

# CEO update - Surveying the Scene

*January 2018 Issue 9*

NZIS Branch, Stream/Division Chairs, Leaders and office holders

I hope everyone had a quality break over the New Year. I decided in early December that a newsletter in mid-December was pretty well the last thing that anyone wanted and therefore moved this publication date through into late January when hopefully everyone will have a chance to take in some of the content.

This update is designed to give NZIS leaders an overview of what is being acted upon in the national office and some insight into key NZIS Council, Board and staff related activities over the next six months. Most items mentioned will not contain all of the detail but associated links and items on the website may also assist.

In the past I haven't included a contents section, but this document has grown and now warrants one. I hope it makes it easier to look around the topics.

If what you are looking for is not covered, then please feel free to make contact and ask any questions by phone or email, as required.

Hadyn Smith  
CEO

## Table of Contents

1. Key NZIS Vacancies.....	2	10. NZIS Annual Questionnaire returns...	5
2. NZIS Certification – final draft.....	2	11. Economic Information Questionnaire	6
3. ASaTS Update .....	2	12. Kairuri Community Trust.....	6
4. Council and Board 2018 Meetings .....	3	13. Staff Overview .....	6
5. Key Focus for NZIS .....	3	14. Council LTP submissions .....	7
6. CPD and Training .....	4	15. NZ Special Excellence Awards.....	8
7. NZIS Conference 2018 - Nelson.....	4	16. New “Value” to Membership .....	8
8. NZIS Stakeholder Workshop .....	5	17. Global Surveyors’ Day .....	8
9. NZIS profiles.....	5	18. Commercial Partners.....	8
		19. Legislation Update .....	9
		20. NZIS Website Analytics .....	9

## 1. Key NZIS Vacancies

The lifeblood of any not-for-profit organisation is its members and those that choose to volunteer. Ever considered gaining experience in governance, management and leadership skills? The NZIS Council and Board is keen to support our future and those wishing to enter into the governance environment and in November 2017 ran a Leaders Insight Seminar with presenter Dr Bruce Anderson. We intend to run such seminars on an annual basis and in doing so, give our volunteer leaders the tools to take up governance leadership positions as they arise. Two vacancies exist at present on the Ethics Committee and the Governance Review Panel (the review of our Rules as voted on in 2013). These are rewarding but different roles that are vital to the integrity of the surveying profession and our future.

- *Ethics Committee* - the representative for the Ethics Committee (EC) does not have to be Wellington based, and any appointment will be made by Council based on merit. The EC role description and TOR can be found on the NZIS [website](#).  
**Application close on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> of March.**
- *Governance Review Panel* - the Membership Representative can be based anywhere in New Zealand. The TOR can be found on the [website](#). **Applications close on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February** and should be emailed directly to the Panel Chair – Dr Bruce Anderson, at [bruce@liardet.net.nz](mailto:bruce@liardet.net.nz) Note the time frame is only two weeks.

Applications for both vacancies will require a short CV that relates to your experience within NZIS. For more general information or questions contact Hadyn Smith at [hadynsmith@surveyors.org.nz](mailto:hadynsmith@surveyors.org.nz)

## 2. NZIS Certification – final draft

Probably the most crucial piece of work the NZIS Council has worked on over the last two years has been the review of NZIS Certification, including RPSurv. This is especially relevant in light of a growing group of territorial authorities focusing on ensuring those overseeing or signing off on plans are qualified to do so in certain focus areas. The pathways for all our members are the focus of the review and the work that has been completed by the Council, Board and members to date is about to become public for all our members to review. The next two months will involve tweaking of the paper by the streams and Council with the final draft paper being distributed to “all” members, most likely after the Council meeting in April. It is vital that we get this product fit for purpose so please prepare your members for the paper as the turnaround time for some streams is not long with a July 1 rollout. Rebecca Strang – our President, will be providing updates as the process evolves. Please encourage your local members to comment on the final draft either through their stream, branch or as individuals.

## 3. ASaTS Update

You may be aware from our press release a few months ago that NZIS has appointed an ASaTS representative - Nick Stillwell, a Licensed Cadastral Surveyor from Hawke's Bay - to represent the interests of surveyors within the ASaTS project. Nick's role is to get out among surveyors and understand their ideas about what ASaTS could deliver, and issues with Landonline that surveyors and the spatial community would like addressed, and to advocate for them in the ASaTS project as it goes through its life-cycle.

Nick is employed by NZIS and reports directly to me and the Board/Council.

