



## Update from ASENZ Board Meetings

### **ASENZ Board Update for the September and November 2008 meetings**

#### **Kia ora koutou!**

As this update is prepared in November after the Annual General Meeting, and election of ASENZ Officers it is timely to welcome Susan McDonald, Rebecca Knowlton and Louise Deane to the Board of Directors.

Sadly, we bade farewell to Lachlan Keating.

I can also confirm the elected officers for the 2008-2009 year are:  
Chairperson – Tyron Pini; Secretary – Thomas Bryan; Treasurer – Kervin Farr.  
I am sure you will all join with me in welcoming them to their new and 'old' roles.

#### **2008 Regional Conferences – collaborating with the sector!**

A key reason for holding the 3 regional conferences this year was so that holding a single national conference did not clash and compete with other national conferences including the VASS conference. Regardless of the reasons the mini-conferences were certainly successful in terms of attendances. The Board will do a cost benefit exercise to determine the overall viability of this years conferences and I can confirm that next year we will be holding a national conference again.

#### **“A Framework for Quality” – for good measures!**

The draft 2008 edition of “A Framework for Quality” containing the “Standards for Supported Employment” was released for consultation at this year’s Annual General Meeting, as planned.

Feedback on anything to do with the document is required before the end of February 2009. This will allow for printing of a final document by the end of March 2009. Queries and or feedback should be directed to:

Les Gilsean, Whanganui DRC, PO Box 102, Wanganui. Ph. 06 3471176  
or email [lesg@whanganuidrc.org.nz](mailto:lesg@whanganuidrc.org.nz)

Engaging passionate and knowledgeable people made the 6-month task of reviewing and revising the 10-year old document, easier.

To: Rob Warriner, Louise Deane, Magdel Hammond, Rachel Jones, Joe Riley, John Taylor and Roy Wilson, it was a privilege to work with you!

We are grateful for funding assistance provided by MSD.

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### **ASENZ Training & SE Qualifications – building and maintaining competencies!**

Our EO has kept everyone fully informed about the re-initiation of the Certificate and Diploma in February 2009. As advised the first module will be delivered in Palmerston North.

Are you registered? Forms and info available on the website.

### **ASENZ/VASS merger and/or Single body – heads or tails?**

The Board is aware that the majority of our membership approve continuing discussions with VASS. Ongoing dialogue, at least, is required to work more collaboratively.

However, much of that momentum has been overtaken by considerations and consultation aimed at developing a “Peak Group” or single umbrella organisation that would rationalize the broad essential administration functions of several national umbrella groups. Initially, discussions are involving members of VASS, ASENZ, NRID and SLNZ with support from CCS Disability Action and IHC.

At this stage the least support for the concept is coming from ASENZ members who believe that the integrity or authenticity of ‘Supported Employment’ would be lost. The ASENZ Board is very aware of this and is certainly not intending to compromise on this point.

The ‘interim management group’ is holding a consultation meeting for providers in Wellington on Thursday 4 December 9.00am-midday at the West Plaza Hotel.

### **Constitution revision – sticking to the rules!**

Amendments to the constitution were approved at AGM.

An important amendment increased Board member terms from 2 years to 3 years and eliminated the indicated stand-down period. This intended to allow for continuity of particularly longitudinal project work such as research.

### **Multimedia Campaign – disabled people in employment!**

This is still an objective of the Board and something that is going to require much sector collaboration to be successful.

We are keen to hear your views.

# April 2008



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

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### Members' Survey – keeping us informed!

There was an encouraging response to the 2008 Membership Survey. Ian will be sending out an analysis shortly.

Members' surveys provide all of us with a snapshot of the 'health' of SE services across the country as well as assists us with future planning and direction.

Our future research planning will be greatly assisted by a commitment to information gathering too.

### Transition from school to work – is transition to community implicit?

The process contradictions reported last update still exist in the difference between guidelines and contract conditions.

Does anyone have any new information?

What are your experiences? Do you have any experiences of 'duty of care' in your service provision?

As also previously reported the issue of non-ORRS funded students remains on our agenda.

### **Again, we welcome any feedback!**

Noho ora mai

Les Gilsean  
ASENZ Board