



Media release

Wairarapa Health Consumer Council Chair appointed

Well known community identity and businesswoman Mena Antonio has been appointed as the first Wairarapa Health Consumer Council Chair, and will start the role immediately.

“Mena brings with her the experience of working with a great cross-section of our community through a raft of voluntary, elected and appointed community roles, including as a Director and Chair,” says Wairarapa DHB Chief Executive, Adri Isbister.

“She has a long history of community service with the philanthropic, creative, social and education sectors, and a real focus on equity of outcomes for Wairarapa people.”

The Consumer Council is designed to enhance consumer experience and service integration across the health sector, promote equity, and ensure that services are organised around the needs of people. The Council will provide a strong consumer voice and advise the DHB and PHO Board and management.

“My motivation is ensuring there is a match between what organisations say and what they do, in the context of our community,” says Mena. “The Council provides a great opportunity for the DHB to work with the community – really listen to what consumers are saying – and really walk the talk of patient-centered services.”

“We have been delighted at the interest the community has taken in the establishment of a Consumer Council,” says Adri. “Mena has hit the ground running, and has already started working with community groups to find nominees for Council roles. We will take the time necessary to ensure we find the right mix of people, and support the Council to carry out this important role.”

Ends

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Attached: Consumer Council Terms of Reference.