

MINUTES OF THE NZIMLS COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COMMODORE HOTEL, CHRISTCHURCH, THURSDAY 28 MAY – FRIDAY 29 MAY 2026

AGENDA

1. Apologies

Delayed due to flight delays: S Hemmady, A Joseph, H Beall, K Birrell, C Olsen

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting Action Points

2.1 Action Points to previous Minutes as circulated

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: S Tozer

That the Action Points from the Minutes dated 19-20 February be accepted.

4.2 M Legge has discussed CPD with embryologists, but no appetite for a CPD programme at the moment.

To action: Add to Agenda for August meeting with MSC.

4.3 J Broadbent speaking at ASM on CPD; talk titled 'It's not always easy'. To then be written up for the NZJMLS.

81. J Broadbent has been monitoring CPD points when marking questionnaires, but not yet completed the audit.

Working with members that are struggling with CPD points.

22.1 T Barnett and M Legge are yet to arrange an in-person meeting with NZQA. To be carried to August meeting.

3. Matters arising from the previous Minutes not located elsewhere in the Agenda.

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded:

That the matters arising from the previous Minutes be accepted.

4. Regional Reports

4.1 Region 1 Report

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the Region 1 Report be accepted.

M Adriaansen spoke to the Region 1 report as circulated.

4.2 Region 2 Report – tabled

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the Region 2 verbal report be received as tabled.

H Beall spoke to the Region 2 report.

4.3 Region 3 Report

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: K Birrell

That the Region 3 report be accepted.

K Birrell spoke to the Region 3 report as circulated.

4.4 Region 4 Report

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the Region 4 report be accepted.

G Alston spoke to the Region 4 report as circulated.

- J Leaman has accepted the NZIMLS donation of \$250.00 for the mid-winter seminar.
- Issues with labs responding to requests for information.

To action: S Tozer to create a template of questions for regional reps to send each quarter for their reports. To have a disclaimer stating that employees need to be cautious that they are not breaching contract requirements in their responses.

4.5 Region 5 Report

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: G Alston



That the Region 5 report be accepted.

L Pringle spoke to the Region 5 report as circulated.

4.6 Technicians Report

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the Technicians report be accepted.

C Olsen spoke to the Technicians report as circulated.

5. Financial Report

5.1 Financial Report

5.1.1 Financial Report and Statement of Accounts for quarter ending 31 March 2026

5.1.2 Electronic payments 01 January – 31 March 2026 for ratification

5.1.3 Credit Card Statements 01 January – 31 March 2026 for ratification.

Moved: L Pringle

Seconded: T Barnett

That the Financial report and items 5.1.1, 5.1.2 and 5.1.3 be accepted.

6. Chief Executive Officer's Report

6.1 CEO Report to 22 May 2026

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: G Alston

That the CEO report be accepted.

S Tozer spoke to the report as circulated.

7. Membership

7.1 Membership Report to 31 March 2026

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: G Alston

That the Membership report to 31 March 2026 be accepted.

7.2 Use of Nominals (from February Agenda)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded:

That the continuing discussion on the use of nominals be received.

- Final agreement on nominals as below:

Life Fellow Member: LifeFNIMLS

Life Member: LifeMNZIMLS

Honorary: HonMNZIMLS

Honorary Fellow: HonFNZIMLS

Member: MNZIMLS

7.3 New member nominations x 2 (tabled)

Ayaka Horiuchi

Naif Al-Haidary

Proposed: T Barnett

Seconded: S Tozer

That the above named be accepted as members of NZIMLS

CARRIED

8. CPD

8.1 CPD Report to 31 March 2026

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: S Hemmady

That the CPD report to 31 March 2026 be accepted.

J Broadbent spoke to the report as circulated.

- S Hemmady recorded thanks to J Broadbent for visiting the labs personally – staff really appreciate these visits.
- Phlebotomy classroom has been updated to the latest version of "Phlebotomy Essentials".

- S Hemmady thanked both M Legge and J Broadbent for the micro-credentialling of courses.

8.2 CPD Points for Journal questionnaire

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: H Beall

That the query on CPD points for the Journal questionnaire and proposed response be accepted.

Email received from P Austin showing concern over sub-questions in the Journal Questionnaire, and requesting more points for the additional effort required.

8.2.1 Proposed response

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

J Broadbent prepared a response as circulated in the Agenda.

