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Dear (name)

We have just received final sign off from the Minister for a revised Architects' Code of Ethics, which will come into effect on 1 January 2018.

In the next few days we'll get the full text to you. There have been a number of changes – some requirements have been removed and others added. Ethics define a profession, so I do urge, when you receive the text, give it careful thought and discuss it with your colleagues.

A huge effort has gone into preparing these revisions and I thank all those involved.

For the NZRAB, we have a new minister, the **Hon Jenny Salesa**. We don't as yet know how the new government views occupational regulation in the building sector.

Meantime, we have provided the new minister with a briefing note outlining the issues we see as significant, which you can read [here](#).

Finally, this is the NZRAB's last newsletter for 2017, so may I wish everyone the compliments of the season and may the sun shine wherever you are!

Best wishes



Warwick Bell
Chair



Other news

In the Land of the Free

At the beginning of 2017, a new arrangement was set up which allows New Zealand architects to access a fast-track registration procedure into over 50 per cent of the states and territories in the United States of America. The same applies for US architects from those states and territories wanting to be registered here.

To date, seven New Zealand architects have or are in the process of seeking registration in the US. California seems the most popular state. Coming the other way, so far four US architects have been registered here.

This arrangement is only with participating US states and territories because registration in the US is a state matter, and there is no overarching federal authority. Dealing with such a different political system has been fascinating.

We are in talks with the United Kingdom about the possibility of something similar with them.

Initial Registration

We recently revised our various registration procedures to make them easier to understand. The underlying processes haven't changed – it's just that the presentation is better.

So now we have the following as our so-called pathways to registration.

- Pathway 1 - For qualifying architectural graduates
- Pathway 2 - For architectural designers and technicians, and some overseas applicants
- Pathway 3 - For offshore architects with New Zealand experience
- Pathway 4 - For former New Zealand Registered Architects
- Pathway 5 - For Australian Registered Architects
- Pathway 6 - For APEC Architects from Japan, Singapore or Canada
- Pathway 7 - For architects licensed in the United States of America.

You can read more about this [here](#).

The NZRAB ran a nationwide roadshow in late November explaining registration to young graduates and the like. Employers were also invited. One of the reasons for doing this was that as of next year all case studies must be presented as Adobe Pro PDFs, as opposed to being paper-based. To assist applicants, we now have a [case study template](#) available on the NZRAB website.

In recent days we have also held a video briefing on these matters – another will be held in the New Year.

The last registration round for 2017 has just finished. We had 69 applicants, which is a lot more than usual. We do not know whether this is the start of a trend or just a blip.

Continuing Registration

During 2017, almost 1000 architects had their five yearly competence reviews. Everyone assessed had their registration renewed, but we did see a significant number of architects decide that this was a good time to either go into voluntary suspension or to cancel their registration – in effect to retire.

Processing almost 1000 competence reviews this time was a huge strain on our resources. Most years it's just two or three hundred at most. The reason so many architects were bunched together for review in 2017 is because mostly these were the architects who came across to the NZRAB from the old Architects Education and Registration Board in 2007. We are going to try to solve this over the next few years by moving some of these architects into the other four registration cohorts.

Annual Report

The [NZRAB Annual Report 2016/17](#) has been published. One thing you may find interesting is a graph on page 7 which breaks down current Registered Architects by age and gender. The graph raises the interesting question of how rapidly in the next few years are we going to see the boomers decide to retire.

That's our news to date. If you have any concerns, do contact the NZRAB at info@nzrab.org.nz or call 04 471 1336.

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