Template for emailing NZCOM:

Kia Ora,

Thank you for taking the time to send an email to the NZ College of Midwives demanding for the removal of Milli Hill as keynote speaker.

How To:

1. Edit the template below so that it is not viewed as 'one big email'
2. Copy the template
3. Email it to ceo@nzcom.org.nz
4. Use the subject title: Call for NZCOM to remove transphobic keynote speaker & make conference a safe space for all

TEMPLATE:

Dear Alison Eddy and the board of NZCOM,

I have been made aware that Milli Hill, a known transphobic feminist is the keynote speaker at this years Midwifery conference, despite the real and immediate risk and harm she poses towards the LGBTTQIA+ community.

The theme for this year's conference is entitled "Celebrating Diversity – Growing stronger together". There is no commitment to or celebration of diversity when a speaker who promotes and encourages hate speech towards marginalised communities is being given a platform to share their views.

Given that the New Zealand College of Midwives has a commitment to peer reviewed, rigorously researched, and scientifically correct and safe information being shared with their members, it is concerning that the college would be prepared to allow somebody who goes against common medical knowledge and research to speak at conference.

Māori scholars are clear that transphobia, and homophobia are both byproducts of colonisation, and no such attitudes existed toward takatāpui, tangata ira tāne, or whakawāhine in precolonial Māoridom. In order to uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi, we cannot allow Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminists (TERFs) like Milli Hill to have a voice in the birthing world in Aotearoa.

If this year's conference is supposed to be celebrating diversity, you cannot do this if you are excluding the rainbow community.

If Milli's feminism exludes trans, non-binary and genderqueer people, then it is not feminism. You cannot 'give birth like a feminisit' if you do not acknowledge that there are people who do

not identify as heterosexual or cisgendered giving birth. This is not a time for discussion. Those who actively incite hate speech, cause harm to the LGBTTQIA+ community and perpetuate transphobia should not be given a platform to speak.

Our call to NZCOM is the following:

- Remove Milli Hill as your keynote speaker as a matter of urgency
- Provide a direct apology to the LGBTTQIA+ community
- Engage a member of the local community who is truly committed to diversity as keynote speaker