

Board Newsletter

Napier Kindergarten Association

November 2018

The joy of teaching, the love of learning



“The first five years have so much to do with how the next 80 turn out.”

Bill Gates Snr

Haere Mai From The President

Greetings all, as usual there's a lot happening for our board and in our kindergartens as we head into the end of our kindergarten year.

In our August and September newsletters we commented on our kindergarten enrolment situation and a little about our plans for addressing it. Since then our General Manager has met with 9 of our kindergarten teams to discuss ideas and possible solutions, some of which have already been implemented to make our kindergartens more visible and appealing, and to increase our marketing presence.

Other ideas will take more time to develop and implement – we'll have some further information on those ideas for you in our December newsletter.

We've begun discussing thoughts around our budgets for next year and at our end of November board meeting will have a budget presented to us for approval.

The Incorporated Societies Act 1908 is expected to be amended next year for the first time since 1908. A constitutional lawyer has recommended that we redraft our Constitution to bring it into line with the proposed new legislation, therefore we'll be presenting a new Constitution to our members for approval at our AGM in 2019.

The key changes will be around:

- Membership – we cannot continue to arbitrarily deem people to be members of our association, as our constitution currently does
- Membership – requirement to maintain a register of member's names and addresses
- Board members - we must have a process included in our constitution for the raising and addressing of concerns or complaints regarding board members

Our Board Members Are:



Standing left to right: Sarah Beckett, Sarah Nash (Vice President), Jo Coffin, Janelle Hutchings, Jessica Uri (President)

Seated: Ingrid Squire, Rachel Murray
and below are :



Rob Barzey



Alison Donovan

What our Board does:

Board members govern the Association and our primary responsibilities are:

- * Development of the Association's Strategic Plan (our visions & long term plans for the Association)
- * Employment & monitoring of the General Manager
- * Monitoring of strategic outcomes
- * Management of risk
- * Monitoring of legal compliance
- * Setting and reviewing of policies



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Disability and Learning Support Action Plan

The consultation period has now closed on a government draft action plan to support the estimated 1 in 5 children with learning challenges. The plan aims to allocate an additional \$272.8 million over a four year period to providing support. However the plan is primarily focused on prioritizing and delivering this support to schools.

In early childhood education services this means nearly 40,000 children, who later move on to school, should also be receiving much needed additional support. The government is being urged by kindergartens to consider the greater outcomes that could be achieved by early identification and provision of support in early childhood services.

Jessica Uri, President

Introducing our board member Alison Donovan



I am proud to be a Napier Kindergarten Association Board member and have been since August 2017. I love having the opportunity to give something back to an organisation which has helped to positively shape and teach my three tamariki.

I am passionate about all kindergarten has to offer and want everyone to know that kindergarten is an excellent ECE choice thanks to our amazing teachers. So I am proud to have the collective responsibility, along with the other NKA Board members, to ensure Napier Kindergartens evolve to keep meeting the needs of our whānau and communities, and are sustainable into the future.

I was a Playcentre child and was very involved in Taradale Playcentre prior to and alongside our tamariki attending kindergarten, so have enjoyed and appreciated the kindergarten experience from many different perspectives plus learnt a lot more about ECE.

My paid working career began in courtrooms and took me around the world then back to Wellington where I grew up. My husband and I moved to Hawke's Bay to enjoy the East Coast summers 12 years ago. I recently returned to full-time paid work where I am in charge of HR, recruitment and administration for a large plumbing and roofing business.

Who Are Members Of Our Association?



Our Association Members are:

- Parents and caregivers with children enrolled in our services or on our waiting lists
- Board Members
- Life Members

Members have voting rights at all General Meetings.

Our employees are not Members of our Association and have no voting rights at General meetings.

Public ECE provision

The government's Early Learning Strategic Plan has stated its intention to invest more in the public education system.

In the Terms of Reference for development of the strategic plan it is stated: "For ECE this involves turning the tide away from a privatized, profit-focused education system. In the context of early learning, this includes working to ensure that community based early childhood education services have well maintained facilities and are able to expand to meet growing demand."

This is about to become a very important discussion for ECE!

