

# Straight-Up

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## New Chief Executive Officer appointed to BOINZ

On behalf of the board of the Building Officials' Institute, the President, Mr Richard Toner, is pleased to announce that Mr Len Clapham has been appointed Chief Executive Officer.

During the past 8 years Mr Clapham was the Chief Executive of the New Zealand Water and Wastes Association and worked extensively with local and central government in the water industry, achieving immense success and substantial growth.

In announcing the appointment, Mr Toner said that Mr Clapham is a known and recognised entrepreneurial leader with experience in the not-for-profit sector as well as in private company ownership, management and directorship. Mr Clapham is a results-oriented leader whose enthusiasm,

flair and sound business acumen will be advantageous to BOINZ as it develops and grows at this important time for the building sector of New Zealand, Mr Toner said.

Mr Clapham is a fellow of Associations New Zealand Inc and has been honoured by the New Zealand Government for services to the business community as well as for services in promoting the standing of water professionals amongst the community, and with many public, commercial and political agencies.

The board is looking forward to implementation of its strategic growth and future direction plans with Mr Clapham and the team at BOINZ.



## Create a new logo competition

Win a free registration to the 2006 BOINZ Annual Conference.

Members and their families are invited to submit a new logo for the Building Officials' Institute of New Zealand. The logo currently used by the Institute is about to celebrate its 38th birthday and is ready for a makeover.

The proposed logo needs to be clear, concise, modern and simple. It also needs to have a "look" which reflects our organisation.

Competition entries should be emailed in a graphic file to:

Logo Competition: [office@boinz.org.nz](mailto:office@boinz.org.nz)

Three finalists will be chosen to be displayed at the BOINZ Annual Conference in New Plymouth and on the Institute's website for members/delegates to choose the winner by 31 March 2005.

**Entries close on Wednesday 16 March 2005 at 5.00pm**

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## BOINZ Annual Conference

21–23 March 2005, New Plymouth

On behalf of the BOINZ Central Branch, welcome to the BOINZ Annual Conference 2005.

New Plymouth District Council warmly welcomes all delegates, speakers and sponsors to New Plymouth for three days of professional development, networking, camaraderie, entertainment, wining and dining.

### Mountains of knowledge

The conference will provide high quality speakers to help us move forward under the new Building Act. The conference theme is "Mountains of Knowledge" and delegates will leave the event better equipped to work

through the mountains of issues resulting from the new legislation.

The programme has been designed to offer a mix of presentations, interactive workshops and open forum discussions.

From product certification, to accreditation, new roles under the Act, earthquake prone buildings, legal interpretation, to processing consents, and some technical building presentations for good measure – this conference aims to develop members of BOINZ and enable us to deal with the impending changes.

No-one says it's going to be easy to adapt to all of these changes, but building control professionals who reach for the summit won't miss this one. *Continued on Page 8.*



# An interview with Len Clapham, CEO, BOINZ

## In which Len speaks about his vision for the future of the Institute on commencement as CEO.

First, Len congratulated the board of the Institute, and especially the President, Richard Toner, for their untiring efforts to take the organisation through this giant step forward in its development. "I have a great deal of admiration and respect for Richard and the board and am looking forward to working with them. Outgoing Executive Officer Rosemary Hazelwood has also done a fantastic job for the Institute over the past years and has been extremely helpful to me in this transitional period."

(Rosemary will continue for some time to come in a revised capacity as a training advisor to the CE.)

## Where do you see the Institute heading in the future?

I believe Institute members need to provide strong and sustainable leadership in the implementation of the new Building Act. They also should be well represented at all levels of central and local government. The role the members have is one of inspection and quality control so we need to define clear guidelines and codes of practice that will assist them to carry out their daily tasks in a professional and capable manner.

I will represent the Institute at the highest possible level to ensure that the members' voices are heard in all corridors of legislative power and local government forums. I also believe the Institute needs to be pro-active in creating robust guidelines and codes of practice without delay. This process must have strong technical input from the members and I look forward to working alongside them to ensure that such guidelines are piloted and that they are sufficiently robust to meet their needs.

