



## Maritime & Seafood Educators Association Of Aotearoa (MSEAA)

### Chairman's Report 2012 ~ 2013 AGM, Palmerston North, 23 August 2013

The Association has planned to deliver on five business objectives:

- Deliver an annual conference
- Operate a quality website
- Ensure press releases and news items acknowledging MSEAA
- Increase membership
- Gain new sector members.

In the past twelve months since our last AGM the executive has met three times in November, February and June. With a focus upon the objectives above at these meetings we have delivered annual conferences, we do have a current website and Facebook and we have sought to engage with a variety of organisations in the overall maritime, seafood and marine sectors.

We have open meetings and as a result we will have “visitors” attending who provide valuable insight for our industry. This year in particular this has been especially crucial as the sector educators continue to contend with significant changes in qualifications both impacted by Maritime NZ under the SeaCert programme and also Competenz (as the maritime qualification developer in the progress of the NZQA Targeted Review of Qualifications).

Competenz and Maritime NZ have allowed MSEAA members to participate in what is a major development in maritime qualifications. This participation is appreciated as it allows our education expertise to be recognised and utilised in the progress toward future qualification and licences. This work will continue.

In the seafood industry, including aquaculture, qualification review work commenced for an NZQA targeted review in 2013. Of significance in this sector has been the transfer of the Seafood ITO and its coverage and functions into the NZITO from August 2012.

The 2012 conference was successfully held in Wellington with a range of industry leaders addressing attendees. New subjects that were tabled included the work of AWATEA in the area of marine energy activities and projects and an overview of dive industry training and certification by a PADI Course Director.

The sector appears to be sustainable and is of significant importance to the New Zealand economy. Most certainly the government has a strong focus upon both commercial utilisation and also the sustainability of New Zealand's marine resources and environment.

This has led to a number of political topics including issues around marine oil and gas exploration, resource consents for salmon farms, the snapper controversy, fishing boat crew welfare and the continuing resolution of the Rena event. This highlights the fact that there is public awareness so there needs to be clear expectations about the way in which the marine sector is managed.

We thank the two ITO's – NZITO and Competenz - for hosting our executive meetings in Wellington and Auckland during the current year. In particular we extend our thanks to Carl Ammon and Andrew Brownlee for their generosity in providing meeting space. I understand that Andrew now left the ITO and we acknowledge the personal support he has extended to MSEAA over the years.

2013/2014 will continue provide opportunities and challenges for our provider members with 2014 TEC investment plans, NZQA EER and their new "rules" approach and the continuing NZQA Targeted Review of Qualifications (TROQ).

We do need to be proactive in moving forward with our Mike Little scholarship programme. We have not approved a scholarship for a number of years.

There is some safety in numbers and MSEAA continues to be recognised by many stakeholders as an important and established tertiary representative organisation.

I acknowledge Christine Burt, who left us at the end of last month and who was a most vital organiser for MSEAA providing invaluable support to MSEAA and its executive for many years. Thank you Christine.

Dan Forsman  
Chairman  
23 August 2013