

FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

February 2022

RECENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

<https://www.nzrab.nz/newsfeed/>

Canada, Australia and New Zealand mutual recognition agreement

Renewal of the MRA advised on 17 January 2022.

Undertaking Pro Bono Work in a Safe and Professional Way

Cautionary Note #14 published on 21 February 2022.

Greetings. The new year is well and truly underway, and I trust that memories of your holidays have not receded too far into the past.

Since starting this role last August, I spent the last quarter of 2021 getting up to speed with NZRAB - our role, purpose and functions. An important part of that was building my understanding of the needs of, and our interactions with, the many groups whom we serve or are here to support - architects, assessors, convenors, graduates and would-be applicants, the Board and our various panels and committees, and our broader group of stakeholders both in New Zealand and internationally.

For NZRAB, 2022 has started off with a busy work programme. We are - appropriately - modestly resourced and operate with limited capacity to implement major change. Nonetheless, you will (I hope) begin to see improvements in our communications, some of our systems and processes, and a more modern way of operating as the year progresses.

We have also scheduled significant work to commence this year in the following areas.

Registration reform. Work that was undertaken several years ago looking at our initial registration system and process, was put on hold pending the outcome of the 2021 Review of the National Standard of Competency for Architects which we share with Australia, and the Boards focus on implementing the new rules relating to complaints and disciplinary matters.

Completing the accreditation of the UNITEC School of Architecture against the 2016 standards, AUT's initial accreditation against those standards, and preparing the New Zealand Schools of Architecture for future accreditations against the 2021 [National Standards of Competency Standards for Architects](#) from 2023 onwards.

Looking at the refinement of those 2021 National Standards of Competency for Architects to better reflect the New Zealand context - often referred to as developing a 'New Zealand addendum'. This will specifically address Te Ao Māori and Te Tiriti o Waitangi, sustainability, climate change and environment matters.

Publication of our strategic plan and work programme for 2022 to 2025.

NZRAB Executive Office

NZRAB has a small Executive Office in Wellington with six staff. A few of us are quite new to our roles, so it is timely that I introduce our people.

Kylie Johnston is our Executive Officer Public Protection. Kylie is responsible for managing the Board's complaints and disciplinary procedures. She also manages protection of title matters.

Karen Knobloch is the Executive Officer Registration responsible for managing all matters relating to initial and continuing registration.

Sue Larkin is the Executive Officer Administration and provides administrative support to the Executive Office, but particularly in the registrations area.

Jeremy Porima is the Executive Officer Operations. He oversees our operational functions, with a particular focus on the CPD website and CPD points allocation, and supports the Schools of Architecture and our accreditation function. He is also Board secretariat.

Li Qiao is our Executive Officer Finance and manages our financial systems and processes.

Te Reo Māori and Sign Language

The NZRAB Initial Registration Policy provides for initial registration applications and professional conversations to be conducted in te reo or sign.

To date we have not received requests for assessments in either language. Our policy sets out how this is accommodated which includes use of professional accredited translators, at NZRAB cost, where necessary.

If you would like to enquire about this further please contact the registrations team at info@nzrab.org.nz or on 04 471-1336.

COVID-19 Response

Last year the Board advised that from September 2021, all applicants for registration will be able to choose whether they wish to have their CRCR interview or initial registration professional conversation assessments virtually or in-person.

Where the preference is for these meetings to held in-person they take place in either Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch. The in-person meetings are conducted in accordance with Government guidelines, and any requirements imposed by the meeting venues.

KEY DATES

18 February
2022 CRCR applications due

23-25 February
UNITEC accreditation

24 February
Close off for the first Round of Pathway 3 (offshore architects with New Zealand experience),⁴ (formerly registered New Zealand architects) and 6 (APEC Architects from Japan, Singapore and Canada) registrations

24 March
Close off for the first Round of Pathway 1 (for qualifying New Zealand architectural graduates) registrations

12 April
NZRAB Board meeting

In Conclusion

It is my intention to issue newsletters on a more frequent basis than has become the practice. In future they will have a different 'look and feel' and I hope that you will find them focused and informative.

We are also changing our method of distributing these, so I apologise if you have previously unsubscribed. If you wish to be removed from this mailing list - please advise me directly.

My preference is to keep lines of communication open - so if there is anything you wish to reach out to me about, please feel free to do so. My email is dougal@nzb.org.nz and telephone number is 027 371-4067.

All the best

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "dougal".