## What is your view of training within the industry?

It is absolutely essential that the Institute is involved in the creation, implementation and management of all levels of training for the industry. I believe we need to get back to basics and, working alongside other agencies, develop a matrix that (a) encourages young people into our sector and (b) gives a career path for them to become more competent, more professional and more valued by the community. This includes plumbing and drainage inspectors, clerks of works and building officials.

I also think that a critical issue, which needs overcoming, is that our current workforce, which has a great deal of experience and knowledge, are utilised as a guiding light for the matrix to be developed and implemented. Failure to do this will see a mature and very capable workforce opting for other career options. We will lose a valuable resource if this occurs.

I feel very strongly about the whole aspect of training for the Institute's members and will therefore be retaining Rosemary Hazelwood as a training advisor. Rosemary has a wealth of knowledge and experience and she will be working alongside me to advise me on the best steps to be taken in this important portfolio.

## With a stronger national office being formed, what areas of improvement will members see as a result of this?

In the first instance there will be an annual membership survey carried out to ascertain the wishes and desires of the members of the Institute. There will be a strong emphasis on communicating with them, and also lifting their profile within the New Zealand building sector. Opportunities will be created for representation to other

organisations at branch level on the importance of the role that members play in the building industry.

I will be visiting each branch within the next 8 weeks to outline the board's strategic plan for the Institute, meeting members face-to-face to answer any queries they may have and to encourage their participation in this important stage of the Institute's development.

I would like to see *Straight-Up* maintained and expanded for the members' benefit. Other relevant publications will also be made available to the members to assist them in their day to day tasks.

The Institute's website is due for a revamp and some modernisation to include expanded services. The President and I will be outlining these improvements to members on our tour around the branches.

With my appointment, there will now be a full-time office person located in Wellington who will assist me to implement the Board's strategic plan. This will give members greater access to the national office and a "home" to come to when they are in the region. The office will gradually form a library of publications, many of which no doubt are housed in the branches at present, and I would be very happy to receive any archive material held by them or any individual members so that these works can be catalogued for the library and this resource made available to all.

And, finally, I would like to invite all members to feel free to contact me at any time with any question or comment they wish to make. Until the new national office premises are fully established in early March send an email to [len@boinz.org.nz](mailto:len@boinz.org.nz) and I will be happy to hear from you.

## Newsround hound

### Database streamlines inspections

Software is available to connect permitting, planning inspection and code enforcement activities by a single database allowing building inspectors to view their daily inspection schedules remotely, complete inspection forms on site and download the results immediately. It also allows employees across multiple departments to be interconnected. *PR Newswire* February 2005.

### Private building certifier insurance requirements

According to a Department of Building and Housing press release in January, a new specification should be in place this month after consideration of feedback on the proposals.

"A key change in the proposed specification is the requirement that run-off cover is purchased in advance (and therefore the

payment of a bond is not required).

If certifiers are unable to purchase run-off cover as proposed, or to meet other requirements of the new specification, then they will be unable to renew their approval to operate as a building certifier (certifiers are required to have an Approval to Operate, which is issued by the Department and is reviewed regularly, usually annually).

*Continued on Page 3.*

## Letter to BOINZ members from Hon Chris Carter, Minister for Building Issues

When I sat down to read my briefing papers on the Building Issues portfolio just before Christmas, one fact leapt off the page – 90 percent of the wealth of New Zealand households is tied up in housing.

That is a staggering figure, and it reminded me very sharply of just how important the building sector is to both the economy and the average New Zealand family.

For most people buying a home will be the largest single investment they ever make. For years they will scrimp and save for a deposit, and then for many more years they will scrimp and save to pay the mortgage. Home ownership is a central part of the New Zealand way of life.

The building sector represents nearly 5 percent of our Gross Domestic Product. Between 7.5 and 11 percent of spending in New Zealand's economy is on building and construction, whether it is a new office block or an extra room for the new baby.

It is critical that central and local government do its job to ensure the building sector supports and meets the needs of families and investors.

Two years ago it became apparent there were some problems in the sector. In response, the Government introduced a new Building Act, and assembled a new central government building agency, the Department of Building and Housing.

