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National Rural Health Student Network

The National Rural Health Student Network (NRHSN) represents the future of rural health in Australia. It has more than 12,000 members who belong to 29 university Rural Health Clubs from all states and territories.

It is Australia's only multidisciplinary student health network, bringing together people studying medicine, nursing and allied health, encouraging them to pursue rural health careers.

The NRHSN aims to:

- provide a voice for students who are interested in improving health outcomes for rural and remote Australians; and
- promote rural health careers to students and encourage students who are interested in practising in rural health care

The NRHSN and its Rural Health Clubs offer rural experience weekends, career information sessions and professional development activities as well as providing a social base for students at university and when on rural placement.

The student network leaders also advocate on behalf of health students of all disciplines - including opportunities for more rural placements and training support.

Rural Workforce Agencies

The NRHSN is an initiative of the Australian Government Department of Health administered as a consortium by the Rural Workforce Agencies. The NSW Rural Doctors Network is the RWA managing the NRHSN on behalf of the Consortium.

Each Australian State and the Northern Territory is served by a government-designated RWA that works to improve access to high-quality healthcare for people in remote, regional and rural Australia. RWAs do this through a range of programs, services and initiatives that attract, recruit, retain and support GPs, nurses and allied health professionals in rural and remote communities.

Contact us

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ARMS Australian National University, ACT
 AURHA Adelaide University, SA
 BREAATHHE University of Newcastle, NSW Bond University, QLD

5. CARAH Charles Darwin University, NT in assoc with

Flinders University, SA

6. CRANC University of Canberra, ACT
7. FURHS Flinders University, SA
8. HOPE4HEAUTH Griffith University, QLD
9. KRASH Notre Dame University, Broome, WA

10. LARHC La Trobe University, Bendigo, VIC 11. MIRAGE University of Sydney, NSW 12. MURHC Macquarie University, NSW 13. NERCHA University of New England, NSW 14. NOMAD Deakin University, VIC 15. OUTLOOK University of Melbourne, VIC 16. RAHMS University of New South Wales, NSW 17. RHINO James Cook University, QLD

18. Rh+ Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, NSW

 19. RHUWS
 Western Sydney University, NSW

 20. ROUNDS
 Notre Dame University, Sydney, NSW

 21. ROUSTAH
 University of South Australia, SA

 22. RUSTICA
 University of Tasmania, TAS

 23. SHARP
 University of Wollongong, NSW

24. SPINRPHEX Combined Universities of Western Australia, WA
25. StARRH Charles Darwin University, NT including Flinders

University, NT

26.TROHPIQ University of Queensland, QLD

27. WAALHIIBE Combined Universities of Western Australia, WA

28. WILDFIRE Monash University, VIC



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1 Election Process

1.1 Key Dates

Timeline	ltem
September	Internal election process
25 September	Applications open
11 October	Applications close
14 October	Voting open
18 October	Voting close
21 October	New executive announced (during this week)
TBC - Nov/Dec	Handover Weekend (travel expenses covered)

1.2 Internal Election Process

As per the NRHSN Member Manual, the 2024 NRHSN Executive Committee members have confirmed:

- ▶ Their intention to fulfil a 2nd term in the Executive Committee in 2025
- ▶ The position in which they intend to fulfil a 2nd term in the Executive Committee in 2025

If two people elected to move into the same role for their second term, an internal election is called (the current Executive Committee members vote and the candidate with the majority of votes is successful).

From this process, the following 2024 NRHSN Executive Committee members have elected to fulfil a second term in the following positions in the 2025 NRHSN Executive Committee:

- ▶ Co-Chair Edward Price
- ▶ Co-Chair Conor McEvoy
- Vice Chair Internals Gina Hamade

1.3 Positions Open for External Applications

The following positions are now available for application for the 2025 NRHSN Executive Committee:

- ▶ Vice Chair Operations
- Vice Chair First Nations
- National Events Liaison Officer
- National Rural Health Club Co-ordinator
- Rural Outreach and Engagement Officer
- Allied Health Officer
- Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine Officer
- Medical Officer
- Media and Communications Officer



1.4 Application

Written applications are to be completed in the Application Form by the closing date at **5pm AEST on 11th October 2025.**

All positions on the Executive Committee are applied for as an individual.

