

President Speaking Points

ACEM Hui Auckland 8 March 2018

Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa

Ko Dr Simon Judkins ahau.

Thank you for your warm welcome – it is great to be here as the College embarks on this important journey in Aotearoa New Zealand.

As the President of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine, I am humbled to be here to listen to some of the conversations that will be had today and I am glad to be here to share it with you.

I acknowledge the many people who have been involved in preparing this hui, and I thank our speakers, workshop facilitators and all of you who have come to contribute today.

We all have a shared goal, to improve health outcomes for Maori, to increase cultural safety in our Emergency Departments and to increase the number of Māori working in our Emergency Departments.

Today is about how we can work together to achieve that goal.

ACEM has an important role to play in addressing inequity in health outcomes in our community.

As the peak body for emergency medicine in New Zealand and Australia we have an enduring commitment to better patient outcomes for every community our members work in.

And as part of that commitment, we know we must show leadership to work in partnership to drive the changes necessary to achieve better health outcomes for our communities.

I am pleased our College is taking affirmative steps towards reconciliation in Australia and we have made an enduring commitment to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters in the development of our first Reconciliation Action Plan launched last year.

I recognize how fundamentally different New Zealand is to Australia, which is why it is critical the College invests time, energy and resources to the long term outcomes we are discussing today to effect real change to our communities.

I commend the commitment of our members, trainees, Nurses and ACEM staff who have worked together collaboratively on this hui.

I am excited by what we can achieve together, I'm looking forward to an inspiring day and I look forward to working alongside you to develop strategies that will effect real change here in Aotearoa.

Ends.