

Minutes

NZRAB Board

Via conference call

16 February 2010

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am.

Attendance

Board members	Ron Pynenburg (Chair), Kate Davenport (Vice Chair), Carolynn Bull, Anna-Marie Chin, Marsh Cook, Callum McKenzie, Helen Tonkin
In attendance	Paul Jackman (CE), Andrew Symonds (EO)
Apologies	Gordon Holden,

Board paper 1: – The NZRAB’s input into the Department of Building and Housing’s review of occupational licensing in the building sector

The meeting commenced with the Chair provided a summary of the upcoming review of occupational licensing in the building sector and the need to determine an overall stance for the NZRAB, so as to guide NZRAB’s input into the review.

The meeting then discussed the suggestion that the NZRAB’s mandate should be extended to include the registration of the LBP design classes.

The overall consensus was that, in principle, the NZRAB also registering designers would be in the public’s interest, if it gave greater clarity as to what services the public could expect from architects and from designers. The meeting agreed that the NZRAB would propose to the Department of Building and Housing that the NZRAB also register designers, subject to the creation of a new set of institutional arrangements for the NZRAB. These arrangements would need to correct the limitations and weaknesses of the current institutional arrangements and provide the NZRAB with the flexibility to determine how architects and designers should be registered etc.

The meeting then considered the draft submission to the upcoming 1 March 2010 meeting with the Department. Among the points raised were:

- initial registration is also one of the ways that the NZRAB ensures people who are incompetent don’t become or continue to be architects

- the NZRAB's links with the education sector include international links
- another option for assisting clients make informed decisions about employing architects would be exercising a veto over the registration of company names that include the words "architect(s)", "architectural" and "architecture"
- the Board needs members who can provide sector leadership.

Marshall Cook joined the meeting at 10.00 am and expressed concern that the issues being discussed were too weighty to be dealt with by conference call. The Chair responded that the Board needed to resolve what it would say at the 1 March 2010 consultation with the Department. However, he said, the Board meeting of 16 March would provide another opportunity to consider the issue.

The meeting then resolved:

That the Board authorise representations to the 2010 review of occupational licensing in the building sector, on the basis that:

- the NZRAB should operate under an Act and Rules that focus on outcomes aimed at helping make the built environment in New Zealand the best that it can be, rather than prescriptive procedures
- a mechanism is required so that the public knows whether or not, within a practice offering building design services, an architect or architects do, or are responsible for, the work done
- the NZRAB's mandate should be extended to include the registration of the LBP design classes.

Moved Ron Pynenburg, seconded Callum McKenzie, carried