

Minister for Health visits Nillumbik Community Health Service

20 July 2010

Today, we enjoyed a visit by Minister for Health Daniel Andrews when he called into Nillumbik Community Health Service as part of Community Cabinet to listen and discuss important health issues impacting the local community.

Minister Andrews met with board members, management and staff, local partners and community members to listen and discuss the growing impact of chronic disease on the health of Australians, the health care system and the work Nillumbik Community Health Service provides our community for the prevention, support and improvement of chronic diseases.

The chronic disease collaborative (an alliance between a group of local primary care providers that make up the North East Primary Care Partnership) presented to the Minister its streamlined referral process for people with chronic conditions - a framework which simplifies the process for general practitioners and other agencies when referring people with chronic disease to community programs.

Minister Andrews acknowledged the valuable role Nillumbik Community Health Service and its local partners played in the community and to the health sector overall and said, *"working together in partnership and sharing information is the future for health services. The work that Nillumbik Community Health Service and its partners do to improving health in the community is the example of this and I thank you"*.

Minister Andrews was taken on a tour through the new expansion and redevelopment areas of Nillumbik Community Health Service stopping in at the Planned Activity Group Acquired Brain Injury Respite for Carers Group who were celebrating 'Christmas in July'. Here, he met with staff and community members to see first hand one of the programs run by the Service.