

Presidents report October 2020

The first year in a leadership role involves getting to know the business and establishing goals. Tim Jelleyman handover our society in a healthy position. The constitution was ratified in November 2019, and the website enhancement had a timeline. Then the COVID-19 pandemic hit us all for six and time frames for activities have needed to be extended.

We were fortunate to have scheduled a meeting with MOH on March 17th where we could review the schedule of activity that the MOH contracts us to deliver to enhance the Wellbeing of Tamariki and Rangitahi. This resulted in a 2 year contract through to June 2021, with an additional new clause covering the impact of COVID. The business management of the contract which covers the Clinical Networks and the Epidemiology Service is undertaken by Mollie Wilson as outlined in her detailed report.

The Clinical networks were established in 2010, and we have reached a 10 year milestone of activity. Increasing over that time to 12 networks with 2 project networks on Tube feeding and Intersex being completed in 2019/2020. I would like to acknowledge Richard Aitken's 6 year tenure as chair of the Clinical networks and am delighted to welcome Professor Dawn Elder who commenced as Chair in August 2020. Thanks to all the participants in the Clinical Networks, as well as those who represent the society on committees and lead and participate in the Special Interest Groups.

Work has commenced work on reviewing the executive and administrative support for the Paediatric Society. Strategic and operational functions are essential for the executive, council and the advisory groups to meet our constitutional aims. I consulted the 3 past presidents and with John Garrett and Dawn Elder have commenced a review utilising human resource assistance. At the council meeting the first phase of that review will be presented for input.

This will ensure that we plan for the future of our society and will support the planned 2021 review of our current strategic plan 2016-2021 and develop the 2022-2027 one.

Our current VISION: The Paediatric Society of New Zealand believes all children /tamariki and youth/ rangatahi should, by right, **attain optimal physical, mental and social health and wellbeing**. By working as a coordinated national network of health professionals the Society dedicates its efforts and resources to this end. Fundamental to this vision is the Society's commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi principles. The Plan will be achieved by having a Society that is:

- connected, multi-disciplinary, diverse and responsive
- the go-to body for advice on child health issues, **a voice for and with children and young people, politically connected but independent and focussed on the needs of New Zealand's tamariki / children and rangatahi /youth.**
- increasing its focus on primary care
- Informed by evidence and relevant data

As we move forward we need to develop new ways of meeting the needs of our members and support services for children and young people.

The website enhancement is nearly there. Discourse is the platform which we believe will enable contribution and communication across our societies multidisciplinary members. Thanks to all those who have been involved, especially Denise Tringham in getting us through this process. It has been a lot of work. I'm hopeful that it will have been tested prior to the Virtual AGM on 11 November.

I thank Mollie for her contribution as CEO since 2010, and Denise for her continued administrative role. Thanks to John Garrett a steady head in the treasurer role.

I have appreciated contact from a number of members this year and encourage you to feedback directly if you need to at any time.

Nicola Austin 19.10.2020