Nick will be reaching out to branch secretaries in the coming months and would love the chance to get around the country to meet and hear from everyone on what could be possible, but if you have anything that you would like to get in touch with him about feel free to drop him an email at [nick@surveyors.org.nz](mailto:nick@surveyors.org.nz)

The ASaTS project is currently in the definition phase where LINZ is working with a supplier to explore what their solution might look like, however until there is an approved Implementation Business Case (IMBC) they are still in the process of confirming they have the right approach to deliver the solution.

One thing currently being investigated for surveyors is whether it might be possible to complete CSD preparation and submission in 3rd party software. Late last year a request for information was distributed to the market to understand their capability to provide Dataset Creation and Diagram Generation.

Nick will report to NZIS with updates at every planned Board and Council meeting.

#### 4. Council and Board 2018 Meetings

The NZIS Council and Board guide all our resources so that the needs and wants of our membership are achieved. The outcomes from the recent Stakeholder Workshop in Wellington are an example of the information that is ultimately fed into the system and applied. However, feedback is not confined to one meeting. There are up to 15 official NZIS meetings programmed this year that will focus on the work plans of the Council, Board and Audit and Risk Committee. Meetings are all geared towards reporting to members at the AGM that, this year, will take place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November. If any member or membership stream, division, or SIG wishes to forward ideas or ask questions of NZIS then simply contact the CEO or President at least a week before the relevant meeting. The 2018 set meeting dates can be found [here](#).

#### 5. Key Focus for NZIS in the Next Six Months

The following gives you some indication of the NZIS focus areas that are not explained under an individual heading:

- **Meeting with the Hon Eugenie Sage (Green Party) Land Information Minister** - NZIS is seeking a meeting with the new Minister
- **Review of NZIS Governance Arrangements** – refer to item 1
- **Strategic Plan Review** – this always takes place at the first council meeting of the year with the 2018/18 Business Plan and budget
- **NZIS Risk review** – NZIS risk areas are reviewed at the first Board meeting each year and updated at each subsequent Board meeting
- **Update of Annual Circular** – in support of professional exams
- **Review of the complaints policy** – ensuring our process remains best practice and reflects the wants and needs of a professional body in 2018
- **Stream Work Plans for 2018/19** – ensuring all stream “wants and needs” are fed into the Annual Plan
- **Membership Marketing Campaign** – making sure we add value to membership and support all level of membership need.

The President – Rebecca Strang, will also be providing regular updates on progress.

## 6. CPD and Training

In 2017, following feedback from members, our model for Continued Professional Development (training) changed from leading events to facilitating events. NZIS restructured and Max Will (Marketing and Events Coordinator) was engaged as a professional event manager with strong social media and website skills. NZIS now has the resources and equipment to live stream any event that is relevant to our sector, but we need your help. Training wants and needs must be driven by the members, streams and branches. We will run it and Max will attend and oversee any event under the NZIS umbrella that is significant to a high proportion of members. We can't supply all training but suggest we can run three or four live streamed seminars and a good number of webinars annually if the topics are well supported. This includes professional development topics that YPs or CSNZ members may be seeking. Max has formed a CPD Committee (supported by a [TOR](#)) and will deliver the programmes that you want and need but he needs to hear from you, ideally as a member of the CPD committee who will lead him where he needs to go. Please support this new structure and give Max your thoughts and suggestions on both topics and potential speakers. Max can be contacted at [max@surveyors.org.nz](mailto:max@surveyors.org.nz) or by ringing his mobile 021 08674210.

## 7. NZIS Conference 2018 - Nelson



This year's NZIS conference will be launched shortly and the National Technical Committee (NTC) has been working for the last six months on ensuring we have a compelling programme of speakers and topics that will be a key focus for membership work-related currency in 2018. The draft programme will be launched publicly shortly but in the meantime here are some key updates for you to distribute around your members:

- To ensure good numbers attending an exclusive “members only” opening registration offer of \$595 + GST will exist, discounted by a further \$100 for all Young Professionals and retired members, until the end of February (Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup>).

*Logic:*

*Nelson is a provincial centre without large numbers of members. If NZIS doesn't get early registrations, then it is very likely the event will make a loss. This price is cheaper than fees charged ten years ago so price should not be the barrier.*

- The early bird rate of \$695 + GST will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> March and the full fee of \$845 will commence from 10<sup>th</sup> April. YP and retired concessions of \$100 remain throughout.
- Non-members (that qualify to join) will also receive “free of charge” an introductory associate membership package.