Candidates can apply for more than one position on the Executive Committee but can only be elected into one position.

Written applications must include:

- ► An introduction to the nominee (no more than 300 words)
- A CV (no more than 500 words)
- ▶ Response to the key selection criteria (include the criteria required for all roles + additional specific criteria) in the position descriptions via a YouTube video (instructions below)

To apply, please follow the following links for the relevant positions:

Vice Chair Operations: https://forms.gle/9n2DHMVNaAo9JURx7

Vice Chair First Nations: https://forms.gle/VgkdbxYyo6L5hGqy5

National Events Liaison Officer: https://forms.gle/WhZJHeyxkKShEqk16

National Rural Health Club Co-ordinator: https://forms.gle/DY88x7n3nvXreAKq8

Rural Outreach and Engagement Officer: https://forms.gle/KbP7XRAVit8Xh8jV9

Allied Health Officer: https://forms.gle/nypq6sRZ5BDZdq3h6

Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine Officer: https://forms.gle/soxLuCuZSLNE51cv5

Medical Officer: https://forms.gle/c6ioqec4oyoJ8bqY9

Media and Communications Officer: https://forms.gle/aNXdpqn2wSLmaF6x7

Video application instructions:

- 1. Carefully read the Position Description (detailed below) relevant to the respective role.
- 2. Create a 2 3 minute video (in MP4 format) detailing:
 - a. Your name
 - b. Your year, degree and university of study (e.g. 3rd year Medicine, JCU)
 - c. Current role within RHC or NRHSN (e.g. Co-Chair of Club RHINO)
 - d. The executive committee position you are nominating yourself for (e.g. Community and Advocacy Officer)
 - e. Relevant experience, skills and knowledge that relate to the **key selection criteria** for your specific position
- 3. Upload your video as an unlisted video on YouTube (see instructions below regarding how to do so)



Creating an Unlisted Video on YouTube

- 1. Log in to YouTube (N.B If you do not have a YouTube account, you will be required to create one for free)
- 2. At the top of the page, click the
- 3. Select Upload Video
- 4. Select the video to be uploaded as "unlisted"
- 5. Click and select the video you would like to upload
- 6. While the video is uploading, please edit the name and description of the video (2023 NRHSN Election Nomination "Position Applied For")
- 7. Copy the URL and include in the application form

1.5 Voting

Voting will be in accordance with the NRHSN Member Manual.

1.6 Handover

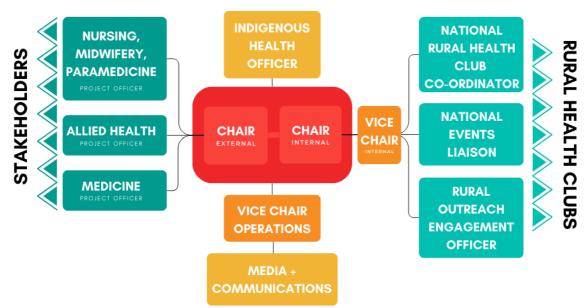
The individuals elected will formally take on their roles at the Executive Committee Handover meeting in November/December 2025, date to be confirmed in discussion with incoming team.

From the time when successful nominees are formally announced, they will be involved in the NRHSN as an observer (i.e. copied into emails and attending teleconferences) until the formal Executive Committee Handover meeting. The previous Executive members will provide an advisory role to the incoming Executive until a date agreed to by all parties.

For any questions regarding the positions, please contact the 2024 Vice Chair Operations, Heidi Annand at



1.7 Organisational Structure



NRHSN Council consists of:

- ▶ 29 RHC Representatives (Club Presidents)
- NRHSN Executive Committee, which is made up of:
 - o 2x Co-Chair
 - Vice Chair Internal
 - Vice Chair Operations
 - Vice Chair First Nations
 - National Events Liaison Officer
 - National Rural Health Club Co-ordinator
 - Rural Outreach and Engagement Officer
 - o Allied Health Officer
 - o Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine Officer
 - Medical Officer
 - o Media and Communications Officer
 - NRHSN Executive Officer (representative of Rural Doctor's Network, administrator role)

The role of the Executive Committee is to work together to lead and support the Council and RHCs to achieve the NRHSN's aims and priorities, as agreed between the NRHSN and its administrator, the Consortium of RWAs.

