

Northern Chapter President's Report National AGM 30th June 2011

The last twelve months has been challenging for all of us as New Zealanders, with the spate of devastating natural disasters, an ongoing recessionary environment, diminished job security /opportunities and a fairly static real estate market. I believe that the Construction Industry has yet to fully recover across the board, and if it were not for publicly funded infrastructure projects the situation would be even more difficult. What a time to have been the President of the Northern Chapter !!

The Northern Chapter Board 2011 AGM was held on June 8th at the Novotel Ellerslie Auckland, as was the Annual Dinner and the Annual Tertiary Student Academic Excellence Awards, to our emerging peers.

My thanks were offered that evening , to the outgoing Board, a big team of committed volunteer members. Having had several new and additional members join us for the last year spread the load of each of the portfolios, and this has enabled us to meet several important goals as set by the Board and each Portfolio leader, in a timely manner. The outgoing Board comprised :, Euan Whitaker, John Hemi, Julian Huggins, Ian Marshall, Charlene Colas, Kirsty de Meyer, Megan Smith, George Kubicki, Lueder Stock, and Jasper Mbachu. I have completed my two year term as NC president and now become IPP on the Board for a year. Warren Chapman was the President elect in 2010, and has now been installed as the Northern Chapter President until the 2013 AGM.

Every NC Board member has, in addition to their Portfolio roles, had to deal with increased day-job workloads, as their employers tried to achieve more, often with less staff. Therefore I offer an extra thank you to the companies that we all work for, for their ongoing support, and to the Board Members for their commitment to the Board, to the agreed Portfolio KPIs, and to the Northern Membership of this Institute.

Highlights from the last twelve months are noted here under the main Portfolios of Membership, Activities, Education and CPD.

Membership

Our Northern Chapter Membership numbers as at May 2011 is 377.

A very big thank you to Estelle Beder's thorough and focussed efforts in National Office last year. Estelle was brought on to the staff to specifically focus on sorting out and updating our nation-wide Membership lists, to provide a resultant accurate snapshot of our membership, in terms of who

was financial and who needed gently persuading to be financial again, and a full profile of the makeup of our membership.

This year in Northern Chapter we have received and processed 73 new applications. This has resulted in 11 Associates, 11 Members, 3 upgrades to Members, 1 upgrade to Graduate(and another pending), 1 Affiliate, 45 Students, and just one declination.

In response to Members' previously stated concerns - our processing time has been shortened. George Kubicki has dealt with all applications within one month with only some exceptions, but normally those delays were due to incomplete applications or complicated issues within an application. He believes that we are now within the recommended 3 months timeframe from start to completion, and admission to a member category.

Activities

In the last 12 months the Northern Chapter Board in Auckland has organised 6 CPD events and 3 mainly social events:

1. NZ Strong/Carters LVL breakfast at Motat-Western Springs . Longest span LVL used in New Zealand.
2. Jasmax- Running an Architectural practice- Attendees were exposed to the challenges of running one of New Zealand's largest architectural practices.
3. Mainzeal - Victory Christian Church Car Park- Attendees gained an insight into the extensive range of environmental conditions conditions imposed on the project and how these were overcome.
4. The Future Of Training: Building Management Centres - The evening highlighted the benefits of using real time virtual training to upskill our industry as currently used in the Netherlands and the UK
5. Hawkins - Marine Events Centre- The project team explained the challenges and solutions of building a complicated steel structure on a wharf in time for the World Cup, and most recently,
6. Hawkins - University Hall Student Accommodation site visit. The site team took our members through the processes and innovations involved in the design and installation of over 400 prefabricated accommodation pods.

The Northern Chapter Activities Committee wishes to again thank all of those companies and their representatives for their co-operation and assistance.

On the social side we held 3 very successful events. Over 85 people attended the Christmas Social at the Royal New Zealand Yacht Club last November, and in February and March this year, the Golf, Tennis and Fishing events were fully subscribed and very successfully organised by groups of dedicated volunteers. Brilliant days and always significant Annual Activities on our calendar. Particular thanks must go to Julian Huggins and his team at Arrow International and Alison Smith for the Golf, Chris Hale for marshalling the Tennis again, and George Kubicki, Laura McCulloch and their team at Kalmar for the Fishing.

