

## **2024 ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES REGISTRATION BOARD REPORT**

Four Board meetings were held in 2024. All, but one, meetings were held by videoconference as an aid to minimising the Board's operating costs. Membership of the Board has been refreshed with new nominees from New Zealand Institute of Healthcare Engineering and The Institute of Refrigeration, Heating, and Air Conditioning Engineers.

Roger Woods, the Board's Registrar, retired and his replacement is Mark Harris. Mark is an REA and comes from a consulting background across several engineering disciplines. As well as keeping the Board's wheels turning, Mark using his skills to smarten up the application process by moving it online and automating the backend processes.

The increased number of applicants for registration continued in 2024 and is showing no signs of decreasing. But, overall, the number of REAs is still declining. Many applicants appear to be gaining registration as part of seeking New Zealand residency. Interestingly, many are already living in New Zealand.

Wearing my Institute hat, it is pleasing to see the number of RF engineers gaining registration as they have been conspicuously absent over the last few years. Time will tell whether they remain in New Zealand once the current 5G rollout slows.

The Board continues to maintain dialogue with Engineering New Zealand and the multitude of relevant vocational training organisations as part of promoting the credential and its value to New Zealand. Another topic of discussion is the Occupational Registration of Engineers as its still alive but not a Government priority.

I signalled my intent not to seek a further term on the Board last year. If anyone is interested in taking up the role, let's have a conversation.

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