Executive Committee members are responsible for being the main contact for their allocated Rural Health Clubs and stakeholders to ensure a consistent point of contact.

Council members:

- Attend all Face to Face meetings (normally two) held annually;
- Participate in teleconferences involving the Clubs in their region or relevant portfolio;
- Ensure they discuss voting and election decisions with the Executive of their Club;
- ▶ Vote on behalf of their Club with the Club's decision which may not necessarily be their own personal opinion;
- Ensure reports are submitted on behalf of their Club to NRHSN by due dates; and
- ▶ Disperse relevant information from the NRHSN to their Club members or Working Group members and maintain strong communication between their Club or Working Group and the NRHSN.



The NRHSN Executive Committee follows the below terms:

- Positions are held for a 2-year period;
- Applicants can choose to hold the same position for two years or elect to move roles in the second year
 - o It is recommended that the Chair role is only held for one year.
 - If two people elect to move into the same role in their second year, an internal election can be called (the current Executive Committee members vote and the candidate with the majority of votes is successful). This occurs before vacated roles are opened for applications by all NRHSN members;
- Rolling structure only half of the Committee is up for re-election each year;
- All positions on the Executive Committee are to be applied for as an individual;
- Candidates can apply for more than one position on the Executive Committee, but can only be elected into one position;
- ▶ It is essential applicants have had previous experience in a senior RHC executive/committee role;
- ▶ It is advised that NRHSN Executive Committee members do not hold a RHC Executive position at the same time to ensure either role can be fulfilled appropriately, due to the high level of commitment required alongside university requirements;
- ▶ In any term, there is preference that the Chair, and Vice Chairs Internal, External and Operations represent at least two disciplines and three universities (and preferably from at least two different States/Territories);
- In any term, the Executive Committee should represent allied health, nursing and/or midwifery and medicine; and
- Applicants will be voted on per Executive Committee role. The applicant that receives the most votes for an Executive Committee role will be successfully elected into that role.

1.8 Annual Business Plan

The NRHSN annual Business Plan is developed prior to the commencement of each year by the Executive Committee in consultation with the Consortium of RWAs.

The Business Plan determines the NRHSN priorities for the year and the activities required to achieve these. Noted here are the 2024 priorities from this document.





2 Position Descriptions

The proceeding pages include information about each of the positions currently encompassing the NRHSN executive committee.

These positions include:

1. Core executive committee

- a. Co-Chair
- b. Co-Chair
- c. Vice Chair Internal
- d. Vice Chair First Nations
- e. Vice Chair Operations

2. Project officers

- a. National Events Liaison Officer
- b. National Rural Health Club Co-ordinator
- Rural Outreach and Engagement Officer
- d. Allied Health Officer
- e. Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine Officer
- f. Medical Officer
- Media and Communications Officer

Responsibilities of the Roles

- Provide national leadership and support to the NRHSN Executive Committee, Council and RHCs to achieve the NRHSN's aims and priorities, as developed and agreed between the NRHSN and its administrator, the Consortium of Rural RWAs (as per the annual NRHSN Business Plan process).
- Ensure NRHSN member views are represented appropriately and professionally.
- Ensure NRHSN member views are sought and feed into NRHSN documentation and communication e.g. Member surveys, position papers/statements developed and approved.
- Ensure appropriate and agreed review processes are followed for NRHSN reports, submissions, policies, meeting attendance and general representation on behalf of the NRHSN (refer to NRHSN Expectations and Communications Principles).
- Produce and publish the NRHSN e-Newsletter by curating and collating unique rural and RHC content for newsletter to be published quarterly. To also collaborate with stakeholders for news and relevant information for publication.
- Gain sponsorship for Councils by working with external and internal vice chairs and secretary to organise stakeholder attendance at Council Meetings.
- Assist to maintain website content to be current and up to date and assist RHCs using the NRHSN website.
- Represent the view of the Network and not your individual viewpoint in forums as required e.g. media interviews, stakeholder meetings, conference abstracts and presentations.
- Attend and participate in NRHSN Executive Committee, Council and regional RHC Meetings (face-to-face and teleconference) as per the annual Business Plan.
- Attend, participate in and report back on stakeholder meetings, teleconferences, conference and events as per the NRHSN Business Plan.
- Maintain regular contact and liaison with RHCs.
- Chair Working Groups, as required.
- Report back to Executive Committee on stakeholder activities/engagement, RHC activities etc.
- Ensure annual NRHSN Business Plan priorities are progressing and reported on.



