

2020/2021



Annual Report

1 April 2020 - 31 March 2021

Engineering Associates Registration Board

Hiranga Tohu

to hold up and qualify excellence

engineering-associates.org.nz

2020/2021 Annual Report

Engineering Associates Registration Board

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2020/2021 Annual Report

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1 Legislative Context

2020/2021

Legislative Context

The Engineering Associates Registration Board (EARB) operates under the Engineering Associates Act 1961 (the EA Act). Its role is to establish and maintain a register of individuals who apply and qualify to be registered as Engineering Associates. EARB's objectives are to encourage, support and promote excellence in engineering technology in New Zealand.

Registration as an Engineering Associate is a quality credential recording that the registered individual has met specified academic and practical engineering competency standards as well as having experience in positions of responsibility as described in the EA Act.

Registered Engineering Associates (REAs) are generally senior engineering technicians or technologists employed in a wide range of disciplines. These include engineering infrastructure design, implementation and maintenance or in engineering management roles.

EARB is appointed by the Minister of Building and Construction and is administered by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) reporting to the Minister for Building and Construction, Hon Poto Williams.

2 From the Chair - Deborah Cranko FNZIA

THE YEAR IN REVIEW 2020/2021

The Engineering Associates Registration Board is pleased to present its annual report reviewing the activities for the year to 31 March 2021.

Introduction

During 2020-2021, the Board has continued to actively promote the Registered Engineering Associate (REA) credential as a mark of excellence for engineering technicians and technologists. We have substantially updated our website, connected with stakeholders, and related organisations in meetings and using professional social media. We have worked with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) to enhance its understanding of the role of REAs in the engineering, science, and technology sectors.

Very recent applications for REA have been received from a younger cohort of practitioners. This contrasts with the continuing attrition of numbers mainly due to retirement of REAs.

Financial Viability

If the decline in numbers of REAs continues, the Board's operations might not be financially viable. However, the Board has calculated how this risk could be largely mitigated by a small increase in annual fee and has consulted REAs about this with assistance from MBIE. We have also reduced operational costs, including holding Board meetings by audio-visual link.

Registration Numbers, Complaints Investigations and EA Appeals Tribunal

At 31 March 2021, there were 797 REAs on the register, 86 fewer than at the same time in 2020. No complaints about an REA were received and there was no requirement for MBIE to convene an EA Appeals Tribunal during the reporting year.

Engagement with MBIE

The Chair and Registrar met with MBIE officials on 26 November 2020 and 4 February 2021 (and following year-end, on 28 April 2021). MBIE officials also attended the 18 March 2021 Board meeting. MBIE briefed EARB on its planned consultation about *Occupational regulation regime for engineers*. The Board outlined the roles and responsibilities and the registration process for technicians and technologists under the REA Act. Board members outlined the important 'bridging' roles REAs play between, say, CPEng engineers and tradespeople in executing projects.

MBIE subsequently referred to REAs in its consultation document. The Board undertook to make a submission to the consultation ahead of the 25 June 2021 deadline.

The Chair outlined to MBIE the previous decline in annual registrations. MBIE proposed that it conduct a survey of REAs for EARB about the acceptability of an increase to the annual registration fee to an amount that would enable the Board break-even financially for the foreseeable future. This survey would also gauge how qualitatively important their credential is to REAs. MBIE suggested possible short-term in-kind assistance.

Preliminary results from the survey with a statistically high level of engagement show support for a small increase in the annual registration fee from 1 April 2022.

Engagement with Minister

We received acknowledgement and commendation from the Minister of receipt on our last Annual Report in December 2020. MBIE included EARB in its briefing to the incoming Minister of Building and Construction in the Labour-led government, the Hon. Poto Williams following the general election in September 2020.

The Chair, Board and Registrar have drafted a further briefing for the Minister to explain the important roles and responsibilities of REAs in the engineering, construction and science sectors. We are seeking a meeting with her in the new financial year.