*Logic:*

*This is the same fee and non-member offer as last year.*

- Accommodation – NZIS has secured a good rate at the Rutherford Hotel (the event venue) for rooms. Check the details within the registration process. Nelson is a very busy tourist destination so book early.

Other items:

- Panel sessions will be supported by an App this year allowing participants to comment and ask questions.
- Up to three international speakers will be attending – details highlighted with the opening information emails next week.

The new conference [website](#) will be updated regularly and will produce focus items as they are developed through to May. Check it out.

## 8. NZIS Stakeholder Workshop

The [NZIS Stakeholder Workshop](#) – held last November (before the AGM) is now the key annual opportunity for direct face-to-face membership feedback and interaction on items of note to the sector. The Workshop allows Council to hear from every membership sector and gives a pure focus on items that are valued. The workshop agenda is made up of membership submissions, Chair feedback and Council “items of the day”. NZIS fund all branch, stream and division participants to attend (covering accommodation, transport and meals) so that every membership group has representation. Details of the topics will not be formulated until later in the year but what is already certain is that those attending will travel to Wellington pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, will participate in workshops and the AGM on the 15<sup>th</sup> and will fly home that evening, unless they wish to attend the New Zealand Spatial Excellence Awards at Te Papa that night. ***If you are part of your branch, stream, division or special interest groups leadership team then block these dates out now!*** Council wants and needs this participation and feedback and the chance to hear directly from the membership on all key issues. 100% representation is sought, and it would be a great achievement if that outcome could be achieved in 2018.

Last year we also held a Leaders Insight Seminar the day before the AGM presented by Dr Bruce Anderson. This is an introduction to key governance practices and will likely be run again in 2018. If supported this event will take place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November. If you have an interest, block that day out in your diary.

## 9. NZIS profiles

It is important that all those representing NZIS at the governance level are known to members. To give an introduction to each we have now posted some Council, Board and staff member profiles onto the website. Although only a few now, this will grow over the next month in the [Our People](#) area. Not all will have background material, but they will be added in the coming weeks.

## 10. NZIS Annual Questionnaire returns

Many thanks to all of those that submitted the NZIS Annual Questionnaire. The raw data was circulated around all Branch, Stream and Division Chairs and the key outcomes will be applied to Council and operational plans in 2018. The raw data will not be posted on the public website but the overview from the returns as formulated by an independent consultant can be found on the [website](#). Thanks to all those that participated as the information received will be invaluable to develop our focus in 2018.

## 11. NZIS “New” Economic Information Questionnaire

In late 2017 we distributed the annual NZIS Questionnaire – refer item 12. You may have noticed that for the first time we did not include any economic or financial questions. The reason for that is that we are working with Eighty4 Recruitment to develop a comprehensive economic questionnaire that goes out to members around March/April each year and allow our profession at all levels to consider economic indicators from a trusted and independent source. It will also give us information in order to support advocacy and stakeholder engagement in our sector. The questionnaire is under development and will be reviewed by the Board at its March meeting.

## 12. Kairuri Community Trust



The Kairuri Community Trust is a charity set up by NZIS last year that looks at what those in the surveying and spatial environment can do to assist or support the future of our sector. The trustees run independently to the Council and Board and support a focus on items such as: educational scholarships; research and development; secondary schools’ awareness – to name a few. The trustees are working on the development of awareness and will be launching a dedicated website, pitch documents and opportunities for members to contribute and be involved in our future in the coming months. Look out for a flier in the next Surveying + Spatial magazine.

## 13. Staff Overview

### *i. Hadyn Smith – CEO*

I was appointed in 2012 to implement [“The Way Forward”](#) and to be the interface between the members – represented by the Council/Board, and staff. A lot has changed and will continue to change as the new [structure](#) and vision are progressed. I work closely with the President and Chair to ensure membership value is a prime focus and resourced through staff support in key focus areas such as advocacy, CPD (training), growth and financial security – to name a few.

### *ii. Jan Lawrence - Communications (and Brand) Manager*

Jan is the longest serving staff member at NZIS and has reverted from overseeing marketing and membership to a pure comms focus, especially in the social media, website, brand and publication space.

### *iii. Max Will - Event and Marketing Coordinator*

This is a new position oversees communications with our chairs, the annual CPD events calendar (supported by the CPD Committee), conference, membership marketing and our new focus on awards, such as NZSEA. Max has a strong marketing and social media background that is already proving invaluable. He will directly support and attend key events at all levels and locations with an emphasis on live streaming.