Key selection criteria for all roles:

- → **Leadership and teamwork experience:** demonstrated passion for, and experience in the field of, student leadership.
- → NRHSN experience and understanding: demonstrated awareness of the NRHSN's structure, resources, publications / position papers and values, developed through prior experience and exposure to the NRHSN, either through executive committee or RHC involvement
- → **Professionalism:** demonstrated ability to carry oneself in a professional manner, particularly in relation to time management, communication and organization. Includes demonstrated previous experience in ensuring timelines for tasks are met for yourself and for others and access to email, phone and internet for communication throughout the term
- → **Rural health interest:** demonstrated interest in rural and remote health, including and understanding of the multi-disciplinary approach to rural and remote health
- → **Availability** for travel to attend RHC, stakeholders and NRHSN events and meetings throughout the term.
- → Demonstrated previous experience in presenting at conferences, meeting with stakeholders, media interviews.
- → Demonstrated previous experience in representing a representative bodies views and not personal views.

Vice Chair Operations

Desire and	Mary Charles Organization	
Position Title	Vice Chair Operations	
Reports To	Co-Chairs	
Direct Reports	 Media and Communication Officer 	
Role Description	1. Support the Chairs in the leadership and support of the NRHSN	
	Executive Committee, Council and RHCs	
	2. Provide administration and secretarial support for the entire	
	NRHSN executive committee.	
	3. Oversee the management of the website, database and	
	communication outputs.	
	4. Assist in the delivery of Councils and online events.	
Estimated Time	2-4 hours	
Commitment (per week))	
Responsibilities	 Provide national leadership and support to the NRHSN Executive Committee, Council and RHCs to achieve the NRHSN's aims and priorities, as developed agreed between the NRHSN and its administrator, the Consortium of RWAs (as per the annual NRHSN Business Plan process). Ensure NRHSN member views are represented appropriately and professionally. Ensure NRHSN member views are sought and feed into NRHSN documentation and communication e.g. Member surveys, position papers/statements developed and approved. Ensure appropriate and agreed review processes are followed for NRHSN reports, submissions, policies, meeting attendance and general representation on behalf of the NRHSN (refer to NRHSN Expectations and Communications Principles). 	



	 Contribute to NRHSN publications and communications e.g. NRHSN e-Newsletter update Represent the view of the Network (and not individual viewpoints) in forums as required e.g. media interviews, stakeholder meetings, conference abstracts and presentations. Attend and minute NRHSN Executive Committee, Council and regional RHC Meetings (face-to-face and teleconference) as per the annual Business Plan. Attend, participate in and report back on stakeholder meetings, teleconferences, conference and events as per the NRHSN Business Plan. Maintain regular contact and liaison with RHCs. Chair Working Groups, as required. 11 NRHSN Executive Committee 2022 September 2021 Report back to Executive Committee on stakeholder activities/engagement, RHCs etc. Ensure annual NRHSN Business Plan priorities are progressing and reported on. NRHSN Council voting administration i.e. communication and collation. Administer Executive Committee and Council meetings i.e. determine availabilities, draft agenda, circulate agenda and relevant documents prior to meetings, book NRHSN teleconferences facilities with RWA staff and circulate details to teleconference participants, take minutes and action items at meetings and distribute to attendees and other relevant NRHSN members or RWA staff.
Additional Selection	
Criteria	 → Organisation administration experience: demonstrated experience in secretarial or similar roles. Experience with Office 365 and minuting. → Event management: demonstrated experience in event planning and execution. → Website and communication expertise: experience in or an ability to learn about website and database management as well as electronic direct mail marketing. → Club understanding: demonstrated understanding of the requirements and issues that RHCs face on a daily basis as well as ability to interact with the administrators as required.

