



## Update from ASENZ Board Meeting

### ASENZ view from the Chair July 09

#### Hello

The last board meeting was held in Auckland in July. This was the 2nd full board meeting and the final meeting prior to the conference and AGM in September. As the AGM has moved from its previous November timing it means it has been a very short working year and one of some significant questions; especially in the development of the single body for disability services.

At this meeting there were a few key items that underwent robust debate.

#### Standards review

This is now complete and printed. The final version will be released at conference with a workshop to discuss the next steps in standards for ASENZ. Check out the conference programme for more!

#### Conference

This is looking good. There is a diverse range of key notes and workshops. It is good to see the sector stepping up to contribute to and give back to others with several organizations looking to run workshops. The range of speaks looks great and it is shaping up to be a great conference.

The Ministry of Social Development has continued to support our work around conference and this is much appreciated at this point in time.

#### Professional Development

As you would see from the regular updates in Ian's emails, the Diploma and Certificate modules are progressing well and so far we have had 4 modules delivered. The feedback from these have been generally good though of course there are always areas to continually improve and Ian is working hard to ensure this happens.

If your organization or your local network of agencies is keen on hosting or developing your own customized training do not hesitate to contact Ian.

It is clear that professional development for Supported Employment practitioners and professionals is an area that is critical for the sustainability of the sector. The way in which people practice can define organizations, results and reputation. In that respect ASENZ is beginning to look at how we evolve the current Standards of Supported Employment to have a practitioners as well as organizational focus.

We will be strongly exploring the development of a 'code of ethic's/practice ' for Supported Employment practitioners as we move forward as this seems the logical next step.

# July 2009



**asenz**  
THE ASSOCIATION FOR SUPPORTED  
EMPLOYMENT IN NEW ZEALAND

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### **“Peak Body”**

As you will know from recent updates the Board have made a call regarding our current involvement in the Peak Group (Disability Services New Zealand).

Based on membership consultation and board decision, ASENZ is not looking to progress with our engagement in the establishment group for DSNZ.

Therefore, we are looking to remain an independent body representing providers of Supported Employment and the principles of Supported Employment in New Zealand.

The board are now looking and planning on the next steps for ASENZ within a changing environment and what this will mean to our members. This will be a large part of the focus for the board over the next 12 months.

### **Elections**

We invite you to have a think about what you may be able to offer as a Board member or consider someone who you may think can contribute to the work of the Board.

Soon Ian will be sending out details of the upcoming election of officers for ASENZ. There will be places available on the Board and this year we have redesigned the nomination form to reflect the specific needs of the Board.

### **Sector Meetings**

These have continued and updates are regularly circulated. We continue to meet with the wider sector to promote employment for people with disabilities.

Over the last few weeks it has begun to come to our attention that some provider contracts have been impacted by changes within the health and disability sector and we are interested to hear if this has had any impact on Supported employment providers.

If you could channel any relevant information to Ian.

Look forward to seeing you all at conference.

Tyron Pini – ASENZ Chair