

Nelson Marlborough Branch of the Institute of Directors

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

To all members of the Nelson Marlborough Branch of the Institute of Directors in New Zealand (Inc):

On behalf of the Nelson Marlborough branch committee, it is my pleasure to report on the 2022 year. It has been another year with periods of uncertainty for many businesses and for the branch here. The impact of COVID-19 finally sweeping our community earlier this year meant that we were constrained from delivering our in-person events locally. While we remain in good heart, we look forward to a year ahead in 2023 of re-building our in-person education and networking events.

Our branch's key objectives for 2022 were;

- Deliver at least 10 events in Nelson and five in Blenheim that provide thought leadership, inspiration, governance tools, continuing professional development and networking opportunities; and
- Maintain collaboration with other local organisations that have an interest in or connection to governance networks

During the course of 2022, we have delivered 9 face-to-face events in Nelson, 5 face-to-face events in Blenheim, and 2 online events. Some of these events were scheduled to be smaller than we traditionally planned for to make sure that our members felt comfortable to attend and that we could ensure we meet all regulatory requirements. During the year, we were lucky enough to have local members Doug Paulin, Venus Guy and Katrina Kidson present on the Climate Change panel. Our thanks to these members for giving their time to us.

Branch Committee

I wish to acknowledge the work of our branch committee – Leeson Baldey, Stephen Broad-Paul, Pip Jamieson, Tracy Johnson, Darren Mark, Euan McIntosh, Venus Guy, Matt Sutherland, Tim Cosgrove, Suzanne Jones and Gordon Shaw. They have given generously of their time and energy, I greatly appreciate both their support and the time they voluntarily give for our members here in Te Taihū. Darren Mark and Leeson Baldey are both retiring at the end of their terms. They have given so much to our committee and branch. I particularly want to acknowledge Darren's length of service to our branch committee of 12 years, his commitment throughout those years has been exceptional. On behalf of our members, thank you, and on behalf of the committee - we will miss you both.

Membership

Overall branch membership at the time of writing this report is 337 – slightly behind last year's total of 343. We continue to have above average engagement rates for our members attending branch events, training and newsletter readership. Our congratulations to Karen Jordan, who was recognised as a Chartered Fellow this year, and also to Corey Hebbard, Jenna Neame, Leonie Rae, Venus Guy, Dr Nicola Hill, Nicki Stretch and Rhys Welbourn who have become Chartered Members.

Collaborations

Our collaboration with the Marlborough Chamber of Commerce has continued to enable us both to deliver quality events and information to our members. We have also continued to enjoy our presence in the Mahitahi Colab.

Emerging Director Award

This year we ran the emerging director award for up and coming directors in the early stages of their governance careers. We were delighted to announce Jenna Neame as our winner. A big thank you to our judges, Sarah Smith, Ross Butler and Pete Boyle .

National Office

It has been a big year for National Office with the rule changes voted on last year taking effect this year, and the IoD national board being appointed. I believe it to be good news both for our branch and for all regions that we have one of our Marlborough members – Ian Fitzgerald on that board. We congratulate him.

Branch Sponsors

We are extremely grateful for the continued support of our branch sponsors, who are just so important in enabling us to continue to successfully deliver services to our members. We most sincerely thank Duncan Cotterill, Findex, Intepeople, and to our newest sponsor Ngāti Kuia for the support they provide us, not only financially but with their expertise, passion, spaces and commitment. We also appreciate our national sponsors ASB and Marsh. Finally we record our thanks to King Salmon who have provided us with support for some years but were unable to continue to sponsor us, a decision we respect.

Branch Manager

In late January we were lucky enough to have Jenelle (Nelly) Strickland appointed as our branch manager. Nelly has quickly upskilled into the role, and I know that many of you will already have connected with her. Nelly is part time as our branch manager and part time as Diversity Programmes Co-ordinator - which enables her to deliver a very connected nationally level of service for our branch. Thank you Nelly for all you have done for us in the past months.

Concluding comments

2022 was indeed the year of uncertainty and change we predicted while we continued to live through the pandemic. I am sure that most of us approach 2023 with a renewed sense of optimism for world health, while acknowledging the bumps in the road ahead for many businesses, depending on just how the economic situation develops. However that is, looking after your governance interests is the key focus of your committee and branch manager. We thank you for your membership and look forward to, with our support, continuing as Te Tauhihi's leading governance thought leadership, support and networking organisation.

Sarah-Jane Weir
Chair, Nelson Marlborough Branch