Branch and Professional Stream Reports

SPATIAL STREAM

Chair: Kat Salm

The last year has seen the Spatial Professional Stream (SPS) focus on their place in the S+SNZ organisation. As the understanding and use of spatial grows, so we find opportunities for spatial professionals to connect outwards and demonstrate relevance in many areas and aligned industries. However, for the S+SNZ Spatial Stream, the ongoing goal is to ensure we provide an appropriate and relevant home for spatial professionals.

A draft Spatial Strategy was developed and circulated to the Board in the second half of 2018, and a key first step was to hold a Spatial Workshop with spatial professionals – both members and non-members - to better understand their wants, needs and priorities. This workshop was held in Wellington in August this year, with some great discussion and with the 'top three' priorities being identified. These priorities will help to inform the move of the strategy from 'draft' to 'final' form and determine the actions for implementing it.





As well as a strategic focus, the SPS has also:

- Gathered feedback on the RPSpatial certification whitepaper and agreed that given the feedback received the spatial industry in NZ is not ready for a separate certification program at this stage. Spatial professionals can still access the GISP-AP certification through our agreement with SSSI Australia if required.
- Supported the activities of the National Technical Committee for the 2019 S+SNZ
 Conference in Auckland, including a 'Spatial Focus' day with some great speakers
 (including Ed parsons from Google) for those who could not attend the whole
 conference.
- Supported events and networking activities including the NZ Spatial Excellence Awards and various regional events.
- Provided Stream news and feature articles for S+S magazine

- Represented spatial interests in the LINZ stakeholder's forum for the Landonline replacement programme.
- Represented S+SNZ at the Locate19 Presidents' Breakfast (an informal meeting of leaders from relevant professional associations and industry bodies across Australia and New Zealand)
- Contributed into the National Geospatial Capability Committee
- Contributed to reviews and feedback on policy and RFIs as appropriate.

We are always keen to have new SPS Committee members and encourage any spatial members to connect with us if they would like to contribute to the SPS programme.

SPS currently has 180 members, and our SPS committee is made up of five members from across the country including:

- Kat Salm
- Elaine McAlister
- Jasmin Callosa-Tarr
- Ben Dash
- Callum Smith.