The Act introduces new measures to strengthen the entire building control system to protect consumers and ensure that buildings are built right first time. Its guiding principle is to foster better buildings through better decision making.

The Act will result in some fundamental changes in the sector from 31 March this year. There is an extensive education and information programme underway designed to inform everyone – both technical and lay people – about the changes.

A key role of the new department is to help with the implementation of the new Act, and to ensure the sector meets certain standards. The department pulls together all of central government's building and housing services into one agency. It seeks to streamline and enhance the delivery of these services for the public.

In addition to having building control responsibilities, the Department's role includes overseeing the rental housing market and providing dispute services for landlords and tenants. Two major projects underway currently are reviews of the Unit Titles Act and the Residential Tenancies Act.

Central government is well aware of the need to keep its ear close to the ground on building issues, and the new department is focused on making sure its policy development and advice to government reflects the views and expectations of the whole sector.

This is an exciting and challenging time for the building and housing sector and I am personally committed to making sure the government plays its part in ensuring the buildings of the future last a very long time indeed.

Do you look straight up most of the time? Bump into things a lot?

To get the full story go to *The Gainesville Times* Wednesday 2 February 2005 "Inspectors check buildings for all the little details"

<http://www.gainesvilletimes.com/news/stories/20050202/localnews/72845.shtml>

*Continued from Page 2.* The review found that the bond scheme and other arrangements providing for the purchase of run-off cover have not proven effective in securing the level of cover intended by the proposed Performance Specification." *DBH* Jan 2005.

### Industry urged to work together to design out excess waste

Of 90 m tonnes of waste a year, 13 m tonnes is estimated to be from overordering of materials. Last year the UK the government considered launching a voluntary code of practice setting out how contractors ought

## Introducing BOINZ member

Julie Sleep

Team Leader, Building Control and Facilitation, Wellington City Council

When I joined the WCC Building Inspections Team in October 1999 I was like most of the homeowners we deal with every day – the building consent process was a mystery and the Building Code was a total unknown.

I came to Wellington City Council after many years working in retailing. The customer service ethic drilled into us in the retail industry has proved just as applicable in the building control industry. It's not that the customer is always right it's more a case of making sure the customer gets what they need when they need it. Getting it right the first time means never having to go back and fix it later.

Initially, my role involved taking bookings for inspections and providing administrative support for the field inspectors, ensuring they were able to spend as much time as possible out of the office.

As time went on I made it my business to learn as much as I could about the Building Act, focusing on making sure our processes and procedures achieved the fine balance between meeting our legislative responsibilities and meeting our customers' needs.



The new Building Act holds many challenges for the industry as a whole and councils in particular. The key challenge for us is people; finding new people with the right mix of knowledge and skills, retaining and building on the wealth of knowledge and skills that we already have within the building control sector and somehow creating security and confidence in a period of rapid change.

to manage site waste in time for the introduction of the European Landfill Directive. Contractors were asked to separate hazardous from non-hazardous waste for separate landfills and to target smaller builders "who plague the environment by flytipping". *Building* June 2004.

# Construction Industry Council – the voice of construction sector issues

By John Pfahlert, Chair, New Zealand Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council has agreed to contribute to the co-ordination of a programme of events for the 2005 Year of the Built Environment.

The Council exists to deliberate and take action on issues that affect the building and construction industry at the highest level. An event which challenges New Zealanders to consider the impact, meaning and significance of the built environment in their lives is one which falls into the scope of our activities.

While YBE events will span public lectures, open-days, training opportunities, conferences, awards and design competitions, the CIC has focused on two issues it would like to further debate.

We recently released a paper for public

comment on best practice in public procurement of physical works. With more than a billion dollars being spent annually on roading, and significantly more on the construction of commercial property, ensuring that the procurement practices of clients are best practice is important to our economic performance.

The purpose of the document available online at [www.nzcic.co.nz](http://www.nzcic.co.nz) is to propose core Principles and suggest Guidelines for Best Practice Procurement in construction and infrastructure in New Zealand, for the achievement of best value. I'm sure this is an issue of direct interest to local government.

The public comment phase will be followed up in May 2005 with the Council and Centre for Advanced Engineering running a one day Symposium on procurement issues.