External Engagement – other boards and institutes

The Chair and Registrar met with the Presiding Member of the Electrical Workers' Registration Board in late January 2021. EWRB operations are completely supported by MBIE under its Act. EWRB has many more registered trades people (34,000), a self-certification process, has whole-board disciplinary hearings, and couples its CPD programme with a road show. We intend to meet in the next year to discuss options for future co-operation.

2 From the Chair - Deborah Cranko FNZIA

THE YEAR IN REVIEW 2020/2021

EARB also continues to watch developments in polytechnic education via ROVE (Review of Vocational Education) and informal communication with the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board.

There is preliminary information from the Institute of Refrigeration, Heating and Air Conditioning Engineers that REA may be recognised for as a credential requirement for those handling new generation and dangerous refrigerants.

Through Board members' own workplaces, we are promoting recognition of the REA credential with *Waka Kotahi* (NZTA), Auckland Council, and Watercare. We note that REAs are legally qualified to sign-off concrete production.

Website and LinkedIn

A new-look website was launched in March. A LinkedIn presence was established in February 2021. These initiatives aim to improve awareness of the REA credential particularly among younger candidates. We updated a flow-chart outlining the application process and the associated forms are now downloadable from the website. We plan more low-cost improvements in the next year.

Accounting and Management Reporting

The implementation of the accounting and payroll software approved in the last financial year has enhanced the efficiency, timeliness and accuracy of financial and management reporting. Short-term support from a professional accountant has assisted the transition from the previous largely manual system.

Board Meetings

Three Board meetings were held during the year of which two were via audio-visual links and fewer than the usual; four. This approach responded firstly to meeting and travel rules under Covid 19 but also reduced travel costs. The Board intends to use this technology for routine meetings.

Governance Workshop

All Board members attended a professionally-facilitated Governance Workshop in December. The half-day session focused on effective and cohesive governance skills. Several members from other occupational boards overseen by MBIE and two MBIE officials attended which enhanced the depth of participant experience and shared costs. There was positive feedback from all participants.

Board Appointments

MBIE and the Chair interviewed prospective Ministerial board members and two were appointed from 1 September 2020. The Minister appointed the incumbent Deputy Chair to replace the outgoing Chair from 1 April 2020. The Board elected the new Deputy Chair during the March 2021 meeting. There is currently no board member representing academic institutions.

Survey and Spatial NZ was recognised as a nominating association under the EA Act. Its nominated member began her role from 1 September. Board member profiles can be found in Section 3.

Strategic Plan

The Board expects to update its strategic plan during the next year, in the context of MBIE's proposed Occupational regulatory regime for Engineers and our other initiatives. We are gathering examples of the work and workplaces in which REAs operate to better communicate the valuable contributions they make to our environment.

Summary

The REA registration regime is the only statutory recognition available for engineering technicians, technologists, and allied professionals in Aotearoa New Zealand. For nearly sixty years, the registration process has been effective and robust. In recent years though there has been a continuing decline in numbers of REAs maintaining their registration. Recently, however there have been more registrations by younger applicants.

An increase in the annual registration fee (which is still low compared with other occupational registrations) would maintain the Board's financial operations for the foreseeable future. It is possible that the REA credential may become part of a new occupational registration scheme for engineers under a new and larger regulatory body.

Our initiatives during the last year have focused on continuing to be an effective registration board, and updating our procedures for the contemporary environment. I thank our Registrar who has supported the Board and me in this work and is the first point of contact to many REAs.

3 About Us - Board Member Profiles

2020/2021

Introduction

Associations recognised under the EA Act nominate suitable individuals to be Board members. The Minister then appoints those with a range of relevant knowledge and experience, together with three members from outside the nominating associations. The Minister also appoints the Chair. The Board elects the Deputy Chair. Board Members' terms are two years but terms can be extended and members re-appointed at the discretion of the minister.



