

New Zealand Electronics Institute (Inc)

2017 ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES REGISTRATION BOARD REPORT

Three Board meetings were held in 2017 with one of those being conducted online as a cost saving measure. Apart from the standard business of assessing applicants for registration, updates from MBIE personnel and general housekeeping, the Board spent considerable effort reviewing proposed changes to the regulations governing our operations. Featuring heavily in the discussions were the declining number of REAs and the consequent declining financial situation. A major refresh of the Board's website was also executed.

As noted last year, regulatory change moves at glacial pace and, with a change of Government, the Engineers Occupational Review has ground to a halt. However there was hope the Regulatory Systems Amendment bill would proceed. The bill looked to introduce administrative harmony between the various bodies governing engineering occupations:

- The term of appointment to a Board
- The required meeting quorum
- Tax liability
- Financial default liability falling to Associations.

However, it was also stymied. We are now putting our focus on the Statute Amendment bill. The impact of the bill will be:

- The need to furnish an annual report (The EARB already does)
- Board membership terms (including mid-term appointments) will be for a full 2 year period
- Membership of the Board will continue past term expiry until either re-appointed or a replacement is appointed.

Primarily the latest effort will avoid wholesale change out of Board members at the end of 2 years plus avoid being unable to function if appointments are delayed.

A couple of months ago, I flagged our long-term Registrar, John Edgar, is retiring. If any one is interested in the part-time position please advise the Registrar.

As always, drop me an e-mail or give me a call if you have any thoughts or concerns you would like me to take to the Board table.

Bruce Hurley

NZEI Nominee on the Engineering Associates Registration Board