



CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT ANNUAL REPORT 20/21

Kia ora koutou.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Since taking the reins as Chief Executive of Engineering New Zealand, I've had the privilege of meeting many of our 22,000 members. Through our Member Connect series I visited all 18 branches, either physically or online (due to Covid-19).

I also met with numerous technical and special interest groups, whose members have generously contributed their expertise to advance engineering knowledge and practice in our profession. I'm delighted that this year we welcomed two new technical interest groups – the Temporary Works Forum New Zealand and the New Zealand Hydropower Group. In fact, technical interest groups hosted 171 events with 28,744 registrants during the year – which I find really encouraging, as it says to me that members really are keen to see Engineering Zealand as their “technical home”.

Throughout the year, I've also kept close contact with leaders in major firms on policy and operational matters of mutual interest across the profession.

SUPPORTING ENGINEERS THROUGH COVID-19

The Delta outbreak in August and another sweep of lockdowns once again proved Engineering New Zealand is a resilient organisation. Our resilience is due to the strength of you, our members, and the technical expertise and practical experience you offer the organisation. For our part, we provided guidance for working at different alert levels, wellbeing resources, and we worked with the Association of Consulting Engineers New Zealand (ACE NZ) to secure a monthly group quota in managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ) for construction workers.

The ongoing presence of Covid-19 saw one-third of branch and technical interest group events hosted online. We provided 185 professional development activities to 3,180 participants face-to-face, online and in-house for members' firms. We also maintained our 'bread and butter' functions as a professional membership body and registration authority.

KIMIHA RANGAHAUA

Māori are underrepresented in engineering and as a profession we have underacknowledged both the importance and opportunity that comes with authentically incorporating mātauranga Māori.

As a profession and industry, we have a duty to uphold and deliver on the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The Board and I are therefore committed to raising the cultural competency of Engineering New Zealand Te Ao Rangahau and the wider engineering profession. Our first action to deliver on this commitment is to introduce Kimihia Rangahaua.

Kimihia Rangahaua is our strategy to embrace and integrate te ao Māori (Māori world views) in the engineering profession. It is important that our profession can engage and partner meaningfully with iwi/Māori so that we can:

- encourage and influence early and authentic consultation and relationships with iwi and hapu
- design better solutions that incorporate mātauranga Māori
- deliver better outcomes for all including community and te taiao (our environment), and
- inspire and attract greater numbers of Māori to become engineers.

We are working with Papaki Parihau, our newly formed Māori advisory group, to finalise this strategy. In the meantime we have taken the first steps towards this by focusing internally to increase our staff's confidence and competency in te reo Māori, tīkanga, te ao Māori and te Tiriti o Waitangi.

“Tītiro atu ki te taumata moana, tākiri mai ko te ata – look beyond to the configurations on the horizon, there you will witness the rising dawn” – Te Ruki Kāwiti (Ngāti Hine) – Invasion of Ruapekapeka Pā

VOLUNTEERS

Although the year has presented challenges, I am very proud of all we've achieved. And we couldn't have done it without you.

Volunteers are critical to our success – as they have been for more than 100 years. During the past year, we have relied on more than 2,000 volunteers to make things happen. Branches and technical groups are run by volunteers. Events are hosted by volunteers. Assessment and complaints processes require volunteers.

Our programmes – like the Wonder Project, Diversity Agenda, and Heritage – all depend on volunteers. I personally want to thank every member who has donated their time and skills to the engineering profession through Engineering New Zealand Te Ao Rangahau this year.

Nāku noa, nā
Dr Richard Templer FEngNZ
Chief Executive