Another project we are working on is a research strategy for the building and construction industry in conjunction with Building Research and the Department of Building and Housing. There is scope for more interaction between the research community and those involved in the actual building design and creation process. Researchers receiving generic sector funds should be ensuring that their funding allows them to contribute to codes and standards development, and to Continuing Professional Development programmes in the sector, both in providing resource materials and in making presentations to audiences.

The research results should also be feeding into tertiary training courses through avenues such as BCITO and the Universities and Polytechnics.

As such YBE reflects industry commitment to working with government.

## Post-31 March: Overview of changes to consents and inspections

By Mark Scully, Department of Building and Housing

At the end of March the Building Act 1991 will be repealed and measures relating to consents and inspection processes under the Building Act 2004 come into effect.

At its heart the basic consent and inspection process will remain much the same. Changes have been brought in to improve the checks and balances in the system and to improve the outcome for consumers. The overall intent is to provide greater assurance that building work is completed to high standards.

For many, the first time they will be aware of the new Act is from 31 March when the day-to-day issuing of building consents and inspecting building work changes. There will be new forms, new timeframes and most importantly a new focus on getting the consent right first time.

Importantly, code compliance certificates will now be issued against the consent. Those applying for a consent will have to show that their plans and specifications meet the requirements of the Building Code within the application.

The building consent authority then checks the consent application against the Building Code.

Consent applications will likely need to include a much greater level of detail to enable the building official to do his/her job in assessing Building Code compliance. Builders will need to be careful to build in accordance with the original building consent so that a code compliance certificate can be issued. If the plans or materials change during the building process, the consent will need to be amended.

In addition, other processes have been included to improve the audit trail for building work completed on a property. The Act introduces a new document, the Certificate of Acceptance, which can be used in limited situations to provide consumers with a level of assurance where none would otherwise exist, in particular where a building consent should have been obtained but was not. Certificates of acceptance are issued at a territorial authority's discretion.

Notices to fix replace the notice to rectify, and can be used in a wider range of situations. Territorial authorities will also have greater capacity to enforce breaches of the Building Act.

The Department of Building and Housing recognises that the new Act means additional workload for building officials at a time when resources are stretched. To assist, the Department has produced a detailed guide to the Building Act 2004 for building officials, which is available in hard copy or can be downloaded from our website. A national roadshow for building officials is also underway, and a technical helpline, freephone 0800 242 243, is in place to assist building officials with any questions they may have on the new consents and inspection changes.

To help industry deal with the changes, the Department is partnering with BRANZ to run a series of education seminars in 32 centres that began at the end of February.

Information for industry and the public is also being produced about the changes. Late last year the Department launched a comprehensive building information website, [www.consumerbuild.org.nz](http://www.consumerbuild.org.nz).

For more information about any issues relating to the introduction of the Building Act 2004, please see [www.building.govt.nz](http://www.building.govt.nz), or contact the Department on 0800 242 243.

# Obtaining value key to procurement

Poor quality in construction can result from business decisions made before building work commences and even before plans are drawn and submitted for consent. The consequences are being felt in New Zealand and overseas.

For example, in the USA it was reported recently that a county spent extra money for "custom accent paint colours and to install brass plaques, but opted not to spend extra funds on things that would make a new civic centre building safer" *The News Press*. In that case the roof of a community shelter housing 1400 people collapsed. It was reported that the county followed minimum standards and in one case lowered standards and used a low-bid contractor who lacked certification. And the UK magazine *Building* reported in December that "the official at Whitehall in charge of public sector procurement has warned the construction industry that it must stop underpricing bids for government refurbishment contracts if companies are to avoid financial ruin".

In New Zealand, there is an increasing acceptance that factors other than price minimisation should be key determinants of the procurement selection process in obtaining best value for money from procurement decisions. These decisions, about the methods for purchasing goods and construction services, and the process from initial concept planning and design, to development, construction, maintenance, and ongoing monitoring of performance, collectively termed "procurement", are becoming subject to scrutiny.

