

Wishing you a happy new year,

I hope you have all managed to take some time out with friends and family over the Christmas and New Year break. The lead up to Christmas can be extremely stressful and we all know the effects that stress can have on our bodies and minds. Taking time to check out mentally and physically from our workload even for a few days, is vital to recharge those batteries and prepare for the beginning of a new year. I was lucky to spend a few lazy days at home with my family, enjoying the children and their newfound fascination with some of Santa's deliveries. The karaoke set up that seemed like such a good idea at the time, has already overstayed its welcome. We ate all the traditional Christmas fare and my mums trifle took centre stage at the dessert table as it does every year. It was just enough rest and relaxation to ensure that as we begin 2018 I had time to review and reflect on our achievements so far.

As an organisation what we are working towards is ensuring NZISM has the structures, systems, tools and design to create an environment where all our members have meaningful engagement with their peers, the industry and our stakeholders to achieve our vision of leading the way for health and safety professionals. To achieve this we have an ambitious business plan. Just before Christmas I submitted the first quarterly report to the leadership team and this detailed our progress against the business plan, our financial position and included a number of new metrics we are using to track use of the website and better understand who our members are.

We have achieved a number of key tasks; reviewed and refined our vision, which you will start to see used more widely in our communications and branding. We have updated and refreshed our logo, which was a big change for NZISM and while we know not everyone achieved their desired option, we hope that you agree the colours and layout present well digitally and will look fabulous in printed material as well. The inclusion of the tick in the logo has generated much discussion so it's important to be clear about what this represents. Our biggest value proposition to the health and safety industry is our internationally recognised professional accreditation programme. Being an accredited member of NZISM means you have achieved a high standard of qualifications and experience in health and safety. The tick is the quality mark of a professional accreditation programme.

We have reviewed the organisations expenses and will be continually looking to reduce our costs and increase efficiencies to make every membership dollar count. We have streamlined the systems we use to support the administration of NZISM and we will be moving all of our website and the supporting applications onto a new platform to reduce risk and to ensure the information members need and want to access is more intuitively presented. Development work will begin mid-January, so you will shortly see a big change in the look of the website and as we progress implementation, the structure of the website will start to change. If you have any feedback on the layout I am always open to suggestions on how we can improve this platform for you.

We have established a new branch event management process to support the branches in the administration of local events. Once each branch has nationalised their accounts they won't have to worry about managing the expenses of their events, the national office will process all invoices on your behalf and this will increase the productive time spent on events by members.

NZISM now has the ability to hold virtual meetings across the country using Zoom, an account has been established which is available for all members who are working on NZISM initiatives. As a national organisation it can be difficult to get project teams together, however with virtual meeting software your team members can now engage in virtual meetings without the need for travel.

One of the major accomplishments in 2017 was the HASANZ register becoming open for our accredited graduate or above members. If you are an accredited graduate member of NZISM I encourage you to get yourself on the HASANZ register. The register will be a one stop shop for businesses to find reliable, quality health and safety advice. So whether you are a consultant or whether you work inhouse within health and safety, being listed on the HASANZ register will put you in front of potential employers and businesses looking to engage health and safety professionals. Since the register opened on 13th December we have had 44 NZISM members begin the process of registering. We have a target of 80 NZISM members being registered by 31st March 2018. In order to ensure your registration goes smoothly I encourage you to read the FAQs on our website before you begin the process. We have a project team of 10 working through all the applications to ensure we make good progress towards achieving our target, if you have any questions on the HASANZ register please contact Joyce at grading@nzism.org.

As we begin 2018 I am excited about the improvements we are making taking NZISM from a member organisation to a leading health and safety organisation in New Zealand and I can't wait to share the journey with you all.

Selena Armstrong
Chief Executive Officer



New Zealand Institute of Safety Management