



NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE of BUILDING INCORPORATED
Northern Chapter: Auckland - Hamilton - Whangarei

Northern Chapter President's Report : Chapter AGM 20th May 2010

1.0 Thanks to the NC Board and Branch Committee Members

Firstly I would like to thank the outgoing Board, comprising George Kubicki, Euan Whitaker, Ian Marshall, Warren Chapman and Lueder Stock, for all the work that they have put into the Chapter over the last year. They have brought an enthusiasm and a willingness to give up their time, and to openly debate and discuss important priorities at the various meetings, for the betterment of the services offered to our Chapter members. We have had a slimmer Board this year numbers wise which has meant more pressure than ever on fewer people to ensure that membership, activities, student initiatives, cpd and council representation were maintained and in many cases developed further.

I would also like to thank the Northern Chapter Branch chairs and their committees in Northland and in Waikato, as they too have ensured that membership numbers have continued to grow, events and activities were arranged, and the general business of running a Branch was run effectively and enthusiastically.

On behalf of the members on the Board and Branches, I need to thank their employers for supporting them and for giving them time off to attend the various NZIOB meetings and events. Without this valuable support the Chapter would not be able to function as well as it does.

A special thanks must go to Trish Croot (Reids), for her direction and coordination of the Annual Golf and Tennis Competitions, (with help from Chris Hale for the Tennis), to Laura McCullough (Kalmar), for her direction and coordination of the Annual Fishing Competition, and to Brigitte Taudien for assisting the Activities Subcommittee with the coordination of this Annual NC Dinner and awards event.

On behalf of the NC Board and its branches I would also like to thank Rick Mason and Brigitte Taudien in the National Office for their ongoing administrative support and implementation of our directives to them.

Finally, the NC Board wish Chris Hale a speedy recovery from his recent spate of ill health.

2.0 Activities

Euan Whitaker continues to lead the Activities Committee with lateral thinking, verve and professionalism. He is assisted on that committee by Mike Kale, Trish Croot, Andrew Cairney, John Hemi and more recently, Ian Marshall.

Highlights of the last 12 months were:

1. **Socially** –the Golf competition (key sponsor Placemakers), the Tennis and Fishing Competitions (key sponsor Kalmar), and the Xmas Function (key sponsor Carters). Thanks must go to all of our other many sponsors and organisers (namely Trish Croot, Chris Hale, Laura McCullough, Brigitte Taudien, respectively, and their teams of volunteers, who make these annual events possible.
2. **Site Visits** – 2 very interesting visits to Eden Park, and it was great to see that next year’s venue for the World Cup Final is in good hands and on track for completion over the next few months. The visits to Project Century, Lion Nathan’s (and Lion Red’s !!) new home, and the Auckland Art Gallery highlighted the diversity, innovation and broad skillsets required in our industry. Thanks must go to the companies and project teams that go out of their way to accommodate and support the NZIOB visits.
3. **Presentations** – Jim Clarke from Holmes Fire & Safety gave our members an insightful lesson on Fire Engineering 101. Northern Chapter hosted Sir Lawrence Street, as a part of his National Speaking Tour, where he presented and articulated his views on the use of Mediation rather than Arbitration as a means of settling disputes in the industry.

Thanks must go to this ever busy core business sub-committee of the Chapter. Watch this space for even more diversity of member service activities leading into 2011.

3.0 Membership

Thanks to George Kubicki, our membership officer, for his many hours of behind the scenes membership application paperwork. This work too is core to our survival as a Chapter. He reports that over the last 12 months we have gained 9 new full members, 1 fellow, 5 associates and 41 student members. We have however lost a few members and we are currently conducting a detailed review of why that was. We currently have 430 members.

4.0 Education and Student Initiatives

Lueder Stock leads this subcommittee and reports that the highlights over the last 12 months have been :

1. A successful start to the new NZIOB NC Student Mentoring programme, with a pilot running in conjunction with Unitec BCons CM students, and others planned to follow with other tertiary institutions next year. Many thanks again to the twelve or so industry mentors who are involved on this new programme.
2. Good support from, and the building of ever stronger relationships with Unitec and Massey University A welcome to the new student reps (Kirsty de Meyer and Charlene Colas), who now represent construction students at Unitec and Massey.

3. The Annual Academic Student Awards for the 2009 academic year– These will be awarded tonight at the Annual Dinner. Northland Branch has already awarded their student awards in December 2009.

The NC Board is pleased to have been able to continue their support of emerging industry colleagues and peers this year. Congratulations to all of these outstanding awardees!!

5.0 CPD

Warren Chapman heads up this Chapter subcommittee and also the National Council subcommittee.

The highlights this last year have been that we have continued to review and enhance the CPD programme in response to member comments in the surveys sent out.

With all members now being required (since April 01 2010) to formerly undertake and record their CPD credits, a further review is now underway of the 'credit scoring matrix'. The suggested improvements are currently with National Council. The intention is that the amended 'scoring matrix' will better enable members to accrue CPD credits, by attending technical visits, site visits, business seminars, CPD events run by other recognised professional institutes, and there is also a proposal for 'on-line CPD courses' to primarily assist our rurally located members.

6.0 Branches

Northern Chapter is fortunate in having not only the main Chapter Board and all of its subcommittees working tirelessly for the members and located in Auckland Central, but to also have two hard working Branch Committees one in Northland (chaired by Rob Malone) and one in the Waikato (chaired by Colin Smith).

1. **Northland** has been ever busy making even stronger inroads into the local community from an NZIOB perspective over the last 12 months.

We have an increasing member base there thanks to the persuasive efforts of the Branch committee members.

The new Branch Committee has brought fresh ideas to the table, and they are a committed group, with different skill sets. The committee's focus is on education and creating a point of difference for members in relation to events, networking and product information shows.

Events held – they have had some very good events for their members: tour of the Dargaville 50 meter Swimming pool (Barfoote Construction \$6m); tour of the Northland Events stadium project (Argon \$16m); tour of the Whangarei District Court house upgrade (Mainzeal \$10m)

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Northtec re scholarships - underpinned their future membership base with students having an advantage of becoming members. Trevor Griffiths brokered this deal after months of liaising.

I wish to thank Rob Malone, Trevor Griffiths, Phil Higham, Karsten Thompson and Dave Waetford on that Branch Committee.

2. The Waikato Branch has been going through a revitalisation programme over the last 12 months, enthusiastically and ably led by the new Chair Colin Smith and his committee of Finlay Irwin, Ray Hutton, Andy Overall, Rod Yeoman and Warren Clarke. My thanks to all of you.

The Waikato membership is currently 41 spread across Tauranga, Rotorua, Taupo and the Waikato with 5 new members just recently confirmed. Site visits have been their main activities over the last 9 months or so, with the latest being to the new Waitomo Caves visitor centre on May 11th 2010, and a filling calendar for the rest of 2010.

7.0 Sponsorship

I would 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!!

8.0 This has been my first year of office as Northern Chapter President and it has been a privilege to work with the NC Board, the Branch Committees, sponsors, tertiary institutions, National Council, and all of those members who have volunteered their time and shared their ideas to make this the strong and forward looking Chapter that it is.

Dr.Linda Kestle
Northern Chapter President
FNZIOB