

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Health Professions Boards (Procedures) Act 1981

Nurses Act 1988

**APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON AND ONE MEMBER
TO THE NURSES BOARD OF THE A.C.T.
INSTRUMENT NO. 51 & NO. 52 OF 1997
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

The *Nurses Act 1988* (the Act) provides for the registration and enrolment of nurses, the supervision of nursing education and standards, and for related purposes

Section 6 of the Act establishes the Board. Section 7 of the Act provides for the constitution of the Board. Paragraph 7(1)(a) of the *Nurses Act 1988* (the Act) requires that the chairperson and 4 other members of whom not more than 2 may be enrolled nurses, be appointed in accordance with the *Health Professions Boards (Procedures) Act 1981*

Appointments of chairperson and four members to the Board were made by the Minister on 26 June 1996. The terms of appointment were for a period of three years commencing 28 June 1996 to and including 27 June 1999

A vacancy occurred on the Board as a result of the resignation of the chairperson on 28 October 1996

Letters were sent on 15 November 1996 to all persons who lodged expressions of interest in appointment earlier this year and who were not successful in order to determine their continued interest in serving on the Board. The closing date for responses was 29 November 1996. All applicants had previously signed a Bowen letter stating no conflict of interest. Seven responses were received in the affirmative by that date.

Mrs Meg Skegg is an appointed member on the Board. She submitted an expression of interest in being appointed as chairperson and was appointed to that position. Her current professional position is that of Director of Nursing at John James Memorial Hospital. She has had previous experience as a member and chairperson on the Nurses Board of Tasmania.

Mrs Wong was appointed to the vacant position back filling Mrs Skegg's position as member. She has previously served on the Board and will provide the Board with some stability and help ensure continuity of Board business. Mrs Wong also has a considerable interest in nurse education and midwifery issues. She is an active member of the College of Midwives and also provides a multicultural aspect to the Board's deliberations.

Appointments to the Board are for the period commencing 31 March 1997 to and including 27 June 1999.

In accordance with the *Statutory Appointments Act 1994*, the nominations were referred to the Standing Committee on Social Policy for its consideration.