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February 2018

e-Newslink

## **OPENING OF CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS - SPECIAL OFFER!**

The opening of the 2018 NZIS Annual Conference registration will commence next week. Our initial email will introduce our keynote speakers and a special opening price for members only. This will run from Tuesday 13 February through to Wednesday 28 February. Please keep an eye out for a further email on Tuesday.

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### **NZIS CERTIFICATION UPDATE**

Probably the most crucial piece of work the NZIS Council has developed over the last two years has been the review of NZIS Certification, including RPSurv. This is especially relevant in light of a growing group of territorial authorities focusing on ensuring those overseeing or signing off on plans in certain focus areas are qualified to do so. The certification pathways for all our members are the focus of the review and the work that has been completed by the Council, Board and members to date is about to become public for all our members to review.

Meanwhile, the next two months will involve tweaking of the paper by the streams and Council before the final draft paper is distributed to "all" members, most likely after the Council meeting in April. It is vital that we get this product fit for purpose so please prepare your members for the paper as the turnaround time for some streams is not long with 1 July as the draft rollout date.

Please encourage your local members to comment on the final draft either through their stream, branch or in their individual capacity.

Rebecca Strang - our President - will be providing updates as the process evolves.

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## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Gas Testing Courses 2018

We have two Gas Testing courses being run in Auckland on 6 March. If you wish to see more or register please click [here](#). Please note that we will need registrations in by 19 February.

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## PROFESSIONAL ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

The April Professional Entrance Examinations are coming up. Please ensure you are aware of the following dates if you are intending on sitting these in a couple of months.

- **19 February 2018** - Closing date for any exemptions for April 2018 Professional Entrance Examinations
- **5 March 2018** - Closing date for applications to sit April 2018 Professional Entrance Examinations
- **12 March 2018** - Timetables sent to eligible candidates to sit April 2018 Professional Entrance Examinations
- **9 April 2018** - Start of April Professional Entrance Examinations

[For more information, please visit the Professional Entrance Exam page here](#)

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## LINZ NEWS

### An index to the Surveyor-General's guidelines is now available on-line

The Surveyor-General's guidelines on the Rules for Cadastral Survey 2010 are published as articles in the KnowledgeBase on the LINZ website.

A topical index to these articles is now also available in the KnowledgeBase.

Access the [index to the Surveyor-General's guidelines](#).

[Read more about the Surveyor-General's guidelines in the KnowledgeBase.](#)

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## CASE NOTES

**Summaries of cases from Thomson Reuters' "Your Environment".**

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This month we report on six court decisions covering diverse situations associated with subdivision, development and land use activities from around the country; most result from decisions made in district and unitary plans.

[Read the summaries and download the pdf here](#)

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## UPDATES

### Legislation Scan

This was conducted late last year by scanning the parliamentary website to identify Bills before the House of Representatives that may be of interest to surveyors. The material in the members' area of the NZIS website provides a brief description, what stage the proposed legislation is at, and a hyperlink to the Bill. The proposed legislation has been classified into four categories:

- Bills relating surveying matters or practice
- Bills of interest to surveying companies with staff responsibilities
- Bills of interest to surveying companies relating to business structure
- Bills mentioning areas "subject to survey" (which relate largely to Treaty of Waitangi settlements) as well as other matters of general interest that have implications or opportunities for surveyors.

At this stage it is planned to scan proposed legislation bi-annually and, in the interim, Newslink will provide general updates. Proposed legislation impacting on surveying matters and practice will be tracked to ensure that NZIS can coordinate and provide submissions.

### Legislation Update

Since the legislation scan was completed there have been two developments:

- Te Ture Whenua Maori Bill, which was at the Committee of the House stage, was withdrawn from the legislative programme on 20 December 2017. The proposed reforms in the Bill contained provisions of interest to surveyors and NZIS made submissions at the policy development stage in 2013. The reason for withdrawing the Bill is that "Maori land reforms should retain a strong preference to protect Maori land interests while improving supports that would assist in better utilisation". The Hon Nanaia Mahuta (Minister of Maori Development) is expected to launch a range of reforms for the current Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993 later this year (<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PA1712/S00261/te-ture-whenua-maori-reforms-relaunch-next-year.htm>).
- Announcement of forthcoming employment-related legislation to limit 90-day trial periods to businesses with fewer than 20 employees, to restore statutory rest and meal breaks, and to do away with other changes relating to union rights and collective bargaining that were introduced by the previous government.

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## **NZIS Territorial and Local Authority Scans**

Over December and January, NZIS also completed scans of local and territorial websites to identify matters of likely interest to surveyors. These have now been posted in the members' area of the NZIS website and contain hyperlinks to more information.

The timing of these scans coincided with information being posted on development of councils' Long Term Plans(LTP). All councils must review and update their LTP every three years. In between, Annual Plans are produced. The LTP outlines the long-term vision for the council's area and sets out the services, projects and infrastructure the council intends to deliver to the community over a 10-year or longer period and how these will be funded. Consultation on the LTPs begins as early as February 2018 in some areas but is mostly around March/April. These plans will become operative around June after submissions have been heard and considered by Councils.

Some websites contain more information than others at this stage and it is expected that more information will be added to these websites in the lead up to, and the release of the draft LTPs for consultation.

At this stage, the next scan is scheduled for June/July when the LTPs have been finalised.