*iv. Karin Knedler - Advocacy and Policy Coordinator*

This is a new position that focuses on supporting our oversight of policy/rules, legislation and territorial authority (TA) oversight, government and stakeholder relationships and ethics. Karin is already making an impression and hugely experienced and qualified with a background in many areas of the government sector, including LINZ.

*v. Nick Stillwell - ASaTS Lead Consulting Surveyor*

This position is an internal appointment by NZIS that is funded by a service contract with LINZ in support of the ASaTS project. Nick's is our only qualified surveying and spatial employee and will focus is on leading our profession's input in the wants and needs of the replacement system for Landonline and will focus on our sectors future wants and needs. Not a lot is happening at present but that will change in the not too distant future.

*vi. Tara Ranchhod - Administration support*

Tara supports all level of administration and design in the national office while also directly supporting Max (events) and Jan (Communications) with elements of their workload.

*vii. Linda Turnbull - Membership Coordinator (part-time)*

Linda's position is a process oversight and support function ensuring that all levels of membership application or question is supported with a focus around our on-line application system. This includes maintaining membership connections and interviews with all those members that exit the organisation.

*viii. Carlos Castro – Accounts (part-time)*

This part-time position supports the oversight and delivery of all of the NZIS controlled accounts.

*ix. Alison Murray - Secretarial support (part-time)*

Alison is a journalist by trade who supports the secretarial needs associated with the: Council, Board and the Ethics Committee.

#### **14. Branch support and Council LTP submissions**

The national office – Karin Knedler, has recently reviewed all legislation at local council and government level. Every branch will have received that email update and should be aware that this year (over the next couple of months) is the three-yearly review of all TAs' Long Term Plans (each TA's ten-year plan). This is the opportunity for each NZIS branch to raise awareness locally with councils on what NZIS does, even, if it is only to introduce our profession to the local officials and what your branch supports or has an opinion around. Karin can help with any complicated submissions, if required. Other TA points:

- Some councils are moving to 20-year Long Term Plans, e.g. Kapiti and Porirua District Councils but most are still 10-year Long Term Plans that are reviewed every three years
- Some councils are including a longer, 30-year planning horizon for the infrastructure component while maintaining a 10-year horizon for other aspects of their Long Term Plans e.g. Hastings District Council and Invercargill City Council

- Uneven coverage/detail on Long Term Plans (and other information) across regional and local authority websites which ends up reflected in the NZIS EnviroScans we posted.

The NZIS [NZIS Leader's Guide](#) and [Social Media Guide](#) are also designed to assist NZIS leaders at every level with templates and examples so please take a look and also tell us if anything else would be helpful.

## 15. NZ Special Excellence Awards



The New Zealand Spatial Excellence Awards (NZSEA) is a joint venture between the spatial individuals and the profession (NZIS), business (SIBA NZ) and government (LINZ). The awards aim to ensure that all sectors, disciplines and communities making up the spatial industry seek out and give recognition to the best, the high achievers and contributors who set the benchmarks that others will follow. We may not all be spatially focused, but we are all connected, and the management of data is perhaps one of the key environmental factors to any forward-thinking business. See the website for information on the 2017 [winners](#).

We are into the fifth year of this exciting event with several NZIS members have been recipients of awards to date. This year NZSEA will again be held at Te Papa on the evening of Thursday 15h November. Entries will open around April.

## 16. New "Value" to Membership

NZIS is looking into value packages that can enhance membership. These relate to areas such personal insurance, risk mitigation, CSA Sec 52 and other areas that are costly for individuals. Work is progressing now, and an outline will be circulated most likely in March. It should be stressed that whatever deal is progressed in any subject area, it will not be compulsory.

## 17. Global Surveyors' Day

The first [Global Surveyors' Day](#) will take place on Wednesday the 21st March 2018 at the Land and Poverty Conference at the World Bank in Washington. This was announced over the weekend by the United States National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS), the Council of European Geodetic Surveyors (Europe) and FIG. I'm unsure what may be possible from an NZIS perspective on that day but if anyone is attending this event can they please contact me.

## 18. Commercial Partners Value to Members

I don't think members will be aware that our commercial partners contribute revenue equivalent to around \$200 for every NZIS member. Glenn Stone Insurance, AllTerra, Global Survey, Accurate Instruments, Eighty4 Recruitment and WINC (at the Diamond level) and Position Partners (at the Gold level) are contractually committed for up to three years. My thanks to our brand partners for their direct support of our long term security and objectives.