The Construction Industry Council has identified the following key procurement issues that are currently being faced in the construction sector in New Zealand:

- There is a focus on short term and not whole-of-life costs (hidden costs such as increased maintenance, building re-fitting, and greater safety risks in the longer term are not accounted for)
- There is a focus on costs over value (focusing on the lowest cost bid makes it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to ensure the quality of the final product)
- The lowest-bid approach is compromising design quality and integrity, health and safety, training, the environment, and education, all of which constrains innovation (given the need to trim costs in order to win contracts in the first place, there are few incentives to keep training and investing in innovation and development)
- The lowest bid approach encourages unsustainable markets (bidders are required to seek every possible cost-efficiency, which can lead to under-estimation of the actual costs associated with undertaking the work, and low/unsustainable margins)
- Inappropriate risk allocation is occurring (risk allocation is often dealt with simply by requiring contractors to work to fixed-price contracts, with little thought as to whether this is appropriate, or sustainable)

In *The News Press* story, the past president of the American Society of Engineering is reported to have said that "designing and building to the bare minimum standards is common practice. People are constantly trying to cut corners. Builders could exceed minimum building requirements but owners don't insist on higher standards and more checks on the designs and construction because of the expense, and choose instead to invest in cosmetic rather than safety upgrades".

The CIC recently released a set of Guidelines for Best Practice Procurement in Construction and Infrastructure in New Zealand, focusing on quality-based selection processes. For example, the Guidelines state that the correct selection of a top qualified contractor has a major impact on the overall project costs and that the decisions made by the contractor in the first 5% of their involvement in a project have the highest leverage on the life cycle cost of the project.

Overall, the document sets out how to make quality procurement decisions and recommends that best value and best practice procurement selection should involve similar value-based selection criteria and processes to those currently legislated for in transport, building and funding criteria for major public works. For example, the document recommends partnering approaches (working together to improve design, reduce accidents and costly maintenance activities), a clearly defined process for selecting suppliers, pre-qualification of consultants and contractors, non-adversarial selection methods that do not force fees down (as inadequate fees can lead to the reduction of the scope and quality of the work, and less time spent on the project, assigning substandard materials or assigning lower paid (usually less qualified) personnel). Construction contracts should have requirements for measuring quality, cost and time considerations, comparing achieved performance with that of similar projects and for identifying potential for doing things better.

The link to the CIC website to read the full document is [www.nzcic.co.nz](http://www.nzcic.co.nz)

## Cheap today, gone tomorrow?

Today, technology provides the means to manufacture a vast array of products, many of which are mass produced and as such offer a cheap alternative building solution.

How do we measure the reliability of these products post-installation and the economic cost of maintaining them in situ over the life of a building? Building

industry sources with an interest in "life cycle costing" are concerned with this.

For example, Construction Marketing Services says that everyone involved in the construction industry should be more aware of "life cycle costing", that is the economic, environmental, and social cost of installing products that result in high maintenance of a building over its full life cycle.

They say that higher maintenance costs over the life of a building may be caused by the use of cheap, mass produced products, and that instead, what is needed are best practice decisions on products and services used in construction, such as the correct choice of product for a particular building solution.

According to CMS, careful consideration in life cycle costing and product choice is imperative to make... *Continued on Page 6*



## Standards New Zealand – quarterly update

Standards New Zealand (SNZ) has provided an update on the progress of recent building related Standards below.

### Just published:

- NZS 1170.5:2004 *Structural design actions, Part 5: Earthquake actions – New Zealand* was published in December 2004. It provides procedures for the determination of earthquake actions on structures in New Zealand. It gives the requirements for verification procedures, site hazard determination, the evaluation of structural characteristics, structural analysis for earthquake action effects, the determination and limits for deformations and the seismic design of parts of structures. Appendices cover aspects of ultimate limit state design and the requirements for material specific structural design standards that are able to be used in conjunction with NZS 1170.5. Its publication completes the 1170 series of Standards for New Zealand. The other members of the series are AS/NZS 1170.0:2002 *General Principles*, AS/NZS 1170.1:2002 *Permanent, imposed and other actions*, AS/NZS 1170.2:2002 and *Wind actions* AS/NZS 1170.3:2003. In Australia AS/1170.4 will be the earthquake actions part but this has not yet been published.