Deborah Cranko (Chair)

Deborah has been a Ministerial appointment since 2012. She is a registered practising architect working mainly in the Wellington region. She holds B BSc and B Arch (Hons) and is a Fellow of the NZIA *Te Kāhui Whaihanga*. She has extensive governance experience in the building sector, within her profession (NZRAB and NZACS), with the former BIA and also is member of the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board. She has chaired and served on many architectural, school and community boards.

In practice projects, the architectural practice team works on a daily basis across many sectors of the construction industry, with commercial, residential and heritage projects. She works with REAs and CPENG engineers including structural, geotechnical, mechanical and electrical engineering, and surveying and quantity surveyors. She founded a consultancy with both architects and structural engineers in 1987.

Deborah was appointed Chair in April 2020 and was Deputy Chair from 2015.



Phil Huse-White (Deputy Chair)

Phil was appointed in February 2020 on the nomination of the Design Association of NZ (DANZ). Phil is qualified with NZCE (Civil), holds REA and REAcap. Phil started his career as a civil draughting officer working on major motorway projects. He later he moved to a smaller civil and structural engineering consultancy where he progressed from staff engineer to Associate Director over 14 years. Phil established his own civil consulting business in Auckland ten years ago.

He recently worked with WaterCare in Auckland to ensure that REAs were included in the final version of their Compliance Statement Policy for Producing Water and Wastewater Infrastructure. Phil is keen to continue to work with other territorial authorities to ensure that the REA is continued to be recognised as a valuable professional registration within the industry.

Phil was elected Deputy Chair in December 2020.



Glynn Cowley

Glynn was appointed in December 2012 on the nomination of the NZ Institute of Refrigeration Heating & Air Conditioning Engineers of NZ Inc (IRHACE). Glynn is currently Chair of the Refrigerant Licence Trust Board (RLTB).

With more than 40 years experience in the HVAC&R industry, Glynn completed his refrigeration trade apprenticeship with Ellis Hardie Symington. He founded Cowley Refrigeration Ltd and was its Managing Director and CEO until he retired in 2010. Glynn is actively involved within the HVAC&R Industry as an IRHACE Councillor and is its representative on IIR's NZ National Council. He brings wide-ranging experience to the Board, with a keen personal interest in ensuring that the HVAC industry maintains sustainable specific compliance training within a changing environment.



Warren Crawley

Warren was appointed in March 2016 on the nomination of the NZ Institute of Healthcare Engineering. Warren started his career in the NZ Railways prior to entering the health industry in the late 1980's. He is qualified with NZCE (Electrical) and holds REA and REAcap. He graduated from Massey University with a Diploma in Business Studies and a Master of Technology (Distinction).

Warren is currently employed as Principal Hospital Engineer with the Mid-Central District Health Board in Palmerston North. He is a member of the three Standards Committees overseeing four NZ and Australian Joint Standards.



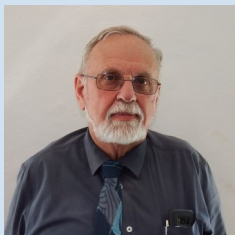
Danny Muthumala

Danny was appointed in March 2018 on the nomination by the NZ Institution of Gas Engineers (NZIGE). Danny is qualified with NZCE (Civil) and holds REA. He has had a long career within the gas industry undertaking a variety of technical and management roles over the past 37 years. His career in the gas industry began in 1983 with the Natural Gas Corporation (NGC) in New Plymouth. In 1986 he joined the local gas distribution company "City Gas" in New Plymouth and has continued his journey in the gas industry working for Powerco Ltd as a project engineer.

Danny is Treasurer and Grants Coordinator for the Sri Lanka Association of New Zealand and volunteers at the NZ Translation Centre.

3 About Us - Board Member Profiles

2020/2021



Bruce Hurley

Bruce was appointed in December 2014 on the nomination of the NZ Electronics Institute where he serves as National Secretary/Treasurer. He joined NZPO as a radio technician and qualified with a Radio Technician's Certificate, NZCE (Telecoms) and holds REA.