Vice Chair First Nations

Position Title	Vice Chair First Nations
Reports To	Co-Chairs



Role Description	2-3 hours
Responsibilities	 Teamwork Lead and support the NRHSN Executive committee, national council and RHCs Attend and participate in monthly NRHSN executive committee meetings, tri-annual council meetings and ad-hoc RHC meetings, as per the annual Business Plan Initiate and lead Working Groups and sub-committees as required and requested (e.g. RHC Indigenous Officer sub-committee) Initiate meetings with their relevant core executive committee leader at appropriate intervals throughout the year
	 Advocacy and engagement Responsible for completing 1 high quality project that contributes to the NRHSN's body of work and is focused on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health This representative will act as the main liaison between ALL relevant stakeholders such as AIDA and NACCHO It is also expected that the representative be available to attend at least one conference on behalf of the NRHSN that focuses on indigenous health
Key Selection Criteria	 Demonstrated experience working in this domain Preferred: student identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

External Project Officers

Position Title	Allied Health Officer Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine Officer Medical Officer
Reports To	Co-Chair (External)
Role Description	- The Allied Health Officer is the main representative on the NRHSN for allied health students across Australia. They will act as the main liaison between the NRHSN and key external stake holders such as Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH).



	 Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine Officer The Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine Officer is the main representative on the NRHSN for these students across Australia. They will act as the main liaison between the NRHSN and key external stake holders such as the Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association (APNA), Australasian College of Paramedics (ACP) and other organisations Medical Officer The Medical Officer is the main representative on the NRHSN for medical students across Australia. They will act as the main liaison between the NRHSN and key external stake holders such as the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine (ACCRM).
Estimated Time	2 – 3 hours
Commitment (per week)	
B	
Responsibilities	The role of the External Officers can be summarized into three key areas:
	aleas.
	1. Teamwork
	Lead and support the NRHSN Executive committee, national
	council and RHCs
	 Attend and participate in monthly NRHSN executive committee meetings, bi-annual council meetings and ad-hoc RHC meetings,
	as per the annual Business Plan
	 Initiate and lead Working Groups and sub-committees as required and requested
	Initiate meetings with their relevant core executive committee
	leader at appropriate intervals throughout the year
	2. Research, innovation and project development
	 Contribute to the NRHSN's ongoing body of student research
	and project development, in the field of rural medicine
	 Contribute to the NRHSN's body of publications and policy papers
	Responsible for at least 1 high quality project that contributes to
	the NRHSN's body of work and is expected to represent the
	NRHSN at least 1 rural medical conference during their term.
	3. Representation and advocacy
	Engage with relevant stakeholders at regular and appropriate
	intervals



	 Ensure that member views are represented adequately and appropriately; represent the views of the network (not individual views) through appropriate forums Attend, participate in and report back on stakeholder meetings, teleconference meetings, workshops, conferences and events, as per the annual Business Plan Contribute to NRHSN publications as necessary These positions are highly dependent on maintaining preexisting stakeholder relationships along with forging new relationships with stakeholders who are not currently informed on NRHSN activities. As such, this requires the applicant to be very self motivated in seeking potential opportunities for engagement through online communications, networking and utilising pre-existing relationships.
Additional Selection Criteria	 → Representation and stakeholder engagement: previous experience in public speaking, stakeholder communication (written and verbal) and various media engagement → Demonstrated expertise in the domain of role.

Internal Project Officers

Position Title	National Events Liaison Officer
	National Rural Health Club Co-ordinator
	Rural Outreach and Engagement Officer
Reports To	Vice Chair Internal
Role Description	National Events Liaison Officer
	 can be simply thought of as an events consultant for the RHCs. There are many problems that are common to RHCs when it comes to running events. The purpose of this role is to help provide an effective solution to these problems. A candidate suitable for this role would be someone who has a comprehensive understanding of how to run an event or has previously run events for their own RHC. National Rural Health Club Co-ordinator can be thought of as a parent of the RHCs. The focus will be on supporting the day-day running of the clubs. If a problem arises in a RHC this person can either provide support or refer the club onto the appropriate person e.g. VCI or further liaise with the administrator. Rural Outreach and Engagement Officer
	- can be thought of as a "Rural High School Visits Consultant". This
	position's purpose is to support our RHCs in running their rural
	high school visits. Additionally provide input into the rural