I would also like to again thank our main regional sponsors Gib, Placemakers, Carters and Kalmar. Their ongoing support is invaluable to us as a Chapter and our ongoing provision of diverse and high quality membership services. There are a large number of other sponsors too, who have provided much

appreciated support for our Golf, Tennis, Fishing, Xmas and other non CPD events. Thank you!!

Dates for next years events have already been booked - 2nd March 2012 for the Fishing and 12th March 2012 for the Golf.

Education

Firstly a big thankyou to our Construction Industry Mentors for their participation and support of these emerging peers of industry, and we are now looking for additional mentors this year please.

Below some quotes from student feedback about the mentoring programme:

"I think the program is a great idea and a great opportunity for students"

"I have found the Programme thoroughly enlightening and useful in soooo many ways". "Thus far our meetings have been very beneficial, and I look forward to pursuing further interaction"

A Nation wide Student rep teleconference was run late last year to establish Students' suggestions for events . and services they would find useful, and to then report back to the Chapter Boards for consideration. This meeting covered a range of topics and was most insightful for us as Board members. Thanks to Kirsty de Meyer and Charlene Colas for organising this.

One outcome was that a NZIOB students page has now started on Facebook in early 2011.

CPD

The National CPD Programme moved from being voluntary to mandatory for all Members in 2010, following a Piloted trial for 18 months...and Northern Chapter has successfully ensured that Members can gain the credits needed to meet their minimum requirements by offering a wider range of credit accruing events. This programme is about to be supplemented by online CPD courses that will be able to be accessed wherever members reside.

Northland Branch

Karsten Thomsen took over the Chair of the Northland Branch from Rob Malone last year, thanks Karsten for the enthusiastic approach that he brings to the role. Northland Branch is always a very NZIOB active group !!

They have run 5 main events over the last 12 months.

- NZIOB board members spoke to around 80 NorthTec students at the NorthTec Career day about the students' chosen career and answered questions from the students.
- 2 site visits- A high spec concrete house and the new Hospital extension project.
- 6 product nights - where suppliers like Autex, Trespa, Kingspan, WattyI, Cortex and Gerard Roofing showcased their products to the Northland building industry
- Arranged a lecture with Martin Knight –Architect, from the UK who is designing the new Whangarei Lower Hatea Bridge.
- Held the traditional end of year Cocktail Party/award night, where 4 students on building related programmes were awarded certificates and rewarded for outstanding performance at NorthTec.

Waikato Branch

The Branch was ably chaired by Colin Smith, and he had a small team working on providing Activities for the local Members and potential members around the Waikato region. Not always an easy task when members are spread across a wide area. Colin is looking for additional enthusiastic members to join the crew.

Finally,

The last two years as President (and as a National Councillor) has been rewarding and challenging during these recessionary times, providing industry networking, camaraderie, insights and also opportunities to contribute at the governance level of this Institute.

During the last two years our Chapter has achieved and influenced several great initiatives and outcomes, and those are highlighted here.

1. Contributing to the creation of the National NZIOB Strategic Plan in 2009, which will be revisited in terms of ongoing implementation at Chapter level later in 2011.
2. A large number of cutting edge and relevant CPD accruing Activities' events run by the Northern Chapter Board in and around central Auckland, and by our Northland and Waikato branches.
3. The piloting of a Mentoring Scheme in 2010 for second year BCons Construction Management Unitec students, 10 of whom were paired up with some of our most notable and experienced construction industry personnel. This scheme is continuing through 2011 and is being expanded to include Massey students as well.
4. CPD Programme enhancements implemented, and further current developments are underway to offer even more readily accessible Membership Services.
5. An active student body of representatives from the major tertiary institutes in Northern Chapter have teamed up with their Southern and Central Chapter compatriots to provide insights into what the student members actually want to achieve and contribute whilst members of our Institute. This has resulted in a Facebook page being established in early 2011.
6. The ever popular annual networking and social events of Golf, Tennis and Fishing.
7. The Annual Student Academic Excellence Awards made to our emerging peers from a range of Building Industry related Programmes at the major Tertiary Institutions in the Northern Chapter region.

Thanks again to all of our sponsors and to our Northern Chapter Members, in particular. The Chapter is in good heart as I move to being Immediate Past President this year, and it will I know be ably led by the incoming President of Northern Chapter, Warren Chapman.

Best regards

Linda Kestle. FNZIOB
IPP Northern Chapter Board