He has a long career within the telecommunications industry with many technical and management roles as the former NZ Post Office and into the new entities of Telecom and Spark. His experience includes design and deployment of radio networks, field force management and commercial relationship management.

Currently Bruce is Procurement Business Partner for Spark utilising his technical knowledge to get best value for supplier spend.



Joanne Johnston

Jo was appointed in September 2020 on the nomination of Survey and Spatial New Zealand. Jo qualified as B Surv from University of Auckland, is a Registered Professional Surveyor, a Licensed Cadastral Surveyor and MS+SNZ.

Jo has a 30 year career spanning both public and private sector. Her interest lies in occupational regulation and leads the Survey and Spatial Examinations Committee. The Committee leads policy and arranges competency examinations for the Cadastral Surveyors Licensing Board of New Zealand for surveyors to become Licensed Cadastral Surveyors.

Jo has many working relationships in Government and the private sector providing advice to Crown and Māori on Treaty Settlements, the Office of the Surveyor-General on Rule changes, Land Information New Zealand with input into the enhanced Landonline system and local councils working through subdivisional consents.

Jo encourages people with an interest in mathematics and the love of the outdoors to consider surveying, engineering or construction as a career.

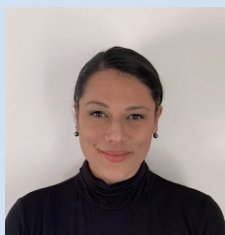


Colette McCartney

Colette has been a ministerial appointment since September 2020. Colette is a registered practising architect working mainly in the Waikato/Bay of Plenty region, based in Tauranga.

Colette's 24 year career features a broad range of experience in commercial architecture and interior design for award-winning firms in Sydney and London as well as at home in New Zealand. She works effectively to deliver complex interior and architecture, fit out and refurbishment projects for major clients. Colette graduated from Auckland University in 1999 with Bachelor of Architecture (Hons), holds a Masters in Construction Management (Distinction) and is an Associate of the NZIA *Te Kāhui Whaihanga*.

Colette's role as Business Group Leader at GHD, means that she oversees a national team of employees in Wellington and Auckland. Her role also entails leading projects for many Government Departments including Ministry of Justice, ACC and NZ Police.



Joyana Finch

Joyana has been a ministerial appointment since September 2020. She graduated from the University of Auckland in mechatronic engineering. Her initial work was design of sheet metal products servicing the IT, electrical distribution and earthquake resilience markets.

She then designed, programmed and commissioned controls for the aviation logistics industries through to SCADA level (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition). Project work has both on site and remotely for the company's international clients.

Her current role at Daifuku Oceania involves overseeing and recruiting a team of multi-disciplinary technicians, technologists and engineers to work on projects for large logistics companies and in aviation.

Joyana also promotes careers in STEM (Science, technology, engineering and maths) initiatives for younger New Zealanders.

3 About Us - Office and Registrar

2020/2021

Office

The Board's office is staffed on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.30 am to 3.30 pm (except public holidays and leave periods).

Registrar

The Registrar is responsible to the Board for the register and to exercise the Board's directions and policies. The Registrar also acts as Secretary during Board meetings.



Roger Woods

Roger has been Registrar since July 2018. He has more than 30 years in leadership and public service management, including at executive level. He has successfully led teams through technological innovation, organisational and process change. A career highlight was his appointment as Acting Chief Information Officer (CIO) and member of the senior executive group for an agency within the NZ Intelligence Community.

Roger began his engineering career as an electrical and electronics technician with a fire protection and electronic security engineering company in Christchurch. Roger moved to Wellington to join the public service as a technical officer specialising in electronic security systems. He later assumed further technical and then supervisory roles in protective security, risk management and information management.

Roger is qualified with ETC (Electrical), NZCE (Telecoms) and holds REA. He has undertaken business studies at Massey University and completed professional development programmes in NZ, UK and US.

