

**MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Wed 12 May 2026**

**Curtin Heritage nurses honoured for outstanding care and clinical mentorship**

*Edith Cowan University nursing students nominate Curtin Heritage nurses for dedication to resident care and commitment to developing the next generation of registered nurses.*

**PERTH, WA, 12 May 2026** — Two registered nurses at Curtin Heritage's Marine Views facility were nominated by Edith Cowan University nursing students who attended a placement at Marine Views in Semester two 2025.

Registered Nurses Leah Smith and Maridolf Redondiez, received the recognition through the University of Canberra's Clinical Placement Optimisation Program (CPOP) — a structured clinical placement initiative designed to equip nursing students with the practical skills and confidence needed for careers in aged care.

The nomination was put forward by the students themselves, acknowledging the lasting impression Leah and Maridolf made during their time on placement. The wording of the students' nomination reads:

*“They showed dedication to not only ensure residents receive above standard care that aligns with their care plan but also took the time to provide me with learning opportunities. They took the time to understand what the residents’ needs and choices are to inform their practice. Their care, dedication and leadership stood above all else. Their leadership, empowerment and professionalism allowed me to develop further especially when following shifts that were difficult.”*

— nursing student nomination

Tom McConnell, General Manager Clinical Care and Services at Curtin Heritage, said the recognition reflects the quality of nursing leadership across the organisation.

*“Leah and Maridolf are competent clinical professionals, who are well respected by their colleagues and valued by their clients. The nomination is a credit to them both – not just in recognition of excellent care but also of their willingness and ability to achieve this while investing their time and energy into developing the nurses who will follow them into this profession. That combination of clinical dedication and genuine mentorship is something they can both be very proud of. We are fortunate and we are grateful to have people like this as part of our team”*

— Tom McConnell, General Manager Clinical Care and Services, Curtin Heritage

**About the CPOP Program**

The Clinical Placement Optimisation Program (CPOP) is a University of Canberra initiative that places nursing students in aged care facilities to develop clinical competencies through supervised, real-world practice. The program is designed to strengthen the aged care workforce pipeline by connecting students with experienced practitioners in quality care environments.

**About Curtin Heritage Living**

**Curtin Heritage** [www.curtinheritage.com.au](http://www.curtinheritage.com.au)

Curtin Heritage, a leading provider of aged care and retirement living solutions in Western Australia, is dedicated to creating environments that foster meaningful interactions between older people and the broader community. Their services include independent living, home care, residential aged care, and a variety of support services aimed at enriching the lives of older people while promoting active, engaged lifestyles.

**Media enquiries**

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