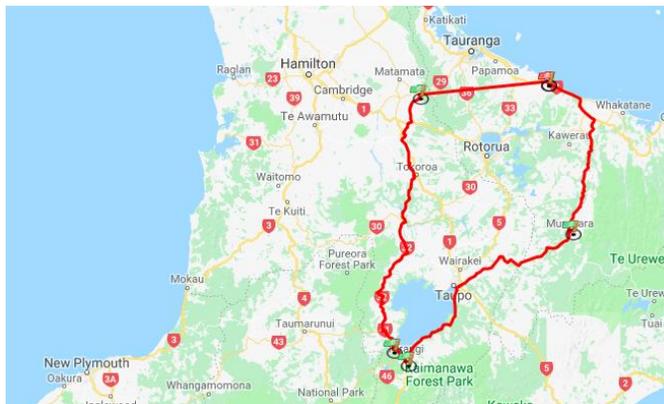


Update from the Chief Executive Officer

I am delighted to announce the establishment of a new Rotorua branch. This will come as a welcome opportunity to those members who are currently working or residing in the region, who have often travelled a great distance to attend NZISM networking and CPD events. A committee is currently organising the first meeting for the Rotorua branch and Shayne Lyons, who is the treasurer for the Bay of Plenty branch is leading the committee. If you are interested in becoming involved to support the development of Rotorua branch please contact Shayne via kiwisafetyservices@gmail.com. The map below indicates the boundary of the new branch. Details on the inaugural meeting will be provided in our regular fortnightly newsletter once they are confirmed, so all interested members will have the opportunity to attend.



I met with our CPD Committee recently and we have developed a great programme of webinars which we will be delivering you over the next twelve months. The first webinar scheduled is in May and will be advertised via a special email once the details are confirmed. We are also looking at developing a series of road shows for our branches and are awaiting the final proposals from presenters. Keep up to date with the developments via the NZISM newsletter and the events page on our website. Be sure to book in quickly to secure your place once these are announced as they are very popular amongst our members.

We now have over 1600 members across New Zealand and 45% of our members have been through our accreditation programme. We have recently promoted the Technical membership and I would like to reiterate that our technical members are a hugely valuable constituent of our accredited membership. The high degree of knowledge and skill required to meet technical level should not be underestimated. Our technicians are able to implement and monitor OH&S systems and processes and apply practical solutions to their workplaces. Tech members interact with and influence operational, supervisory, line and middle management and consultative groups across designated areas. They demonstrate an understanding of the implications of OH&S strategies and activities for operational functions and areas within organisations. They are able to demonstrate broad technical and theoretical OH&S knowledge, applying cognitive and communication skills to identify, analyse, synthesise and act on information from a range of workplace sources.

The misconception often arises that all OH&S practitioners are working their way through our accreditation programme. This is not always the case. Often our technical members operate in very specific and complex environments, that require the technical skills that these members offer, without the need to progress further through the NZISM programme. It is really important that as a professional organisation we recognise each and every stage of our accreditation programme as being complete within itself and not necessarily a stepping stone to something else. Without the skills of the technician the General or Group Manager cannot effectively run their organisation because the Executive does not have the technical skills that our qualified Technicians offer.

Each NZISM accredited membership grade has its own area of expertise and value to add to organisations and the wider health and safety industry of New Zealand. Being accredited at any level with NZISM puts you ahead of your peers and supports the ongoing increase in capability across New Zealand's health and safety landscape.