

**Minutes  
IChemE in New Zealand  
Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

**Wednesday 19 May 2021**

**Time:** 17.35 – 18:05 NZ ST  
**Venue:** Online

**Minutes**

**Chair:** Becky Macdonald

**Attendees:** 12 in person plus 10 online attendees

**Apologies:** Merv Jones, Greg Ellis.

**Welcome**

**1 Minutes of previous meeting**

*Proposed the minutes of the previous AGM held on 13 May 2020 be accepted as a true and fair representation: G Slater    Seconded: G Wilson    Carried*

**2 Chair report** Becky Macdonald presented the following Chairman's report

**Annual Chair's Report, 2020**

Becky Macdonald CEng FIChemE  
Chair, IChemE in New Zealand

*It has been my privilege to be the Chair of the IChemE in NZ for the past 24 months and what a journey it has been. I started what I expected to be a very ordinary two year term at the AGM in Hamilton in May 2019. By May 2020 we were in the middle of a global pandemic and held our AGM on line. This year we are holding a hybrid meeting with some members face to face in New Plymouth and other joining us on-line.*

*Over the past 12 months New Zealand has moved from being in a full lockdown, back to life style that is relatively normal, albeit with severely restricted overseas travel. However, around the rest of the world the Covid 19 pandemic continues, with over 162 million people infected, and 3.4 million deaths. My thoughts go to countries*

*such India and Sri Lanka which continue to see increasing rates of infection. One of the positives to come out of Covid 19 has been a rapid change to the way we work, with more flexible working becoming the normalized. For me this has meant the work-life balance has been easier and smoother. I want to acknowledge how quickly the NZ universities adapted to delivering their academic programmed virtually – kai pai! However, it is important to note that due to the continued international destructions, many of the industries that employ chemical engineers continue to face challenges that are not simple to overcome.*

*I thank all of the board members and regional representatives for the time they volunteer to IChemE. Specific thanks to Greig Wilson who wears two hats; as well as watching over the NZ finances, Grieg is also the NZ representative of IChemE Congress. Also, David Platts, a past Chair of IChemE in NZ, has continued his role on the Learned Society Committee. Mean while I have been actively involved in the Regions Committee, which is in the process of refocusing on Member Engagement. As always a big thank you to Catherine Muldoon, our Board Secretary, who keeps things running seamlessly in the background – I am always flabbergasted by just how much she gets done. Thank you all!*

*The NZ Board continues to be the face for IChemE members in our geographically remote part of the world. As we moved out of lockdown we have slowly increased the number of events including social gatherings, seminars, and site visits. These various events attracted a members from many industries, with some events co-hosted with Engineering NZ and the universities.*

*Finally I am very excited that Danielle Lind-Corkill will be taking on the Chair role. She has been very active on the committee this year, leading the development of the IChemE NZ Climate Change Commission Submission. I am confident we are in good hands going forward.*

*Ngā Mihi Nui,*

*Dr Becky Macdonald, C.Eng, FIChemE,  
Chair IChemE in NZ*

The passing of Mary Earle was also sadly noted.

### **3 Financials**

The 2020 Financial accounts were presented to the members by Hon. Treasurer Greig Wilson. COVID has influenced the income with reduced training taking place. The government wage subsidy was successfully applied for which improved income levels.

It was asked if the members would have an issue with paying in GBP instead of NZD. It was thought it might be an issue for companies having to convert to foreign currency.

This year the subscription payments went into an account in the UK. Most people paid with a credit card to avoid the bank fees for depositing into a foreign account.

Any comments on paying in GBP can be sent to Greig Wilson, [gwilson@ichemecongress.org](mailto:gwilson@ichemecongress.org).

*Proposed the accounts be accepted: Jenny Culliford      Seconded: Mike Hopper  
Put to the vote electronically carried*

#### **4 Elections to the 2021-2022 board**

The Chair (2021/2023) - Danielle Lind-Corkill  
Outgoing Chair – Becky Macdonald  
Hon Treasurer - Greig Wilson

Board members - Jenny Culliford, David Pearce, Ken Morison

Put to the vote in the room and electronically *carried*

#### **Regional group representatives:**

Northland – Lisa Julian  
Auckland – Gabriela Compas Balzat  
Waikato/ Bay of Plenty – Peter Kovalsky  
Taranaki – Marc Ramos  
Lower North Island – Nicola Brown  
Wellington – Meg Bertrand  
Upper South Island – Josh Thorpe  
Lower South Island – John McAndrew

Youth Representative – Rino Joshua Atienza

Put to the vote in the room and electronically *carried*

#### **5 Congress**

Greig Wilson is the New Zealand regional representative on Congress. He gave an update on what Congress has been up to in the last year. There have been three sessions held in the last year year, sessions 7 – 9.

Session 7 Value proposition – members acting together, developing the profile of congress, better access via the website. The climate change document was reviewed.

Session 8 Commercial strategy – looked at training. Best to leave the current offerings but maybe add some free courses to bring some new members.

Quality diversity and inclusion

Regional Committee, now the Member engagement committee.

Session 9 Member engagement – draft Terms of reference

Palm oil

Climate change, Terms of reference.

Bylaws reviewed.

He encouraged all members to get in touch with him if they had anything they wanted to discuss regarding IChemE.

#### **7. AOB**

The MBIE proposed occupational regulation for engineers discussion document is open for submissions. IChemE had made a submission on an earlier draft.

It was considered that IChemE should make a separate submission as the issues for IChemE were different to ENZ.

We need to reference global standards, but only NZ standards are referenced in the document.

The document was raised due to the Royal Commission on the Canterbury earthquakes so it is understandable there was focus on the building and structural disciplines.

There is awareness that process industries and electrical are also impacted by the document.

The levels of membership were briefly discussed. In NZ around 530 members, a little over 50 are Fellows and 38% are Chartered members.

**8 Close 18:05**