

A vision for architecture in New Zealand

The task of architecture is to lead the way in terms of what the built environment can and should be. This goes beyond designing for function, essential though that is. In so far as architecture articulates the national imagination, it contributes to nation building. If the built environment in New Zealand is the best that it can be, then it contributes to the realisation of this nation's potential.

The New Zealand Registered Architects Board is tasked with determining who can be Registered Architects. In doing this, the Board is mindful of the broader contribution to New Zealand that, at its best, the profession makes through leadership and a passion for excellence.



Ron Pynenburg
Chair

Kate Davenport
Deputy Chair



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INTRODUCING THE NEW ZEALAND REGISTERED ARCHITECTS BOARD

The New Zealand Registered Architects Board is tasked with registering, monitoring and, if need be, disciplining architects.

This is done to ensure that Registered Architects are competent and reputable so the public can rely on them. Architects bring to their work a creative vision of what the built environment can and should be, and a professional duty of care, in addition to their technical expertise.

Functions

To achieve its purpose, the Board:

- registers architects who have been assessed by their peers as competent to practice independently
- maintains an online register, so the public can confirm that an architect is registered
- reviews the competence of Registered Architects every five years
- investigates complaints and, if need be, disciplines Registered Architects.

Protection of Title

The Board gains its authority from the Registered Architects Act 2005, its stated purpose being "to protect the title of Registered Architect". The Act says that persons may only use the title "Registered Architect" if they are registered. Other persons may design buildings, but they may not call themselves a 'Registered Architect' or an 'architect'.

Governance

The Board can have six to eight members. They are appointed by the Governor General on the advice of the Minister for Building and Construction. Half the Board members are nominated by the New Zealand Institute of Architects.

The current Board members are:

Ron Pynenburg (Chair)	NZIA nominated
Katherine Davenport (Deputy Chair)	
Carolynn Bull	
Anna-Marie Chin	NZIA nominated
Marshall Cook	NZIA nominated
Professor Gordon Holden	
Callum McKenzie	NZIA nominated
Helen Tonkin	

Of the Board members, five are architects, two are lawyers and one is an accountant. Typically, the Board meets four times a year.

Organisation

The Board maintains a small office in Wellington, with three staff. The Board is reliant on up to 50 assessors who are Registered Architects, their principal task being to assess applicants for registration.

Funding

The Board is self funding from fees paid by Registered Architects and registration applicants. In total, there are approximately 1550 architects registered in New Zealand.

Communications

The Board's website – www.nzrab.govt.nz – is the Board's main way of providing information to the public, registration applicants and Registered Architects. From the NZRAB website, architects can access a second website that provides them with personalised information about ongoing training that they can undertake to keep up to date.

A separate brochure is available, entitled *Problems With Your Architect?* which explains how the Board can help members of the public who have employed Registered Architects and believe they have been badly served.