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## CDNM Welcomes Appointments to Interim ATEC

The Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery (Australia and New Zealand [CDNM]) welcomes the appointment of Professor Barney Glover AO as acting Chief Commissioner, alongside Professor Tom Calma AO and the Hon Fiona Nash, to the interim Australian Tertiary Education Commission (ATEC).

The interim ATEC has a critical role in advising government and advancing reforms from the Australian Universities Accord. Its work is intended to strengthen system coordination and improve alignment between tertiary education and Australia's future workforce needs.

The Commissioners offer extensive experience across education, health, and public policy. Professor Glover brings significant tertiary sector leadership to his new role as a former Vice-Chancellor of several Australian universities and current Commissioner of Jobs and Skills Australia. Professor Calma, appointed as acting First Nations Commissioner, is a former University Chancellor and has a distinguished record in advancing Indigenous equity, education and health. The Hon Fiona Nash, the Regional Education Commissioner, contributes expertise in education, workforce and health policy. She participated in the Australian Universities Accord Panel, was the former Federal Minister for Regional Development, Regional Communications and Local Government, as well as Minister for Rural Health.

"These appointments strengthen the interim ATEC's capacity to guide reforms for a resilient higher education system that can equitably build the workforce, knowledge and skills Australia needs," said Professor Brendan McCormack, Chair, CDNM. "Our nursing and midwifery workforce needs are already well known. A well-designed tertiary education system is essential to sustaining the nursing and midwifery education required to meet these needs."

CDNM looks forward to engaging with the interim ATEC as it undertakes its advisory role and supports the next phase of tertiary education reform. We also acknowledge Professor Mary O'Kane AC and Distinguished Professor Larissa Behrendt AO, whose terms concluded at the end of 2025, and thank them for their significant contribution to establishing the interim ATEC.

### About the CDNM

The Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery (Australia & New Zealand) (CDNM) is the peak organisation representing universities and other higher education institutions that offer undergraduate and postgraduate programs in nursing and midwifery throughout Australia and New Zealand.

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