4 Board Business

2020/2021

Responsibilities

The members of the Board are accountable to the Minister for the performance of their duties including direction, oversight and implementation of the EA Act. The Board is responsible for the appointment of the Registrar. The Staff Committee is responsible for the Registrar's conditions of employment. The Chair, Registrar and Board continue to have effective working relationships with MBIE.

The EA Act requires the establishment of an Investigation Committee if there are complaints against an REA, or an Appeals Tribunal to hear appeals against decisions of the Board. There were no complaints or appeals received during the 2019-2020 period.

Meetings

The Board held four meetings during the year in June 2020, September 2020, December 2020 and March 2021. In addition to the routine overview and approval of the registration of REAs, discussions continued with MBIE about the declining numbers of registrations.

Committees

The Board's committees are:

- Finance & Audit Committee – D J Cranko & R A Woods
- Staff Committee – G M Cowley & E B Hurley

Remuneration

Board remuneration rates are set by MBIE through the Fees and Travelling Allowances Act 1951. The current daily rates were effective from March 2014:

- Chair \$530
- Deputy Chair \$386
- Member \$309

Recognised Associations

Associations currently recognised under the Act are:

- Design Association of New Zealand Inc
- Institute of Automotive Mechanical Engineers of New Zealand Inc.
- New Zealand Institute of Healthcare Engineering Inc.
- New Zealand Institute of Refrigeration, Heating & Air Conditioning Engineers Inc.
- New Zealand Electronics Institute Inc.
- New Zealand Institution of Gas Engineers Inc.
- Survey and Spatial New Zealand

The Board has an ongoing responsibility to keep the recognised associations informed of its activities and to encourage the advancement of technical engineering issues and standards. Only the Institute of Automotive Mechanical Engineers is not represented on the Board.

4 Board Business

2020/2021

Promotion & Communication

The website is the Board's primary means of public communication and promotion of the REA credential. The Board also communicates with REAs through an annual newsletter sent which is emailed at the same time as the annual registration fees notice. The Board intends to increase the frequency of its newsletters to REAs and employers.

Website

engineering-associates.org.nz

The Board updated its website in March. The website continues to receive a monthly average over 1,000 visits (and up to 30,000 'hits').

The 'List of REAs' is often visited. This provides the public access to the details of current REAs, searchable by surname and initials, registration number, regional location (with non-residents listed as overseas). It states the REA's engineering discipline, commencement year for continuous registration and any applicable REAcap validation. The List of REAs is usually updated soon after each Board meeting.

The Information Pack, application and work history forms for REA applicants have been available on the website since 2018.

The Board continues to encourage initial registration and the REAcap scheme. NZQA lists the overseas-gained qualifications which satisfy the criteria for an equivalent NZ qualification. Refer to Section 6 below.

LinkedIn

A LinkedIn presence was established in February. The Board hopes that this social medium aimed at professionals will improve awareness of the REA credential particularly among younger candidates.

5 Accountability

Our Performance 2020/2021

The Board has an Accountability Agreement with the Minister of Building and Construction that records the Minister's expectations of the performance of the Board. The performance measures tabulated below record the Board's results against the outputs agreed with the Minister from April 2017. Financial performance is referred to separately in Section 8.

Output	Target	Performance Measure	2020/2021 Result
Registration System	Ensure the registration of engineering technicians / technologists is efficient, effective and balanced.	Applications for registration are considered within 100 days of receipt.	Achieved March 2021
Investigations into complaints	Ensure complaints regarding Registered Engineering Associates are investigated fairly and efficiently.	Complaints against REAs, investigations completed within 12 months.	No complaints were received
Governance	Provide advice on the effectiveness of the registration system.	Annual Report confirms registration system effective & shows assessment for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration & removals process Risks & opportunities & recommendations for future work 	Achieved December 2020
Governance	Undertake an annual self-appraisal of the Board's performance and provide a summary to MBIE	The summary of the self-appraisal identifies areas which are working well, areas for improvement, and the action the Board intends to take as a result.	Achieved December 2020
Governance	Provide MBIE with the Board's view on the current skills and experience of Board members.	The Board's view shows the current skills and experience of Board Members and identifies any gaps and proposals for the Minister to consider in future appointment rounds.	Achieved December 2020
Governance	Meet all obligations under relevant legislation, including financial reporting and maintaining the Register in accordance with the Engineering Associates Act 1961.	All legislative obligations are met.	Achieved March 2021

