

Chairman's Report 2020

2020 has proven to be a challenging, and rewarding year for the New Zealand Resuscitation Council. We had a number of disappointments in cancelling our biennial scientific meeting, NZ Resus 2020 which was shaping up to be a well-attended and very informative few days in Rotorua. The council is looking forward to planning another in person meeting in 2022, and we will be exploring more online professional development sessions in 2021.

COVID-19 has created a number of challenges for the resuscitation training sector and the council has issued a number of amendments to guidelines and training to ensure safety and confidence of learners in hygiene during our courses. These recommendations have been issued promptly and ensure that our instructors and learners feel equipped for whatever alert level the country is in.

I would like to begin the 2020 Chairman's Report by thanking everyone for the acceptance that this has been a challenging year and the adaptation to the new normal. Also for the continued support of the council and our continued work to improve outcomes for Aotearoa, New Zealand.

We measure our performance against a range of service performance indicators. Our outcome areas are: robust and credible education, better informed rescuers and improved New Zealand standards.

Robust and Credible Education

We have recently conducted our instructor audit this audit gives us an opportunity to review and report on the years courses. We are delighted to announce that New Zealand Resuscitation Council Instructors have delivered CORE Advanced, Immediate and NLS to 7027 learners in the year ending 30 June 2020.

New Zealand Resuscitation Council Instructors delivered 4624 CORE Advanced Courses, 973 CORE Immediate Adult, 1430 CORE Immediate Adult and Child Courses, 756 NLS Courses.

In what has been a very challenging year, thank you to you all for the hard work adjusting to the new normal and uncertainty of 2020. We now have over 640 current instructors and are seeing a huge demand for more instructor courses.

Better informed Rescuers

We pride ourselves on keeping the Resuscitation community informed with any updates in our field and the latest activities of the council. To ensure the industry is informed, the council uses Newsletters, Facebook, Twitter and more recently Instagram to engage with and reach stakeholders.

During the 2019-20 financial year a considerable amount of email campaigns were sent with a total of 36 newsletters and updates being sent, compared to 25 last year. There are a number of factors contributing to this increase in communications, mainly the large quantities of information that needed to be shared during the changing alert levels and the cease of training due to COVID-19. There was a



considerable amount of positive feedback about the clarity and speed in which the Resuscitation Council responded to the pandemic by ceasing training and amending guidelines and guidance as the research and information became available globally. Well done to the head office staff for their hard work on the Council's response.

There was nearly double the amount of email campaigns sent with 20,601 emails sent compared with 12,000 last year. The open rate, has also increased on last year from 40.7% to 49.4%.

Our social media channels are increasing in both followers and engagement, across Twitter, Facebook and Instagram with the handle @NZResusCouncil used on all three mediums. All three platforms continue to grow steadily and enable the council to share information quickly to our instructors and the public.

Financial Audit

The 2019-20 Financial Audit was recently completed, and despite a number of factors related to COVID-19 the audit was quite favourable. Considering the costs associated with cancelling NZ Resus 2020, and the loss of income during the Alert Level 3 and 4 lockdowns, the financials at year end had a small loss of just under \$10,000. The NZ Resuscitation Council fortunately was able to gain the government income support subsidy for 12 weeks and the extension for 8 weeks and the resurgence for 2 weeks – total 22 weeks of government subsidy which enabled us to keep all staff on full pay.

ILCOR

ILCOR's scientific review drives the development of national resuscitation council guidelines. We are fortunate that many of our councillors sit on ILCOR task forces, affording New Zealand with a strong presence in various areas of resuscitation on the world stage. We recently had a virtual meeting which was originally to be held in Manchester where ANZCOR was represented across every taskforce.

I would like to thank Tonia Nicholson, Gabrielle Nuthall, Tony Scott and Kevin Nation for representing ANZCOR and Lindsay Mildenhall who has recently stepped down from ILCOR for your continued dedication to your respective Task Force commitments.

ARC

Our relationship with our Australian counterparts, the Australian Resuscitation Council continues to be strong, in what has been a challenging year. 2020 was destined to be a busy year as we work with our Australian colleagues to produce the new ANZCOR Guidelines. As with other parts of the organisation we have relied on technology to continue the work to develop the guidelines and remain on track despite the many challenges that we have faced this year. Thank you to everyone who has been involved with the guideline review process so far and we look forward to having all the reviewed guidelines available in the near future.



The New Zealand and Australian Resuscitation Councils have continued our commitment to annual ANZCOR meetings. This provides a regular means of exploring mutually beneficial opportunities separate to scientific interests. Thank you to, Tony Scott (Deputy Chair), Kevin Nation (CEO) and Tony Smith (who represents the Council of Ambulance Authorities) for your commitment and participation in these meetings.

World Restart a Heart

Thank you to everyone who celebrated and participated in World Restart a Heart Day. 2020 was a unique year for Restart a Heart as we joined our colleagues online celebrating through social media. Globally the initial numbers from the World Restart a Heart Committee show a reach of well over 40 million people.

Comings and Goings

We are fortunate to have a vast amount of knowledge and experience in our Council and in our executive teams. Thank you for the work that all of you have done over the last year and the ease in which you have all adjusted to Zoom council meetings.

Over the year we have been glad to have welcomed Malcolm Joblin as the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners and we will welcome Aaron Waterrus as the representative for Fire and Emergency in the new year.

I would also like to thank Robert Frengley for his many years of dedicated service to the Council and we wish him all the best on their future endeavours. Robert Frengley has represented the Australia and New Zealand Intensive Care Society for many years has dedicated a huge amount of time and effort in creating the content for our course textbooks, he was awarded a citation of service in 2018.