

Update from the CEO

We are kicking off 2018 with a huge surge in registrations to the HASANZ register. To date more than 60 members have started the registration process and we are working hard in the background to get these applications processed and finalised in the system. The HASANZ grading committee met recently and one of the biggest issues we are facing is verifying the evidence of competencies being selected on the register. To enable your assessment to progress as quickly as possible, please ensure you are reading the competency document which details the description of the competency, the evidence you are required to submit and any qualifications that must be attained before selecting the competency.

In cases where competencies are selected and assessors cannot ascertain that you have the specified evidence to support your selection, your application cannot progress. There is a huge range of competencies available and it is crucial to the success of the register that only those you are qualified to select are included in your application. We are working as hard and fast as we can to process registrations however where applicants have not fully read the requirements before beginning the process it is creating lag times in completing registrations.

Please keep up the good work and ensure you fully understand what evidence and qualifications are required for any selection you make. Getting you approved is our top priority and this can only happen when the information required is provided. See below for more information in the HASANZ update

As a proud representative of NZISM I am often asked what membership to our organisation really means. I have discovered that there is not a simple answer, because as with all membership organisations, the benefits are specific to each individual, but here is where I usually begin...

If you are starting out your journey in health and safety, NZISM offers the invaluable opportunity to engage with people in many different industries and at all stages of their career. The opportunity to network within an environment where so many experts gather is a huge advantage in developing your health and safety career. NZISM has a well-articulated mentor programme and mentoring is a major benefit of NZISM membership. Our mentor programme will be a big focus this year, Phil Lewis-Farrell and I will be working on its development so watch this space, and if you are keen to mentor or to be mentored please get in contact with either of us for more information. Our internationally recognised accreditation programme clearly outlines the necessary steps to achieve further advancement in your career and we have identified qualifications that align with our accreditation programme. One of the major issues identified by the HASANZ health and safety professionals survey in 2017 was that only 35.84% of respondents agreed that they had a clear path of progression as a health and safety professional. What we are aiming to achieve is by undertaking our accreditation scheme we are helping to articulate this for our members.

For those people who have worked in health and safety for a number of years, what better way to have your experience and qualifications verified and endorsed. The achievement of grading in our accreditation program signifies to potential clients and employers that your competency meets an internationally recognised standard. As well as this all graduate members and above are now able to register with HASANZ which will continue to grow as the source for engaging quality health and safety professionals. As the largest health and

safety membership organisation in New Zealand, NZISM is able to provide a united voice, addressing your concerns with government, industry and tertiary providers. We are committed to building quality health and safety practitioners and promoting industry excellence and we do this by working together.

We are very fortunate to have a good number of members who have reached the pinnacle of their health and safety careers who are looking to give back to the industry and who do this by being actively engaged in our organisation, volunteering in a number of ways, whether at branch or executive level. I cannot underestimate the value of having these people in our organisation. They provide continued opportunity to learn from and discuss the big issues we face. They provide us with guidance on our decision making in the accreditation programme, they ensure we align with international standards and provide knowledge on best practice as well as guide the strategic issues we focus on as an organisation. NZISM offers a range of opportunities to give back and lead the way for all health and safety professionals.

Anyone working in a professional capacity and who aspire to progress their careers, view CPD as a valuable tool in the ongoing development of their career. At NZISM we provide a range of CPD that meets the needs of health and safety learning requirements. Whether in the form of our national webinar programme, online resources or in local branch events, where the grassroots philosophy of learning and engagement is well entrenched. CPD is a big focus for our members, and therefore a major focus for the executive team.

We will continue and build on offering our members opportunities to further their learning, through discounted training and industry events, and offering discounts on products via our corporate supporters. We ensure NZISM members are updated on the issues relevant to us via regular newsletters and other communication tools.

As an organisation we are committed to enabling all those with an interest in occupational health and safety to develop their knowledge and skills for the benefit of themselves and the organisations and workers they support. Being a member of NZISM provides the platform to enable you to achieve all this and more. One of the deliverables in our 2017/2018 business plan is improving member benefits, if you know of opportunities where we can further increase benefits for our membership please contact me directly, I welcome any and all suggestions. We will continually work to improve as an organisation and deliver our members both quality and value.

Selena Armstrong
Chief Executive Officer