General opinion is that the response is very good and should be sent to P Austin, and re-written and included in the July Journal.

To action: J Broadbent to edit the response for the purpose of publishing in the July NZJMLS.

Proposed: T Barnett

Seconded: K Birrell

That the current point structure be maintained for the Journal Questionnaire points; e.g. 5 points.

CARRIED

8.3 CPD Point Allocation communication

Moved: H Beall

Seconded: A Joseph

That the CPD point allocation communication be accepted.

Email received from D Laureles disputing points allocated for a two-day Mediscope NordiQC IHC Workshop.

J Broadbent and M Legge discussed the draft programme at length, and agreed on CPD point allocation.

Discussion:

- Considered as a workshop/user group meeting
- Full programme was not made available until after the event
- CPD points should not be allocated until a full programme is available
- 10 hours of learning in final programme; therefore 20 CPD points available

To action: J Broadbent to respond to correspondence advising that 20 points may be claimed for this event.

8.4 Proposed change to wording Section 3, CPD Booklet

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the proposed wording change to Section 3 of the CPD booklet be accepted.

Proposed: T Barnett

Seconded: K Birrell

That the suggested changes (in red) as noted in the Agenda be accepted and the CPD booklet be updated accordingly, and that Workshop wording be changed from 16 points per day to 2 points per hour (max. 16 per day).*

CARRIED

To action: S Tozer to update the CPD booklet accordingly.

8.5 Proposed guidelines when considering on-line continuing education courses

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: H Beall

That the draft proposed guidelines for on-line continuing education courses be accepted.

M Legge opened the discussion on the draft document proposing guidelines to be considered when applying for online courses.

- Document to be finalised and added to the website under CPD

To action: S Tozer to finalise the document and add to website. Bring to members attention via Newsletter.

8.6 Proposed claim form for non-standard CPD points

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: A Joseph

That the proposed draft claim form for non-standard CPD points be accepted.

M Legge drafted a claim form for non-standard CPD points for consideration by Council.

To action: S Tozer to finalise the document and send to Council for final approval. Then to be added to website and brought to members attention via the Newsletter.

8.7 Stellar programme CPD points for scientists (verbal – J Broadent)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: G Alston

That the Stellar programme CPD points for scientists' verbal discussion be received.

During South Island visits, J Broadent became aware that scientists were using the Awanui Stellar technician programme to claim CPD points.

8.7.1 Correspondence from Awanui re Stellar programme (Tabled)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: G Alston

That the Correspondence from Awanui re the Stellar programme be received as tabled.

Discussed in full in conjunction with 8.7.

Suggested that J Broadent approach Awanui Scientists claiming points under the Stellar programme that this is not appropriate as they are not Technicians.

To action: T Barnett to approach Awanui CPD team to ask that they put on the Stellar course whether it is competency or professional development.

S Tozer to add to Newsletter that any Mandatory Recertification / CPD is part of competence and not professional development.

9. QMLT

9.1 Workshop participant feedback

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: G Aston

That the QMLT Workshop participant feedback be accepted.

The Workshop was generally well-received by participants.

9.2 Proposed regulation to limit QMLT examination attempts

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the proposed regulation to limit QMLT examination attempts be accepted.

Discussion followed from last meeting. M Legge has drafted the regulation which will be included in the QMLT pre-requisites.

Proposed: T Barnett

Seconded: K Birrell

That the proposed regulation to limit QMLT examination attempts to three be accepted and implemented in the 2027 QMLT Prerequisites.

CARRIED

9.3 QMLT and University of Otago admissions (verbal – M Legge)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: C Olsen

That the QMLT and University of Otago admissions verbal discussion be received.

M Legge reiterated that the University of Otago has agreed to accept QMLT graduates into the BSc programmes. The University is keen to see the QMLT as admissible to the BMLSc first-year programme. In early stages of discussions to withdraw from the Health Science course with QMLT being admissible as a programme that will allow first-year students to come directly into the programme. Note: still in very early discussions.

9.4 Variation in practical assessment in Microbiology and Immunology (verbal – G Alston)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: G Alston

That the variation in practical assessment in Microbiology and Immunology verbal discussion be received.

(Refer to Region 4 report).

10. Journal

10.1 Journal Editor's report

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: S Hemmady

That the Journal Editor's report be received

M Legge spoke to the report.

