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New CE brings sector knowledge and experience to NZRGPN

Former Cancer Society head Dalton Kelly is the New Zealand Rural General Practice Network's new Chief Executive Officer.

The appointment was made by the Network Board in November. "We were lucky enough to have a field of significantly impressive candidates at interview and we are delighted to have Dalton join our team," says Network chairman Dr Jo Scott-Jones.

"Dalton comes with significant management and networking expertise, and we are confident the NZRGPN will continue to grow from strength to strength under his leadership."

Dalton was Chief Executive of the Cancer Society of New Zealand Inc. from September 2006 to July 31, 2014. He takes over the Network reins from co-chief executives Michelle Thompson and Linda Reynolds.

"I am delighted to be leading an organisation that has the interests of rural primary health care professionals and the health and wellbeing of rural communities as its number one priority," says Dalton.

"The Network plays a crucial role in ensuring rural primary health care professionals are well supported, resourced and funded to provide top quality care and services to rural communities New Zealand-wide.

"We want to ensure this organisation is involved in that process into the future. The Network is the face of rural health in New Zealand and we want to be involved and contribute to the health and wellbeing of rural New Zealanders who play such a large and important role in New Zealand's economy."

The New Zealand Rural General Practice Network is an Incorporated Society (with a charitable status). It is a membership-based organisation that advocates for rural general practice New Zealand-wide. It has a recruitment division that is the only Government-funded rural General Practitioner recruitment service in New Zealand.

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