## 19. Legislation Update

NZIS continues to monitor proposed legislation that affects surveyors and spatial practice at both:

- i. the parliamentary stages and
- ii. the earlier policy review and development stage conducted by government departments that then results in the introduction of proposed legislation into the House of Representatives.

A scan of proposed legislation currently under consideration by Parliament was conducted last year. A summary of proposed legislation of potential interest to surveyors was posted on 21 December 2017 in the members' area of the NZIS [website](#) [login required].

A late development last year was the withdrawal of the Te Ture Whenua Maori Bill from the legislative programme on 20 December. News reports at the time said it was because the Bill did not meet current needs and would be replaced in due course. In 2013 NZIS had submitted at the policy development stage to the Review Panel on the Te Ture Whenua Maori (TTWM) Act 1993 Discussion Document. NZIS will continue to monitor developments. *[an update might be forthcoming from TPK or Minister's office in response to KK's enquiries before draft report is finalised for sending to Board].*

## 20. NZIS Website Analytics

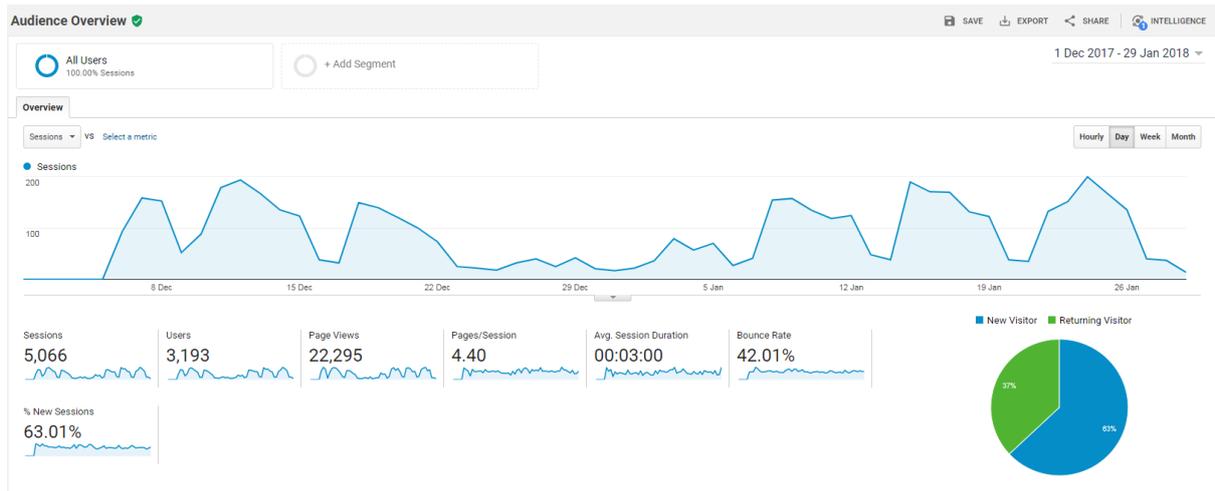
We started monitoring our surveyors.org.nz website on the 5th December 2017 and this report covers through until the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

NSIZ has steady traffic daily, mostly from Auckland, Christchurch and Wellington, followed by Tauranga, Hamilton, Dunedin and Nelson with a high percentage of new users (60% on average). We had more than 3,000 unique users during this period, with an average of 4 page-view per user, spending a total of 3 minutes in our website.

One of the most surprising metrics can be seen in the pages our users access. The most accessed page is the dashboard (to log in), followed by the jobs board, the forum, the professional entrance exams and member's search. In addition, we started monitoring and interacting on Facebook, acquiring 165 page likes last month. The page now has a total of 658 likes (from 450 on November 2017). The demographics are mostly 25-34 years-old, with 73% men and 25% women, primarily from Christchurch, Auckland, Wellington, Dunedin, Hamilton and Tauranga. The interaction on our Facebook page has been great to see.

By analysing this data, it is easy to see that the NZIS page has mostly the same demographics of the NZIS Young Professionals page.

From a start-up position NZIS national office can now provide any traffic data wanted from our website and the associated conference website. We are looking at growing these reports in the months ahead.



## Thanks

To each of you that volunteer to take on the role of Branch, Stream or Division Chair, Secretary, Treasurer or similar, my thanks and appreciation for keeping NZIS on track and informed through the donation of your time and effort. If there is anything that we can do to lighten your load, then please be in touch.

I hope this ninth edition of "Surveying the Scene" has been informative and helpful. Happy for you to share this in full or part with your team.

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