6 REA Credential, Registration Categories and Numbers and Training

2020/2021

REA Credential

The EA Act authorises the registration of competent persons with an acknowledged academic qualification plus significant responsible practical experience in a recognised engineering or allied discipline. The benchmark qualification was originally New Zealand Certificate in Engineering (NZCE).

NZCE was progressively phased out at New Zealand technical institutes from 2000 and was last offered in 2008. However, the Board recognises the approximate equivalent New Zealand Diploma in Engineering (NZDE) which became available from 2011. The Board also recognises a large number of other engineering and allied educational qualifications, including overseas qualifications, that have been assessed at Level 6 or higher on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework or are recognised under one of the international engineering accords (i.e. the Washington, Dublin or Sydney Accords).

REA recognises that a person is a senior engineering technician or technologist. The majority of REAs are employed in infrastructure design and implementation of whom many work in engineering management. There are several REAs who maintain their registration while working abroad, mainly based in Australia.

Registration Categories

Registration categories for the REA credential as defined in the EA Act 1961 are:

- R (a) Engineering technicians and technologists who have not completed a recognised technical engineering education qualification but have completed basic engineering training, and have at least 12 years of engineering experience, including 6 years in a responsible position, and were born before 1 January 1936.
- R (b) Engineering technicians and technologists who have completed a New Zealand Certificate of Engineering (NZCE), First Class Marine Engineer's Certificate or a (recognised) equivalent qualification, plus basic engineering training and at least 6 years of engineering experience, including 1 year in a position of responsibility.
- R (c) Engineering technicians and technologists who have not completed a recognised technical engineering academic qualification but have completed a basic engineering training, and have at least 12 years of engineering experience, including 6 years in a responsible position. The (c) applicants submit a 4,000 word written statement on an approved engineering topic, in lieu of the education qualification.

6 REA Credential, Registration Categories and Numbers and Training

2020/2021

Registration Numbers by Category at 31 March 2021

R (a)	8
R (b)	753
R (c)	36
Total	<u>797</u>

Changes in Registration Numbers

REAs registered at 31 March 2020	874
New applicants registered 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021	9
Net reduction from retired, resigned, restored, deceased & removed ¹	- 86
REAs registered at 31 March 2021	<u>797</u>

Note

1: Previously the term "struck-off" was used to describe removal of a name from the register for non-payment of annual registration fee.

Registration Numbers

The total number of registered persons continued to reduce during the 2020/2021 year. This trend:

- Began with changes to engineering training during the 1990's together with the restructuring and (in some cases) dissolution of government departments which had employed technical engineering graduates from the 1960s through to the late 1980s. Significant employers were then the Ministry of Works and NZ Electricity Department which carried out major public works during the 1960s and 1970s. It was also recognised by territorial and local authorities and the private sector.
- Continues since REA is much less regarded as an integral element of a career pathway in an organisation as it was pre- 1990s. Graduates entering the engineering workforce are less enthusiastic about gaining voluntary credentials unless they perceive any career benefits.

Academic Training and Practical Experience

Changes in polytechnic training did not promote or support attainment of this voluntary credential from the mid 1980s onwards. However, recent rationalisation of the New Zealand Diploma in Engineering (NZDE) courses as a result of the ROVE* review should result in greater availability of suitable technical engineering courses that have consistent curricula throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

New 'practical elements' in the four main NZDE disciplines (Civil, Electrical, Electronics and Mechanical) and the BEngTech three-year degrees would enable technicians and technologists to meet the criteria for the REA credential. The Board hopes that there will be an increase in the numbers of applicants eligible for registration in the next few years.