To action: S Tozer to investigate options for shared document apps for submissions.

10.2 Contingency plan for Marking of Journal Questionnaire (verbal – S Tozer/M Legge)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the contingency plan for marking of journal questionnaire verbal discussion be received.

S Tozer to organise a Teams meeting between L Cambridge, J Broadbent, M Legge and T Barnett to train L Cambridge how to finalise online marking whilst J Broadbent is on annual leave.

10.3 Journal Christmas quiz (verbal – M Legge)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: S Hemmady

M Legge offered to write the 2026 Christmas Quiz. All agreed.

Prizes to be distributed as below if more than one winner:

- 1 winner \$300
- 2 or more winners \$200 each

11. Fellowship Report

11.1 Honorary Fellow Nomination – H Brooks (carried over from February 2026)

Proposed: T Barnett

Seconded: S Hemmady

That the Honorary Fellow Nomination for Heather Brooks be accepted.

CARRIED

12. Governance

12.1 AGM Agenda

12.1.1 Notice of meeting

12.1.2 Agenda and remits to be reaffirmed

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: A Joseph

That the AGM Agenda, Notice of meeting and remits be accepted.

To action: S Tozer to add the use of nominals to the AGM Agenda.

12.1.3 Membership fee increase for 2027 (last increased 2023) (verbal – S Tozer)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: A Joseph

That the membership fee increase for 2027 discussion be received.

Proposed: T Barnett

Seconded: K Birrell

That the CPD fees be increased by \$10.00 for both Associates and Full Members.

Effective 1 July 2026.

To action: S Tozer to add to Newsletter

12.2 President Award nominations

12.2.1 Raewyn Cameron

12.2.2 Julie Creighton

12.2.3 Rachael Jenkins

12.2.4 Jo Madden

12.2.5 Sue Melvin

12.2.6 Max Reed

12.2.7 Sharon Tozer

12.2.8 Liz Pringle (tabled)

Proposed: T Barnett

Seconded: H Beall

That the above nominations for the 2026 President's Award be accepted for presentation and named at the 2026 Annual Scientific Meeting. Raewyn Cameron will be awarded at the 25th NICE weekend in Hamilton. A Joseph will present the award to Raewyn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

The meeting recommenced on Friday 29 May at 8:45am

13. Ministry of Health/Allied Health Aotearoa NZ

13.1 HPCA amendment Bill 2026 (verbal discussion)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: G Alston

That the HPCA amendment bill 2026 document be accepted as tabled.

M Legge prepared a document summarising the review of the Act. Of note, the review of Regulatory Authorities is not included. This will be a Ministry of Regulation review.

Key points:

- No additional occupational groups are added
- Medical Radiation Technologist Board changes to the Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Board of New Zealand.
- Minister of Health to have additional powers to direct regulatory authorities
- Incorporates certain provisions of the Crown Entities Act (2004) relating to accountability and transparency of regulators activities
- Provides for the establishment of a new ministerial committee empowered to review and overturn regulators decisions when decisions refuse or limit a practitioners' registration or ability to practice
- Committee Chair and Deputy Chair – barristers or solicitors, remainder from experts and lay people to review cases
- The committee to be funded by the regulatory bodies
- The Bill strengthens offences committed by unqualified persons claiming to be health practitioners
- Incorporates professional conduct and competence in registration and practicing certificates
- Enables interim suspension of a practicing certificate
- Requires responsible authorities to consult and consider views of the public relating to scopes of practice or qualifications required for a scope of practice
- The Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal is retained and allows decisions to be made outside of full meetings
- Section 118 requires the function of authorities to set standards of cultural competence to be observed by health professionals, including enabling and respectful interactions with Māori
- Section 118A is a new section which applies provisions of the Crown Entities Act for accountability of responsible authorities and their members to the responsible Minister including financial reporting obligations

If the Bill progresses to Select Committee, then NZIMLS will be making a submission.

13.2 Notes from meeting with Martin Chadwick (tabled)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the notes from the Executive meeting with M Chadwick be received.

T Barnett

14. 2026 ASM

14.1 Verbal – S Tozer

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: S Hemmady

That the verbal discussion on the 2026 ASM be received.

Discussed earlier in the CEO report.

