

**PRECAST NEW ZEALAND – INC. 1999**  
**PRESIDENTS ANNUAL REPORT**  
**14<sup>th</sup> AGM & Executive meeting 22 August 2013**



## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

### **Presidents Report to the 14<sup>th</sup> AGM of Precast New Zealand Aug 2013**

This is my first report as president and I would like to acknowledge Andrew, our immediate past president for the work he had done before handing over the reigns to me.

Construction, and the precast industry has been going through the most extended period of difficult trading that most of us can remember. Hopefully the signs are there for an improvement, which is already apparent here in Christchurch, although it has some way to go still.

Our concentration over the past few years has been to maintain our presence and our ability to respond as appropriate to whatever comes up, as well as promoting and protecting our industry, and assisting our members wherever we can.

During the difficult period we have tried to be more selective about use of our resources and accordingly we have come through having addressed some major challenges such as thrown at us by the Christchurch earthquakes.

We have reorganized with engagement of a lady to look after various administration functions on a part time basis. As she is not yet familiar with our activities we thought it better to muddle through today without her in attendance rather than bring her down from Auckland for this meeting.

With the concentration on controlling expenditure to date, we are now in a position to be able to support relevant projects this coming year. Projects and research are costly, and we obviously get more for our money if we are not totally funding these on our own.

Rod will present the budget, but notable this year is that we are budgeting for a \$5,000 scholarship to support post graduate research at both Canterbury and Auckland Universities. We have been fortunate to develop good relationships with Alesandro Palermo and Stefano Pampanin at Canterbury who have very graciously hosted us for this meeting, and with Jason Ingham and Rick Henry at Auckland University. Post graduate students need research projects, and by having the opportunity to provide input helps our industry by encouraging research that will provide practical benefits. More post grad research into issues relating to precast will provide long term benefits.

CCANZ undertakes a number of concrete related projects, some of which are in support of precast. They have been very accommodating by not requiring PCNZ to contribute to these during our period of budget restraint, but we have allowed a further \$5,000 to contribute towards CCANZ projects that assist our industry.

So I am pleased that we have now reached the stage where we have the confidence to commit to these expenditures.

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The biennial combined NPCAA / PCNZ meetings were scheduled to be in NZ this year, but budget restraints have caused the Australians to defer so there will be no combined meeting this year.

We are again able to hold total subscriptions to the same level as the previous couple of years, although as always individual members subs will vary according to relative turnover.

I would like to remind you that PCNZ is here to assist members. If you have an accident that may involve MBIE, please contact our Executive Director. A labour department investigation can be very trying and lead to very unsatisfactory and expensive outcomes so they need to be handled with care.

Rod has tackled a number of problems brought up by different members that may have an effect on the wider industry. He has been happy to assist member on different problems including technical, contractual, specifications, disputes etc, He may not be able to solve your problem, but a call costs little and could save you time and money.

Finally, I would particularly like to thank our Associate Members and our other supporters, including CCANZ, all of whom help make our organization stronger and more effective.