in strategies required to reduce disparities in the workplace and economy for women and other groups who are disadvantaged in the labour market. This course is a one-day event.

By the end of this one-day course, participants will be able to:

- identify key historical events and lessons from midwives’ industrial relations/union history and how these have impacted on employed midwives today.
- develop techniques to support organising opportunities within our workplace.
- develop a better understanding of the political system in New Zealand and how it impacts on employed midwives.
- recognise their contribution to the economy and prepare to undertake bargaining with employers.
- undertake an organising task in their workplace.

Pre-Conference Programme, Tuesday, 10 November

2.00 – 4.00	Out-of-town workplace reps arrive at hotel; NRC meeting to finalise Conference roles
4.00 – 6.00	Regional meetings: NRC reps to meet with out-of-town workplace reps
6.00 – 7.30	Dinner: NRC and out-of-town reps

Programme, Wednesday, 11 November

9.00 – 9.30	Mihi whakatau (Jennifer Fletcher, Joyce Croft); ice breaker exercise
9:30 – 10:15	Speeches celebrating midwifery: Michelle Archer (NRC Chair), Alison Eddy (NZCOM CE), Right Honourable Helen Clark (TBC)
10.15 – 10.45	In groups: Identify key historical events and lessons from midwives' industrial relations, professional and union history; create a timeline
10:45 – 11:00	Morning Tea
11:00 – 11.30	Presentation (Victoria Christian) and then in groups: Developing our MERAS union values
11.30 – 12.30	Panel discussion: (to be determined post-Election; include Minister of Health or Associate Minister)
12:30 – 1:15	LUNCH
1:15 – 1.30	Presentation on career pathways (Caroline Conroy): Report on the Midwifery Accord
1.30 – 2.15	In groups: Identify issues affecting employed midwives (i.e. primary units, hospital midwives, employed community and caseloading midwives, specialist and senior midwives)
2.15- 2:30	Bargaining overview (Jill Ovens): Developing national claims for all MERAS bargaining; endorsing our DHBs MECA negotiating team
2.30 - 3:15	Speed sessions: Prioritising issues for bargaining
3.15 – 3.30	Afternoon tea
3:30 – 4.00	Next steps: Educating and empowering our members to get active; committing to an organising task; evaluation and farewells