- A Joseph reminded Council to be mindful of costs with no ASM next year.
- A Joseph expressed concern at the lack of Preanalytical talks. S Tozer asked him to reach out to Preanalytical staff for further talks, and if any more talks become available, we can then open another stream if necessary.

15. Medical Sciences Council

15.1 Online Examination Committee nomination

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the online examination committee nomination be accepted.

T Barnett explained the nomination for the online examination committee. M Adriaansen has been accepted as a committee member and will report back to the Council if necessary. Next meeting is second week of June 2026.

15.2 Notes from meeting with P Lourie, S Tozer and J Broadbent

15.2.1 MSC Principles of right touch regulation

Moved: L Pringle

Seconded: A Joseph

That the notes from the meeting with P Lourie, S Tozer and J Broadbent, and the MSC Principles of right touch regulation be accepted.

S Tozer and J Broadbent reported on the meeting.

There are a number of issues that need to be discussed further with the MSC at the August meeting.

15.3 Notes from meeting with T Barnett and S Calvert (tabled)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the notes from the phone meeting between T Barnett and S Calvert be received.

T Barnett spoke to the notes.

Next Executive meeting with MSC via Teams is on 9 June. F Rae to stand in for S Tozer.

16. **Special Interest Groups**

16.1 TSSIG Meeting Minutes

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: H Beall

That the TSSIG meeting minutes be accepted.

16.2 Review of SIG costs and fees (verbal - S Tozer/A Joseph)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: A Joseph

That the verbal discussion and review of SIG costs and fee be received.

In summary we need to consider:

- Increase SIG registration fees by 15%
- Increase Admin fee to a minimum of \$2,000.00 (approx. 50 hours)
- Updating the policy document and rewording the minimum requirement to cover overheads (this will also require a remit update at the AGM).

To action: S Tozer to send out breakdown then to be added to August Agenda for further discussion/finalisation. Policy document to be updated re administrative fee and added to AGM Agenda.

16.3 Venue choices (verbal – S Tozer)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the discussion on venue choices for SIG meetings be received.

- Use hospital/university lecture theatres where possible – only downside is that these venues need to be booked by staff.
- H Perry will investigate holding the (previously cancelled) NIS later in the year.

17. **University of Otago**

17.1 University acceptance of international BMLSc

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: A Joseph

That the University of Otago acceptance of international BMLSc students document be accepted.

T Barnett spoke to the document. This is a pathway for those with an international BMLSc to gain registration with the MSC.

17.2 University of Otago update (verbal – M Legge)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: S Hemmady

That M Legge's verbal update on the University of Otago be received.

- A summer school for MLS was very well received.

- 40 second year students for 2026.
- Distance taught PGDip has 18 enrolments; and one person has graduated.
- Underfunding of BMLSc course is still an issue. A committee has been set up to evaluate the benefits of continuing with the BMLSc course.
- NZIMLS may need to have a face-to-face with TEC to understand why they think the BMLSc shouldn't receive funding. M Legge will continue to follow up on this and keep Council informed.

To action: M Legge to get funding information on available similar courses, send to TEC and ask for a meeting when in Wellington in August or at the same time as the MSC face-to-face.

18. AUT

18.1 Verbal – M Legge

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: G Alston

That the verbal update from M Legge re AUT be received.

- Similar situation as Otago as in they are short of cash.
- 40 students coming through this year.
- Have completely revised BMLSc course, introducing year-by-year.
- May consider a distance-caught PGDip in the future.

19. Professional Advisor reports

19.1 Cutup developments (verbal – M Legge)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: H Beall

That the verbal update from M Legge re cutup developments be received.

To be read in conjunction with 19.4 RCPA surgical dissection course.

M Legge gave a verbal update per the tabled document (19.4)

T Barnett requested that M Legge source a report on how the NZ participants are doing.

19.2 New South Wales Pathology (verbal – M Legge)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the verbal update from M Legge re NSW Pathology be received.

- NSW Pathology having issues with AIMS where AIMS have told them they cannot employ anyone who is not a member of AIMS. Point for noting only.

19.3 Faculty of Science RCPA Clinical Pathology Fellowship (verbal – M Legge)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: H Beall

That the verbal update from M Legge re the Faculty of Science RCPA Clinical Pathology Fellowship be received.

