

NZRAB Newsletter

Fellow Architects

What a time we are living in currently. Keeping yourself and loved ones safe is the priority. We need to all care about each other and heed advice from the Ministry of Health and the Government. Patience and compassion are paramount, basically all of us need to be good Kiwis.

The implications of COVID-19 in the coming months for the practice of architecture in New Zealand is difficult to imagine at this stage. NZRAB will keep on undertaking its responsibilities, under the Registered Architects Act, as Government requires us to do. We will do so to the best of our ability and will as a matter of course, consider the realities of the profession in this crisis, as we undertake the work we have to do.

Secretariat

The NZRAB Secretariat are working from home and keeping things moving along. Our retiring CE, Paul Jackman, is currently receiving treatment for cancer, our thoughts are with Paul and his family at this time. Andrew Symonds, our Executive Officer Public Protection, is in the Acting Chief Executive role. With Paul's planned retirement, we have been actively recruiting for a new Chief Executive with an announcement pending.

Annual Certificate of Registration (ACR)

In mid-May ACR invoices for the 20/21 year starting 1 July will be sent out to you. The law is very strict in that the NZRAB can only issue an ACR to an architect on payment of the full ACR fee of \$724.50 (incl GST) which is prescribed in the Registered Architects Rules. The ACR invoices will be sent out by email only this year.

Registration update

In order to protect all applicants, Assessors and NZRAB staff, we have cancelled all face-to-face professional conversations/interviews through to 31 May 2020. We continue to process the applications which have already been received. Closer to that time we will re-assess the situation and make new arrangements. However, we are already in the planning stages to incorporate the postponed professional conversations, with the June intake with professional conversations, to be held in August 2020 in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch on the assumption that life will be getting back to something like normal by that time. In the meantime, we will be undertaking some trials to see whether 'zoom' interviews are practical if life is not getting back to normal.

To keep up to date with registration news and any changes to intakes and processes please visit the NZRAB website frequently - www.nzrab.org.nz

CPD Points

We have heard that some of you are worried about the loss of opportunities to gain CPD points for your next competence assessment due to this crisis. The Board is holding a special meeting on 7 April and it will discuss what might be done to help you all out. Watch this space. In the meantime, if you are a NZIA member, the NZIA have a number of on-line recordings of webinars, presentations and seminars that you may have missed which are available free of charge. These are all available for CPD points. This would be a good time to catch-up!

On behalf of my fellow Board members and the secretariat please be safe and take care.

Gina Jones
Chair
27 March 2020