



The National Industry Advisory Group for Veterinary Nursing

Statement of Purpose

To be the peak Industry Advisory Body for Veterinary Nursing.

To ensure the highest standards of veterinary nursing are developed and met.

1. To accurately represent the emerging profession of veterinary nursing:
 - by seeking and responding to industry feedback.
 - by being a communication link between educators, industry, government, employers and other relevant bodies.
2. To achieve, promote and maintain high standards of veterinary nursing training by:
 - monitoring current educational delivery and assessment.
 - promoting a consistent standard of delivery & assessment of training.
 - promoting continuous improvement of standards of training and assessment
 - validating and assisting in moderation of assessment by Registered Training Organisations (RTOs).
 - providing independent industry verification.
 - overseeing reviews, growth and implementation of the Animal Care and Management Training Package (ACMTP).
 - seeking and responding to feedback regarding delivery and assessment of veterinary nurse qualifications.
 - promoting the Certificate IV in veterinary nursing as the recognised Australian qualification to work as a veterinary nurse within veterinary practice.
 - promoting the benefits to industry of a qualified veterinary nurse.
 - promoting the additional benefits to the industry of registered veterinary nurses and technicians.
3. To ensure resources are allocated to the emerging profession of veterinary nursing by:
 - communicating with government bodies.
4. To remain relevant and current:
 - by addressing emerging issues which may include registration, degree qualifications, government regulation, emerging health and wellbeing issues, workplace health and safety (WHS), biosecurity, and sustainability (environmental and the profession).
5. To benefit the emerging profession of veterinary nursing as a whole by:
 - strengthening the positive relationship between the National Industry Advisory Group (NIAG) and the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) and the Veterinary Nurses Council of Australia (VNCA) by facilitating and encouraging effective communication.
 - strengthening the positive relationship between industry and NIAG.
 - strengthening the relationship between the NIAG and the RTOs.
 - strengthening the relationship between the NIAG and allied industry bodies promoting veterinary nursing as a career and emerging profession.



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6. To give recognition to excellence in veterinary nursing by:
- further developing the Accredited Veterinary Nursing Scheme.
 - actively promoting National Mandatory Registration.

STRUCTURE of the National Industry Advisory Committee

Four (4) veterinary nurses/technicians (One (1) VNCA Board member, one (1) VNCA Divisional committee member, two (2) x VNCA members)	Voting
Four (4) Veterinarians (One (1) ASAV member, one (1) 1 AVA Board member, two (2) AVA members)	Voting
One (1) Educational representative ideally RTO (representing all RTOs)	Non-Voting
Other invited parties	Non-Voting

MODUS OPERANDI

- the chairperson will be either an AVA or VNCA representative appointed by NIAG and nominated for a two (2) x three (3) year maximum periods to be reviewed at the first meeting of the year.
- the chairperson will alternate between the VNCA and the AVA.
- the secretary will be responsible for:
 - issuing notices of meetings to reach members at least seven (7) days before a meeting.
 - for the preparation of agendas from items received at least days eight (8) days before a meeting.
 - noting any actions agreed on during the meeting and distributing this list to members not more than two (2) weeks after the meeting.
 - recording the minutes of the meeting and noting action statements –the minutes will be sent to members not more than 14 days after the meeting.
 - sending the meeting summary to the VNCA & AVA, RTO, and relevant Industry Advisory Group (IAG) representatives for distribution to respective groups.
- members of the NIAG will communicate issues and outcomes from the meetings to their respective groups.
- members of the NIAG will communicate issues and outcomes from their respective groups to the NIAG.
- the Terms of Reference (TOR), including the composition of the NIAG, will be reviewed on an annual basis.
- the maximum terms for members of the NIAG will be two (2) x three (3) year terms.
- being an advisory committee, the decisions will be reached by consensus.
- meetings will be held a minimum four (4) times per year (with a minimum of one (1) face to face, and three (3) via teleconference).
- the time, date and venue of meetings will be decided on by the NIAG.
- all reports to be presented should be emailed to the secretary at least three (3) days prior to the meeting.
- the RTO representative should produce statistics and information about RTO delivery once a year in an annual report (first meeting of the year).
- the RTO representative is responsible for facilitating communication from NIAG to all RTOs and reporting on RTO related issues and outcomes to NIAG.
- the RTO representative will be nominated by their RTO and approved by the NIAG.
- an expression of interest for the position of the RTO representative will be disseminated by the VNCA, AVA and the current RTO representatives and the applicant approved by the NIAG.