M Legge reported that the faculty of science RCPA have been working on a new Fellowship for the past two years. Australia has graded laboratories and by law they have to be staffed accordingly. Causes issues with rural laboratories getting staff. Therefore, working on a Clinical Pathology Fellowship covering three disciplines which will sort this issue.

19.4 RCPA Surgical dissection course

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: H Beall

That the RCPA Surgical dissection course be accepted.

Discussed as above in 19.1.

19.5 Clinical Scientists (verbal – M Legge)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: S Hemmady

That the verbal update from M Legge re Clinical Scientists be received.

In discussion with Sarah Beck (Fellow RCPA) M Legge has drafted a SOP based on the Gazetted style. A gap has been identified between medical laboratory scientists and clinical scientists. Therefore, looking into a scope for a 'specialist scientist'. Thoughts are to take this to the MSC for consideration once the SOP is complete.

- There are currently no registered Clinical Scientists in NZ

- There is no scope of practice for Clinical Scientists in NZ
- There is no CPD programme for Clinical Scientists in NZ
- By getting Clinical Scientists registered, NZIMLS could then offer a CPD programme for them
- (Some) Current Clinical Scientists hold an APC and are registered as a Medical Laboratory Scientist

19.6 Public Health Summer School (verbal – M Legge)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: S Hemmady

That the verbal update from M Legge re Public Health Summer School be received.

Reminder from M Legge that the Public Health Summer Schools are coming up again.

19.7 Pathology Assistants workforce survey

Moved: C Olsen

Seconded: A Joseph

That the Pathology Assistants workforce survey be accepted.

M Legge has developed a simple questionnaire for Council consideration. Once approved, will be sent to all labs.

- Should be targeted at ops managers/leaders
- S Tozer to format and email to members
- M Legge will disseminate the results

19.8 Professional organisation title protection

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: G Alston

That the professional organisation title protection document be accepted.

M Legge presented a document relating to title protection. Currently under the HPCA Act professions are protected i.e. the use of a title without registration is illegal and the Act defines penalties for illegal use. A Professional Occupation is based on specialised educational training, therefore Medical Laboratory Scientist and Medical Laboratory Technician can also be registered as a protected title under Professional Organisation, and the Protective Occupation title would be held by the NZIMLS. Open for discussion.

To action: M Legge to investigate further and look for other examples to see what is involved.

19.9 Clinical Scientists Scopes of Practice

Discussed in conjunction with 19.5

19.10 Higher Specialist Scientist Training – tabled (M Legge)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: H Beall

That the tabled discussion be received.

M Legge tabled this discussion re Higher Specialist Scientist Training (HSST)

M Legge will report further on this at the next meeting.

20. Research Grant

20.1 H Perry final progress report

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: H Beall

That the H Perry final progress report be accepted.

H Perry is considering publishing in an international journal, but if not accepted the research will be published in the NZJMLS. If accepted by an international journal, then may be an option to provide a scientific letter for the NZJMLS.

To action: T Barnett to write to H Perry thanking her for the report.

21. Correspondence

21.1 Nil

22. General Business

22.1 Lab exchanges (Verbal – G Alston)

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: L Pringle

That the verbal discussion regarding lab exchanges be received.

Per the Region 4 report. G Alston has been approached by a staff member for an 'exchange' to another lab, and asked if NZIMLS can offer any financial support. Whilst a good idea, this is not something that the NZIMLS could support financially.

22.2 Awanui commercial

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: K Birrell

That the Awanui commercial be accepted.

Article in the Press advertising 'Body IQ' where Awanui offer panels of tests without the requirement of seeing a GP first. This is the commercial side of Awanui's operations and not NZIMLS business.

22.3 R Hewett retirement

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: S Hemmady

That S Hemmady's email re Ross Hewett's retirement be accepted.

Ross Hewett is a Life Member of NZIMLS and ex-President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer. LabPlus is having a small ceremony upon his retirement. S Hemmady will say a few words on behalf of NZIMLS

To action: T Barnett to write something for S Hemmady. S Tozer to organise a small native tree as a gift.

22.4 Strategic priorities Update

Moved: T Barnett

Seconded: H Beall

That S Tozer's update on Strategic Priorities be received.

S Tozer to circulate M Legge's update to the document prepared by H Beall and M Adriaansen. Council to approve via email prior to the AGM.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.25pm

Next Meeting: 17-18 August 2026, Wellington

AGM: 20 August 2026, Wellington