## **Surveyors Continue to be on Immediate, Long Term Skill Shortage List and Canterbury Skill Shortage Lists**

In December 2017, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment completed and posted its annual review of immediate and long term essential skills in demand (<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/media-centre/news-notifications/esid-review-2017>). Also included is the Canterbury Skill Shortage List which contains some occupations needed for the Canterbury rebuild in addition to those on the above two lists.

Occupations include: quantity surveyor, surveyor, building surveyor, construction surveyor, surveying or spatial technician, hydrographic technician, building surveyor, land surveyor's technician, and spatial scientists with GIS experience.

There have been no changes since the last review. If an occupation is on a shortage list, then work visas for positions in that occupation from suitably qualified and experienced migrants are not subject to an individual labour market test. A market labour test means that an employer must demonstrate that no suitable New Zealanders are available to fill or be trained for each individual position. The next review will commence in April 2018.

## **Producer Statements – Authors Need to be Registered**

Many councils require the authors of Producer Statements in the building trades to be registered with the local authority. They also need to be registered as a practitioner in their field with the appropriate body. The latest council to advise its requirement is the Thames Coromandel District Council (<https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/Your-Council/News-and-Media/News-and-Public-Notices/News-Articles/Producer-Statement-authors-need-to-be-registered/>).

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For example, see the register for Auckland Council:

<http://temp.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/ratesbuildingproperty/consents/Consent%20documents/ac2324producerstatementauthorsregister.pdf>.

### **Funding Growth Infrastructure**

Concern about New Zealand's infrastructure requirements are increasing. Councils in fast growing areas face serious issues with funding the infrastructure, such as roads and essential drinking, waste and storm water infrastructure. In January 2018, Local Government New Zealand said funding infrastructure is the highest priority for councils and welcomed the Government's plans to review local government costs and revenue.

<http://www.lgnz.co.nz/news-and-media/2017-media-releases/councils-highlight-growth-infrastructure-as-urgent-issue/>

### **Coastal Hazards and Climate Change – Stocktake & Guidance for Local Government in New Zealand**

The Climate Change Adaptation Technical Working Group's Stocktake report released in December 2017 summarises the expected impacts of climate change on New Zealand over the medium and long term, takes stock of existing work on adaptation, and identifies gaps in knowledge and work programmes

(<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/Climate%20Change/adapting-to-climate-change-stocktake-tag-report.pdf>).

Sections relating to the impact of climate-related changes on the built environment (pp 31-33) and what infrastructure providers are doing to adapt to climate change (pp 63-69) may be of special interest to surveyors. A further report is due out in March 2018 and will make recommendations on how New Zealand can effectively adapt to the impacts of climate change.

A complementary publication of NIWA work provides guidance to councils and communities on how to manage and adapt to the increased coastal hazard risks posed by climate change and sea level rise

(<http://www.mfe.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/Climate%20Change/coastal-hazards-guide-final.pdf>). Emeritus Professor John Hannah (Vision NZ Limited) was one of the contributing authors and advisers to this publication.

### **International - News from CASLE (Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy)**

"CASLE was established to facilitate the transfer of technology within the Commonwealth and to assist national programmes of continuing professional development, which are designed to keep surveyors up-to-date, as well as to encourage dialogue between its

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member societies and national governments, on all matters of national policy, on which the profession is competent to offer informed opinions and advice.”

CASLE’s December newsletter contained a number of items of interest to the international surveying community (<http://www.casle.org/newsletters/E-newsDec2017.pdf>):

Obituary – Clifford Dann MBE, DSc (Hon), FRICS. Clifford Dann had a long association with CASLE and was a Past President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. He will be known to many of you who attended the CASLE General Assembly in Christchurch in 2017 where he was made an Honorary Fellow.

CASLE 2018 Conference, 29 November – 1 December 2018, Lusaka, Zambia. The theme of the conference is “Developing a sustainable professionalism in surveying & relevant education in the Commonwealth”. Papers and expressions of interest were called for in the December newsletter.

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## SOCIAL MEDIA

Well done to the five winners of our "Who Am I" Facebook competition and thank you to everyone else who entered! The answer was [Frederick Tuckett](#).

Michelle Fletcher, Daniel Muir, Matt Carson, Stuart Greer and Steve Wardle - you will receive your prizes in the post!

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## SURVEYING THE SCENE - ISSUE 9, JANUARY 2018

The CEO has recently distributed his latest update [Surveying the Scene](#) for Branch, Stream and Division Chairs. If you wish to know what is on the horizon for NZIS in the coming months then feel free to check it out.

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## NEW CAREER OPPORTUNITIES LISTED THIS MONTH

- [Land Surveyor/12d Model Designer](#), Paterson Pitts Group, Queenstown
- [Cadastral Surveyors](#), LINZ, Christchurch & Hamilton
- [Licensed Surveyors & Senior Surveyors](#), Aurecon, Auckland, Wellington & Tauranga
- [Licensed Cadastral Surveyor](#), Survey Gisborne Ltd, Gisborne
- [Licensed Cadastral Surveyor \(Manager\)](#), Frear Surveyors Ltd, Auckland

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- [Survey Graduate/Technician](#), Fox and Associates, Christchurch
  - [Surveyor](#), Energy Surveys Ltd, Taupo

Visit our [jobs board](#) for the full list of job advertisements