The companion commentary 1170.5:2004 Supp. 1 *Structural design actions, Part 5: Earthquake actions – New Zealand Commentary* was also

published in December. It provides background to the various provisions in the NZS 1170.5:2004, suggests approaches that may satisfy the intent of the Standard and, for some provisions, describes differences between this and previous editions of the Standard. References are provided for further reading and these are given at the end of each section of the Commentary.

The 1170 series has been prepared with the intention that it will replace NZS 4203 as the NZ Building Code verification method determining and applying the design actions for buildings.

At the end of March 2005, SNZ will be publishing all New Zealand relevant parts of the 1170 series as one document, supported by a second commentary volume.

- Published at the end of February will be *Residential property inspection* (NZS 4306:2005). The Standard is intended to provide consistency in the way pre sale/pre-purchase property inspections are carried out. The Standard will give guidance to property inspectors while providing home owners, vendors, and financiers with assurance that the property's condition can be assessed fairly.

### Under development:

- Standards New Zealand is currently working with the Department of Building and Housing (DBH) to prepare a new Standard for residential cable cars. It is

intended that this will then be cited as part of a compliance schedule and subsequently in the Approved Documents. The draft of the Standard will be released for public comment by the end of March 2005 with final publication expected by October 2005. Overall, the new Standard will provide better regulation of the design, construction and maintenance of cable cars. It will provide Territorial Authorities with a framework to assess and give consent for new cable car installations, plus potentially require compliance with an inspection regime. Along with industry, the TA's will also have clearly stated performance measures. Home owners will have the reassurance of knowing that their cable car meets the required safety Standard.

- Currently under development is Amendment 4 to *Timber Structures* (NZS 3603:2004). This important Standard for the timber industry primarily outlines the characteristics that different types of wood should have in order to meet performance requirements. It is used alongside the Standard *Verification of timber* (NZS 3622:2004).

### Risk management seminars

What is your strategy for managing risk? Do you have one? Do people in your organisation know what it is?

To find out more about this email seminar@standards.co.nz or call Helen Graeve (04) 498 5905.

*Continued from Page 5* ...homes “future proof, that is, built to meet the demands for energy efficiency, life cycle costing, building automation and security, sound control, space management, resource responsibility, quality assurance, and building health and safety. Its seminars for members address “solution driven construction” that is future-proof versus

“cost driven construction with no margins”.

CMS runs a programme, which is accredited by the Institute of Architects and Registered Master Builders, to update and educate the construction industry (builders, developers architects, designers, quantity surveyors, and project managers) about products and services.

Life cycle costs are also of concern to the Construction Industry Council. The council advocates whole-life costing (particularly taking into account waste and energy use) and best practice methods for procurement of construction contracts so that a building is more economic to operate over its life cycle.

# Sustainable development strategy to benefit from building controls input

According to the Ministry for the Environment, New Zealand is one of the most highly urbanised countries in the world with 86%, or over four out of five people, living in an urban area.

Perhaps it's not surprising then that a new strategy, the New Zealand Urban Design Protocol, is being launched by the Ministry for the Environment this March. It's all about promoting sustainable urban development, finding new ways to improve the quality of our urban environments, encouraging economic growth, and fostering social well being. To raise awareness of these issues, the protocol and a wide range of events to be held nationwide between now and October, are collectively being promoted as the 2005 Year of the Built Environment. YBE 2005 is a joint initiative between the Government, the Institute of Architects, and a consortium of other professional bodies and councils.

The "Protocol" is a national cross-sector commitment to the importance of achieving good urban design with a linked programme of actions to give it effect. It contains a list of actions that local government, central government, developers and investors might choose to take to advance the aims of the Protocol that best suit their particular circumstances. Signatories can choose to do other things that are not on the list, the action lists are really a starting point to get them thinking of things they could do, according to the MfE.

While the Protocol is a voluntary initiative, rather than a statutory requirement, "signatories" agree to commit to putting the Protocol into effect by developing, monitoring and reporting a set of actions specific to their organisation. The actions they decide to take will be agreed within 6

months of signing up and reported to the Ministry for the Environment.

