

## **CSNZ Chair's Report to the New Zealand Institute of Surveyors For the year ended 30 June 2019**

On behalf of the Management Committee, it is my pleasure to report the activities of CSNZ for the year ending 30 June 2019.

NZIS is now trading as Survey and Spatial New Zealand with the agreed abbreviation being S+SNZ.

### **Meetings**

The Management Committee met on 14 September 2018 in Auckland, 30 November 2018 in Napier, 21 March 2019 in Wanaka and 6 June 2019 in Auckland. The AGM was held on 14 November 2018 in Wellington. Paul has also attended S+SNZ Council meetings as the CSNZ representatives and Guy as the vice president. Paul has attended S+SNZ National Technical Committee meetings as the CSNZ representative for planning the S+SNZ Annual Conference.

Wendy Sheedy prepares reports and agendas, attends Management Committee meetings to record minutes and provides an independent view on various issues.

The S+SNZ Board and National office continues to encourage more open communication with CSNZ. Attendance at Board meetings now and again are part of that initiative and along with attendance at S+SNZ Council meetings, has led to opportunities to share resources and knowledge with the National Office when possible for the benefit of CSNZ members.

### **Annual General Meeting**

This year the AGM was held in Wellington from 6pm on 14<sup>th</sup> November. Jeff Needham hosted us at the Harrison Grierson offices. Although this was not officially part of the S+SNZ stakeholder workshop, forum and AGM event it was convenient to arrange it then to take advantage of the members that were in Wellington and ensure we achieved a quorum. We still only just managed to get a quorum. This continues to be a challenge and we may need to look at a webinar or skype meeting in the future.

It was great to have some of the larger firms represented at the AGM. There were generous offers of support and resources made to CSNZ by the larger firms to help with some of the projects that CSNZ is working on. The concept being that we want to avoid reinventing the wheel and utilise existing resources within our member organisations for the benefit of CSNZ. The graduate training template that Paul Turner is working on is one example of this.

The point was made that the larger firms do not necessarily benefit from CSNZ or need the resources we provide. However, they are very happy to support the division for the benefit of the professions business owners. This is a fantastic attitude and needs to be developed as a core strength of CSNZ.

During the AGM there was discussion about options to involve senior staff and Young Professional S+SNZ members in the Workshop to break down the 'Old Boys Club' perception. This led to a group of YP representatives attending and running a very successful and enlightening session at the Wanaka Workshop in March.

There was a discussion about running CSNZ branch meetings in conjunction with S+SNZ meetings to avoid the watering down of attendance. Most branches thought this could work. This will be dealt with at the branch level.

The executive members elected at the Annual General Meeting on 14 November 2018 in Wellington were as follows:

### **Management Committee**

Chairman	Paul Newton of Nelson
Vice Chairman/Southern Rep	Carl Fox of Christchurch
Northern Representative	Neale Faulkner of Auckland
Central Representative	Mike Stott of Mt Maunganui
Central Representative	Paul Turner of Wellington
Immediate Past Chairman	Guy Panckhurst of Hawke's Bay
Secretary	Wendy Sheedy
Auditor	Grant Thornton

### **Area Representatives**

Northland	Denis Thomson
Auckland	Geoff Webster
Waikato/Bay of Plenty	Nick Davies
Gisborne	Kevin Taylor
Hawke's Bay	Guy Panckhurst
Taranaki	Geoff Bland
Manawatu/Wanganui	Kevin Judd
Wellington	Paul Turner
Nelson/Marlborough	Terry McGrail
Canterbury	Peter McAuley
South Canterbury	Andrew Rabbidge
Otago Central	Matt Suddaby
Otago Coastal	Geoff Bates
Southland	Don Moir
Westland	Chris Coll

The Surveyor General, Mark Dyer also attended and presented an address at the end of the AGM.

### **Membership**

Membership as at 30 June 2019 stood at 294 full members and 9 retired members, represented by 156 member firms.

Core strategies of S+SNZ are growth and diversity. As a division of S+SNZ we are committed to exploring options to work on those strategies. We are being challenged about the current membership model being an 'Old Boys Club'. Management Committee have been surprised by that outside observation but are taking it seriously.

A core function of CSNZ is to provide members with support to achieve business excellence. However, many of our resources are valuable for S+SNZ members who are thinking of starting their own business or want to learn more about business with a view to working towards part ownership in a current firm.

Spatial professionals are a growing body of people across many different organisation structures. Some of those would benefit from CSNZ resources and vice versa.

The Management Committee is, therefore, considering different membership models to enable a wider cross-section of members.

### **Secretarial**

Our Secretary, Wendy Sheedy is a qualified accountant and continues to help run CSNZ in a very efficient manner. In the past there have been suggestions that our secretary's role could be shared with S+SNZ National office. I believe that it is imperative that as a division we have a dedicated secretary to provide a consistent and independent presence on the Management Committee. The support provided for the Chair and Management Committee is invaluable and without that I believe CSNZ would struggle to function.

On behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to thank Wendy for the great work she has done for CSNZ this year. Wendy looked after the membership, financial aspects and general day to day of the running of CSNZ and is the point of contact for many member enquiries. Wendy continues to be a valuable member of the Management Committee.

### **Workshop**

The CSNZ annual Workshop was held in Wanaka. The theme was "The Adventurous Business of Surveying". It ran from Thursday 21 March to Saturday 23 March. It was very well attended and received great feedback. The Thursday start allowed members to extend their stay and enjoy Wanaka and surrounds.

Neale Faulkner was assisted by John Carter to help led the local organising team. Fiona Lysaght and Erena Patterson were once again instrumental in ensuring that the workshop was a smoothly run event and that the content was relevant and extremely good value. The online registration managed by Conference Innovators also worked very well.

There was a Special General Meeting at the workshop to vote on some minor rule changes to enable members who sell their business, to continue to be CSNZ members and contribute to the division if they choose.

There was also time set aside in the program for a discussion of topics that were of current concern to members and as always there was plenty of time between sessions and during the social events to talk with likeminded business owners and gain valuable support from our peers.

Liz Blake has kindly agreed to keep running the Annual Practice Survey. Liz presented the results at workshop along with some great commentary. The Management Committee takes this opportunity to once again thank Liz for managing this for us.

The next Workshop will be held in Mount Manganui, at the Surf Club, 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2020. Mike Stott, Peter Crane and Fiona Lysaght make up the workshop team this year. The theme will be 'Trust'.

This will be the last time that Fiona is involved. Conference Innovators will be doing the core organisation and administration for the 2020 Workshop and transition into a bigger role in 2021 as Fiona fully steps down.

## **NZIS Annual Conference**

“Shaping Tomorrows Communities” was held at the Cordis Hotel in Auckland 9 - 11 May 2019. As Chair of CSNZ, I have a position on the National Technical Committee. We oversee the organising of the conference. The other members are stream leaders, Survey School representatives and local organising convenor.

With the Auckland Conference only being two months after workshop we did not have the resources to commit to content specifically aimed at business owners. It also became apparent to me that the program was very full providing content for each of the streams. However, Management Committee is happy to share our resources and contacts from previous workshops if there becomes more of an appetite for business related content at the Conference.

## **Awards and Scholarships**

The CSNZ Professional Practice prize was established in 1998. This year the scholarship was increased from \$200 to \$500. It is awarded annually to the student who attains the highest standard of achievement in the SURV 450 Professional Practice paper. This year the prize went to Kyle Spencer. Geoff Bates attended the Survey School graduation afternoon tea and presented the award in person.

The 2018 CSNZ Scholarship for the National Diploma in Surveying was Jean-Baptiste Lavigne, from Harrison Grierson, Tauranga. The purpose of the award is to encourage completion of the qualification during the period of study.

## **ASaTS Cadastral Survey Working Group**

Guy Panckhurst represents CSNZ in the ASaTS Cadastral Survey Working Group. Nick Stilwell continues to be employed by S+SNZ to represent the views of all surveyors. The government has approved the rebuilding of Landonline in four tranches over 5 years. The two main concerns are the possibility of third-party software being needed by Survey firms and the technology to replace CSDs should they be discontinued.

## **Manual of Practice**

This project was completed this year and included completely rewriting and reformatting the Business Practice Manual. The document is now available to members on the website and is an extremely valuable resource.

## **Strategic Review**

The Management Committee continually refers to the CSNZ strategic plan as a reference for our decision making. We are also mindful that we are a division of S+SNZ so we also aim to stay consistent with the overarching Strategic Plan and core policies of S+SNZ.

A recent initiative of S+SNZ is a ‘Focus and Priorities’ template to help the streams and divisions develop a wish list and plan the implementation of various projects. The idea is to set a realistic goal and determine the best use of resources whether it be National Office resources, committee resources or individual member resources. This is a live document that is being continually developed.

## **Website**

The Management Committee has been unhappy with the format of our presence on the S+SNZ website and has been considering that our members would be better served with a dedicated website that is linked to and from the NZIS website. At the AGM we were challenged about the merits of spending CSNZ money on this project. We have therefore continued to work with S+SNZ to improve our presence on the main website.

Carl Fox is working on this with Max Wills at National office and is making some progress. I acknowledge that there is still work to do.

## **Area Representatives**

The Management Committee is supported by 15 Area Representatives across the country, and the Committee appreciates their contributions to the running of the Division.

This year we have instigated a 'Survey Monkey' format for the Activity Reports. We have also started to report the results back to area reps. Management Committee take these reports seriously and aim to address all issues raised. Almost all regions indicate workloads have remained high or very high throughout the year. A common message I hear is that it is difficult to attract new staff to help cope with the workloads especially in the provincial areas.

We have had a very successful year and rewarding year. We have delivered a fantastic Workshop, updated the Manual of Practice and started a project to develop a Graduate training template.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the Management Committee who diligently volunteer considerable time out of their working days, during the evening and over weekends throughout the year to represent member's interests and manage the affairs of the Division.

Paul Newton

CSNZ Chair