	outreach strategy for the NRHSN which will form the basis of many advocacy ideas. - NB: The NRHSN is looking for ways to collect data and innovate in the space of RHSVs, if you have ideas on how to do this – please include it in your application!
Estimated Time Commitment (per week)	4 – 6 hours
Additional Selection Criteria	 → Club understanding: demonstrated understanding of the requirements and issues that RHCs face on a daily basis as well as ability to interact with the administrators as required. → Demonstrated experience in the relevant domain.

Media and Communication Officer

Position Title	Media and Communication Officer
Reports To	VC Operations
Role Description	The role of the Social Media Officer is to uphold the NRHSN online image via various social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn. The officer should also support the work of the NRHSN core executive committee to lead and support the NRHSN Executive Committee, Council and RHCs to achieve the NRHSN's aims and priorities, as agreed by the NRHSN and its administrator, the Consortium of RWAs. The officer should also contribute to the support and mentorship of the RHCs.
Estimated Time Commitments (per week)	2-3 hours
Responsibilities	The role of the Social Media Officer can be summarised into three key areas:
	 Teamwork Lead and support the NRHSN Executive committee, national council and RHCs Attend and participate in monthly NRHSN executive committee meetings, tri-annual council meetings and ad-hoc RHC meetings, as per the annual Business Plan Initiate and lead Working Groups and sub-committees as required and requested



	 Initiate meetings with their relevant core executive committee leader at appropriate intervals throughout the year
	 Online presence Take responsibility for managing the NRHSN's social media profiles, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn Appropriately advertise and promote events, experiences and opportunities of the NRHSN, RHCs and external stakeholders Ensure that all social media posts align with the values of the NRHSN Assist in management of the website and dissemination of communication via emails and website.
	 Advocacy and Engagement Engage with relevant stakeholders at regular and appropriate intervals
	 Engage with external stakeholders in a way that encourages a two-way communication
	 Attend, participate in and report back on stakeholder meetings, teleconference meetings, workshops, conferences and events, as per the annual Business Plan
	Contribute to NRHSN publications as necessary
Key Selection Criteria	→ Social media experience: demonstrated understanding of how to operate various social media platforms, including Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn
	→ Canva experience: required to create the social media tiles using Canva.
	→ Leadership and teamwork experience: demonstrated passion for and experience in the field of student leadership
	→ NRHSN experience and understanding: demonstrated awareness of the NRHSN's structure, resources, publications / position papers and values, developed through prior experience and exposure to the NRHSN, either through executive committee or RHC involvement
	 Professionalism: demonstrated ability to carry oneself in a professional manner, particularly in relation to time
	management, communication and organization → Rural health interest: demonstrated interest in rural and remote health, including and understanding of the multi-disciplinary approach to rural and remote health
	approach to rural and remote health



3 Contacts

Applicants are encouraged to contact outgoing position holders for more information. Find their contacts below:

Name	Role	Email Address
Pippa Kensit	Co-chair	chair@nrhsn.org.au
Heidi Annand	Vice Chair Operations	vcoperations@nrhsn.org.au
Andrew Dosseter	Vice Chair Internal	vcinternal@nrhsn.org.au
Emily Thomson	Vice Chair First Nations	vcfirstnations@nrhsn.org.au
Gina Hamade	National Events Liaison Officer	nelo@nrhsn.org.au
Conor Mcevoy	National Rural Health Club Coordinator	nrhcc@nrhsn.org.au
Jack Howard	Rural Outreach and Engagement Officer	outreach@nrhsn.org.au
Edward Price	Allied Health Officer	allied@nrhsn.org.au
Cameron Powers	Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine Officer	nursing@nrhsn.org.au
Laura Dunlop	Medical Officer	medical@nrhsn.org.au
Nathan Brown	Media and Communications Officer	socialmedia@nrhsn.org.au