The Board maintains dialogue with the Minister of Building and Construction and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) to show evidence of the value of the credential within the occupational regulatory regime for engineering in New Zealand.

* ROVE—Review of Vocational Education

7 Code of Ethics, REAcap and Covid 19 Impact Statement

2020/2021

Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics is published on the Board's website and is in the information pack available to prospective applicants for registration. It is formally issued to all new REAs.

The Code of Ethics for REAs issued by the Board has remained unchanged for the 2020-2021 period.

REAcap — Current Competency Assurance

REAcap is a voluntary competency assessment or reassessment undertaken every four years (REA competency assessed practitioner scheme).

REAcap was established in 2005 by the Board as a way to assure the public and potential engineering employers that a currently registered REA remains competent in the specific work area. The initial registration competency criteria in the EA Act are also the standards used for REAcap competency assessment. These include current knowledge, experience and responsibility. Ongoing employment in the engineering industry is also a requirement for REAcap.

The Board considers that the absence of ongoing competency assessment requirements in the EA Act itself disadvantages the REA credential compared with other occupational registration legislation.

At 31 March 2021, the number of REAs with REAcap validation was 47. The Board is concerned at the low level of new applications for REAcap validations. It endeavours to stimulate interest. With around 50% of REAs aged over 60 years the ageing demographic of current REAs is a disincentive for those REAs to apply for REAcap. The names of those holding REAcap is included on the List of REAs and regularly updated on the website.

Covid 19 Impact Statement

The Board's office closed on 25 March 2020 due to the national Level 4 lockdown imposed by Government. The impact on operations was minimal because Registrar was able to work from home until returning to the office at Alert Level 2 on 14 May 2020. There was a reduction in the number of REAs during the year, however, this was in-line with previous trends and not attributable to Covid 19.

8 Financial Report

2020/2021

Auditors

The EA Act and the Public Audit Act 2001 requires that the Board engages Audit New Zealand as its auditor.

Financial Performance

Fees charged for registration during the period were as set out in the Engineering Associates Fees Amendment Regulations 2013. Due to the decline in numbers registered, revenue decreased by 10.8%. Expenses increased with the main component being Board fees for 4 meetings compared to 3 the previous year. The Board reduced costs where possible. There was an overall deficit of \$31,090 bringing the Accumulated Fund to \$54,964 at 31 March 2021.

The Board remains concerned about its financial sustainability long term and is seeking to reverse the decline in registrations by ongoing discussions with employer organisations and government organisations, educational administrators MBIE, and other stakeholder groups.

Audited Financial Statements

Audited accounts for the Engineering Associates Registration Board for the year ended 31 March 2021 are available upon request. Audit New Zealand completed its annual Audit during December. The only significant comment from the audit was noting the decline in REA numbers and resultant reduction in fee income which casts doubt on the Board's ability to continue as a going concern.

Registration Fee Increase

The procedure for setting the annual registration fee is by regulation. The regulation process is lengthy and requires Ministerial approval. The most recent fee increase was approved by the Engineering Associates Fees Regulations Amendment 2013.

The Board made an application for fee increase via MBIE in September 2019. However, progress was disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic which developed from early 2020.

In March 2021 MBIE invited the Board to re-apply for a fee increase with a registration fee calculated to enable operations to continue on a financial "break even" basis for approximately three more years. It is anticipated the new registration fee will be in place for the financial year commencing 1 April 2022.

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Dated..... 2021

D J Cranko NZ Reg Arch; BArch (Hons), FNZIA
Chair
Engineering Associates Registration Board

.....

Dated..... 2021

D Muthumala NZCE, REA
Member
Engineering Associates Registration Board

2020/2021 Annual Report

Engineering Associates Registration Board

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