



24 May 2018

CHAIR'S UPDATE TO MEMBERS

Hitting the road running

It's a month since I stepped into Craig Smith's shoes as Chair of HASANZ and they are big shoes to fill! The experience and guidance Craig brought to HASANZ have positioned it well for the next stage of its evolution which is to connect more strongly with business. I'd like to thank Craig for his exemplary stewardship of HASANZ and for his personal support to me transitioning seamlessly into the role.

What has impressed me is how much HASANZ delivers on limited resources. What has also struck me is the lack of clarity and co-ordination of information on the market we operate in. I can understand how businesses might struggle with connecting with the right health and safety professions to deal with issues they encounter in the new HSWA environment, particularly on workplace health related issues. The Register will make a difference here. However, mapping the market is another area in which I think HASANZ can help.

Meeting HASANZ people

People and growing the organisations they contribute to spin my wheels and I am really enjoying getting out and about with Philip Aldridge to meet as many HASANZ people and partners as possible. Next week Philip and I are representing HASANZ at the Safeguard Conference and I am also attending the Business Leaders' Health and Safety Forum summit – I wear two hats there as I am on the BLHSF Steering Group. Philip has been to the NZOHS AGM and he will shortly be attending the HFESNZ AGM. Unfortunately, I can't be there too. We look forward to attending more member events and talking to association leaders about what's important to you.

Our own AGM is being held on 27 July in Wellington in conjunction with the official launch of the HASANZ Register. As usual, the heads of your association are invited to attend in addition to your HASANZ rep.

A healthy conversation

The emergence of the Register has generated useful discussion about the difference between workplace health and safety professionals and technicians, and where people with years of experience but no qualifications fit in. This is a healthy conversation to have. There are a lot of health and safety participants in the market and not everyone will become a professional. However, there is a pathway available to gain a qualification and join a HASANZ Member association if they choose to do so. My view is that, as a business owner or chief executive, I would expect to be able to engage a workplace health and safety professional, in the same

way that I would engage a lawyer, accountant or engineer for their expertise. The HASANZ Register will enable businesses to find health and safety professionals to identify risks with clarity and help mitigate and address those risks. Even if you have work coming out of your ears, I urge you to get on the Register so you stand among your peers as a recognised, qualified professional in the workplace health and safety sector. Businesses will be looking for people who are HASANZ Registered and this demand will build over time as we promote the Register.

A lot of work has been done to get us to the point of opening the Register for business and we've increased resources to work with our member associations to increase supply and generate demand. HASANZ's first Business Manager, Vic Tyler, starts at the end of May. It's a fulltime role and she'll be your main point of contact for most matters and "all things to do with the Register" after Karen Chaney departs on 14 June.

Workforce Development Forum

The HASANZ Workforce Development Forum was opened by the Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety, the Hon. Iain Lees-Galloway on 9 May. Craig Smith facilitated the Forum which brought together key influencers from across the sector and business to kick-start a discussion on how to address the scarcity of capable people in the health and safety marketplace. Everyone engaged positively in the conversation. A small working group has been set up to progress the outputs of the Forum, starting with a stocktake to ensure we have a strong evidence base to build on.



Craig Smith & Selena Armstrong (NZISM) **Derek Miller (NZOHS) and Mike O'Brien**



Dave McBride and Marion Edwin (HFESNZ) **Philip Aldridge, Mike O'Brien, Minister, Craig Smith**

The Forum included a presentation from MBIE and WorkSafe on the draft Health and Safety at Work Strategy. I hope you can make time to read through this short document. HASANZ is making a submission and we encourage your association to do the same so that diverse perspectives are captured.

Conference discount

On 1 June we will be releasing the full programme for HASANZ CONFERENCE 2018. We were “oversubscribed” with a choice of excellent presentations for our concurrent sessions and the result will be a fantastic two days of learning, topped off by seven outstanding keynote speakers. WorkSafe COO Phil Parkes, Pamu Farms CEO Steve Carden and NZCTU President Richard Wagstaff are confirmed as speakers, joining our four international keynotes. Remember to register before 30 June for the early bird rate – there’s an extra discount for HASANZ members.

Immediate priorities

Future updates will come from Philip Aldridge as the HASANZ Chair is no longer an executive role. However, I wanted to take this opportunity to connect with you and share my immediate priorities which are:

- Getting to know you – the priorities and challenges of each member association.
- Mapping the market – providing “a professional view” of who does what across the workplace health and safety sector and how the different parts of the system fit together.
- Connecting business to the HASANZ Register and building demand for HASANZ Registered professionals.
- Supporting a successful conference.

Thanks Karen

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the tremendous amount of work Karen Chaney has done for HASANZ. For four years she has been “the face of HASANZ” and has tirelessly driven the development of the Register, as well as being your go-to person. I have particularly valued her insights and knowledge of the industry. Karen will be missed and we wish her the very best.



Mike O'Brien
HASANZ Independent Chair