So what does all this mean for building officials? At forums held in August and September last year on the draft protocol, 40% of attendees giving feedback on it were from local government, and, according to the MfE, some TAs are now working through their internal approval processes to become signatories.

As a signatory, each TA will receive an action pack which provides examples of potential actions their organisation might take to implement the Protocol. The suggested action list for the local government sector focuses on all aspects of their activities, from strategy development to decision-making to research and staff training. For example, building control departments at those TAs that become signatories may be likely to hear more about the Protocol and any or all of the following suggested actions contained in the document [www.mfe.govt.nz/issues/urban/work-programme/protocol.html](http://www.mfe.govt.nz/issues/urban/work-programme/protocol.html) in the coming months, if their TAs commit to them:

- Develop codes of practice which may provide benefits under the RMA process
- Develop initiatives for good urban design (i.e., accelerated consent process)
- Increased use of pre-application meetings with developers
- Development of case studies for good and bad practice
- CPD training in urban design for all relevant professions
- Larger councils to be role models for smaller, less-resourced councils
- Set up an in house advisory group or design review panel from the local

community to advise on the urban design quality of resource consent applications

- Make a commitment that all councillors making decisions on resource consents (and any other statutory decision making processes relating to the built environment) will attend training on their role and the implications for quality urban design
- Provide opportunities for all staff managing the built environment to undertake training and education programmes to increase their understanding of urban design issues
- Provide access to specialist urban design advice to assist decision makers and strategic planners (this could be through employment of a specialist officer, through the use of consultants or through the use of available regional or national resources)
- Work with universities, professional institutes and other training providers to provide effective training and education programmes on urban design at a range of levels for all disciplines involved in managing the urban environment

The actions that each signatory commits to undertaking will be monitored, appropriate to the size of the organisation, to analyse their effectiveness in providing a quality urban environment and to provide an overall picture of initiatives that worked and those that didn't. Monitoring actions (an indication of progress) as well as outcomes (results) and then reporting on the results will be an important contribution to the collective learning process according to the MfE.



# BOINZ Annual Conference 2005

*Continued from Page 1*

If you'll be in Taranaki for the duration of the conference only, rest assured you will be thoroughly entertained and shown New Plymouth highlights in style.

## Conference social highlights

On Sunday afternoon you have the opportunity to play golf at Ngamotu Links – ranked one of New Zealand's top 5 golf courses. Alternatively, you could take a guided bus tour and soak up the stunning natural diversity of Taranaki, with a mix of great views, tales and history.

Monday night's entertainment will begin with an informal dinner at Okurukuru Winery. From the vantage point of the café and its deck, enjoy the commanding view of the vineyard and the coastline, from Oakura to the Sugar Loaf Islands. A great place to have a drink with comrades and watch the sun go down! After dinner a bus will take you back into town for desert and an exclusive viewing of New Plymouth's favourite summer festival and lighting spectacular in the beautiful Pukekura Park.

Tuesday night's entertainment is the big one! Indulge in a private viewing of Puke Ariki. Taranaki Stories: the mountain and

other colossal geological forces; the oil industry; the passion, conflict and drama of our history, are told through exhibitions, displays, collections and technology. The conference dinner will take place within this complex where the tales of Taranaki unfold. Prepare yourself for an evening of great food, drink, dancing and entertainment.

Partners accompanying delegates will not be disappointed! Partners will see Taranaki in style - indulging in organised garden trips, visits to local art studios, and more.

## From the organising committee

For anyone considering putting their hand up to organise a BOINZ conference in the future – go for it! The organising committee has really enjoyed pulling this event together. We feel privileged to represent the Institute in dealings with speakers and sponsors, who have been readily giving of their expertise, financial assistance and time – this is a testament to the high standing our Institute has in the industry.

Finally, New Plymouth District Council must be acknowledged for the staff resource provided to organise this event. A huge thank you to council management – they have supported us to achieve our goal at a time when so many other demands exist.



## Sponsors:

### Gold



### Silver



### Bronze

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### Satchels



**Organising committee:** Rachele McBeth, Peter Watt, Tracey Shaw.

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