



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 7 May 2013

'Opposition Minister for Health steps into nurses' shoes today'

The Opposition Minister for Health, the Hon Rob Lucas has the opportunity to step in to the shoes of nurses today at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

SA Health Minister Jack Snelling and Opposition Health Minister Rob Lucas have agreed to participate in work shadowing events organised by the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (SA Branch).

Minister Lucas will visit the Oncology Day Centre and tour Ward South 1, General Medicine and Sub Specialities at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital. ANMF (SA Branch) CEO/Secretary, Adj Associate Professor Elizabeth Dabars said it's a great opportunity for politicians to experience the challenges and rewards of working as a nurse or midwife.

"They'll get a glimpse into the life of busy South Australian nurses and midwives who work tirelessly and contribute so much to our community," said Ms Dabars.

International Midwives' Day is celebrated on May 5, and International Nurses' Day on May 12 each year.

Ms Dabars said it's essential that the professions continue to attract and retain quality people so they can continue to provide exceptional service.

"Nursing and midwifery are rewarding professions and attractive careers for people who are skilled in science and technology, are pro-active in dealing with complex scenarios, have exceptional people skills and a desire to help others.

"International Midwives' and Nurses' Days celebrations recognise the expertise and services provided by midwives and nurses. Their unique skills are used in metropolitan and rural settings in areas including accident and emergency, aged care and mental health. Midwives take expert care of mothers and their babies before, during and after birth.

"Nurses and midwives deliver high quality patient care. The profession can only maintain such standards with adequate structures and systems that ensure staffing levels, skills mix and other essentials to positive patient care are met and enhanced."

Media are invited to accompany Minister Lucas and Adj Assoc Professor Elizabeth Dabars at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital

WHERE: The Queen Elizabeth Hospital – meeting at the Hospital Main Entrance

WHEN: Tuesday May 7 at 10 am

For all enquiries, please contact Elizabeth Dabars, CEO/Secretary, ANMF (SA Branch).