



Executive Officer Update

3 October 2023

ATSNZ Disability Expo 2023

- Less than a month to go.
- Seminar programme available online.
- All booths in the main hall sold, half the booths outside Conference Room 1 sold, plus a few more pending confirmations.
- 'Have a Go' area set up beside conference room 2.
- August & September Newsletters distributed.

Future expos:

- Auckland - 6 & 7 November 2024 - Pencil booking made.
- Christchurch – Airforce Museum availability.
 - Tuesday, 11th to Friday, 14th March 2025
 - Monday, 17th and Tuesday, 18th March 2025
 - Tuesday, 25th and Wednesday, 26th March 2025
- Auckland - suggest 17-18 September and pencil book early.
 - OSS Rotorua 3-6 November

AGM

- 17 members attended the AGM at the Jetpark Conference Centre in Manukau, Auckland.
- Andrew Short, Aaron Morgan & Phoebe Mascull re-elected.
- Wayne Turner, Chris Ross, Jeremy Glasier and Levi Murray newly elected.
- New constitution adopted.

Trials Improvement Process

- To include in next newsletter:
 - The Whaikaha Trial Process review is progressing well, with Jason Clare, Levi Murray and Katie Noble representing the ATSNZ members. There have been monthly meetings for the last 4 or so months, with both assessors from across the country as well as representatives from Enable and Accessable involved.
 - We all appreciate the multiple challenges of trials and that we need to make the process simpler for assessors, as cost effective from both suppliers and processing point of view, while still delivering the right outcomes for our clients. We also know that given the ageing population the demand for trials will only continue and we need to ensure that the processes are also scalable to meet this demand.
 - These meetings have been led and facilitated by Cath Williams, from Whaikaha. Currently we have been working through the trial data gained from all the stakeholders to determine where some changes could be made. From this data, it is clear that there

are a number of items that are almost always successful when trialled and the need for these trials is unnecessary. It is also very clear that lower value items have a high cost to trial and it is likely that we will be able to look to raise the threshold for trials from where it currently sits at \$500.

- We have also discussed at length the responsibility for trial follow up as there has been some duplication by both the suppliers and the funding administrators that we can definitely remove.
- In the next few months we are optimistic that we will have been able to agree on some steps forward and have these approved by Whaikaha (very important given the potential budget implications - even if just in the short term).

Membership/assistance

- Euromedical (Cubro) and A1 Wheelchairs (Medifab) no longer members.
- 1 unpaid 23/24 membership – followed up and paid.
- Scheduling a meeting with Milner Mobility.

Communications

- ATSNZ August newsletter sent out to members.
- Email from Julian Jackson, who is looking for connections to reliable distributors.
- Email from Whaikaha on behalf of Pete Donnelly, to connect him with stakeholders for when he is visiting New Zealand, as part of his Churchill Fellowship researching "Innovation through lived experience of disability.
- AGM draft minutes along with Chair/EO report & Financial Report.
- NZDSN's newsletter forwarded for coverage of relevant topics.

Relationships

- Whaikaha
 - Presenting at ATSNZ Disability Expo.
 - Meeting on Equipment trial process improvement
 - Assurance the project will be completed before year end.
- ACC
 - Presenting in conjunction with Enable at ATSNZ Disability Expo.
- MTANZ
 - Continued TPB collaboration.
- Accessable
 - Assisted in marketing Pre-expo workshop to therapists.
- Enable
 - Gavin resigned – last day 27 September.
 - Assisted in marketing Pre-expo workshop to therapists.
- NZ Federation of Disability Information Services - receiving & reading emails
- NZ Disability Services Network - receiving and reading emails.
- Te Whatu Ora – receiving and reading emails.
- Access Matters – receiving and reading emails.
- Disabled Person's Assembly – receiving and reading emails.