ANNEXURE A – CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Statements are as provided by each candidate, with minor corrections to spelling and grammar, and are listed in alphabetical order.

Claire Boardman PSM B. App Sc. (Nursing), Grad Cert IC, MPH

I am seeking election to the CRANAplus Board to contribute experienced, values-led leadership in support of healthier, stronger and more sustainable isolated communities. As a senior health executive, registered nurse and academic, I bring a demonstrated record of leading organisational change across the public and not-for-profit sectors, translating strategic priorities into practical outcomes.

I offer sound Board knowledge and operational experience in governance, risk, finance and performance reporting, together with deep expertise in primary and public health, rural and remote health, aged care, Aboriginal health, and complex disaster and resource-constrained settings in Australia and internationally. Having lived and worked in rural and remote communities for more than 20 years, I understand both the professional realities of remote practice and the broader system conditions needed to support a capable, connected and resilient workforce.

My previous service as a CRANAplus Director from 2017 to 2020, and more than six years as President and Director of the Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control, strengthened my ability to ask constructive questions, exercise sound judgement and contribute respectfully to collective decision-making. I understand the responsibilities of directors and the importance of maintaining strategic focus, accountability and stakeholder trust.

CRANAplus' commitment to equity, integrity and improving health outcomes in isolated communities closely aligns with my own values. In my current role as Executive Manager, Workforce and Primary Care Support at NT PHN | Rural Workforce Agency NT, I remain closely engaged in workforce development and primary care sustainability across the NT. If elected, I will bring independent thinking, strong governance capability, sector knowledge and a genuine commitment to advancing CRANAplus' purpose, members and long-term impact.

Dr Danielle Rogers

As a rural and remote nurse, clinician-researcher, and educator, I bring a unique combination of frontline experience, workforce research expertise, strategic leadership, and established partnerships that can directly strengthen the work and influence of CRANAplus.

My commitment to rural and remote health extends beyond clinical practice. I recently completed a PhD focused on the education, preparation, and support needs of registered nurses entering rural and remote healthcare environments. This research has generated new evidence to inform workforce attraction, preparedness, retention, and sustainability, providing me with a strong understanding of the challenges facing both nursing professionals and rural communities.

I currently lead a $300,000 workforce development initiative funded by the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, designed to strengthen rural nursing career pathways and build sustainable

workforce pipelines into rural and remote Queensland. Through this work, I have established partnerships with health services, nursing leaders, universities, community stakeholders, and policymakers, creating opportunities for collaboration that align closely with the strategic priorities of CRANAplus.

As a current Member of the CRANAplus Roundtable, I have already contributed to discussions focused on strengthening the rural and remote nursing workforce and understand the important role the organisation plays in supporting, advocating for, and connecting rural health professionals.

I believe my greatest contribution to the Board would be my ability to bridge the clinical, academic, research, and policy sectors. I bring access to future workforce pipelines, expertise in grant-funded project delivery, strong research capability, and extensive professional networks that can support evidence-informed advocacy, strategic partnerships, and new opportunities for growth. I am passionate about ensuring CRANAplus remains the leading voice for rural and remote healthcare professionals and continues to drive meaningful workforce solutions for the communities we serve.

Naomi Zaro

I am Naomi Zaro, a Registered Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner, originally from Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, and now living and working on Jawoyn, Dagoman and Wardaman Country in Katherine, Northern Territory. I bring a deep connection to community, culture and remote health, along with a strong commitment to supporting and strengthening the remote health workforce.

I have been a Member of the CRANAplus Board since 2021 and have actively contributed to the organisation's governance, advocacy and strategic discussions. In my role as a Board Member, I represent the voices and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members, working closely with the CRANAplus First Peoples Advisor to ensure First Peoples perspectives, priorities and lived experiences are reflected at Board level.

My professional experience includes working within a Registered Training Organisation affiliated with an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation delivering primary health care services to remote communities across the Northern Territory. This has provided me with valuable insight into the opportunities and challenges faced by remote health professionals, including workforce development, culturally safe practice, education and sustainability.

My time on the CRANAplus Board has strengthened my capacity to advocate for remote health professionals and contribute a unique perspective to conversations about the future of remote and isolated health services. I value the relationships, networks and knowledge gained through CRANAplus and remain deeply committed to the organisation's purpose.

I would welcome the opportunity to continue serving as a Board Member and to contribute my skills, experience and passion to support CRANAplus and the communities it represents.