



*Te Poari Tiaki Waewae O Aotearoa*

*The ePod*

**NOVEMBER 2014**

## **PODIATRISTS BOARD NEWSLETTER**

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**THE BOARD WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL PRACTITIONERS A  
SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR**



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## **BOARD MEETINGS**

The Board met on 30 & 31 October, and hosted representatives of the Podiatry Board of Australia in the afternoon of the 30th.

Meetings planned for 2015 are 26 & 27 February, June (dates to be confirmed), 20 & 21 August, and 12 & 13 November.

## **BOARD MEMBER VACANCIES**

The Ministry of Health is currently advertising for health practitioner positions on a number of Health Responsible Authorities including the Podiatrists Board. If you are interested in nominating someone or applying yourself, contact the Ministry at [appointments@moh.govt.nz](mailto:appointments@moh.govt.nz). Nominations close on 24 December 2014.

## **PRACTISING WITHOUT AN ANNUAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATE (APC)**

There are currently 356 practising podiatrists holding an APC.

The Board wishes to remind all registrants that it is essential they hold a current APC before they commence practice, and under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCA) it is illegal to practice without one.

This is also a reminder for those registrants who do not hold an APC that should an unexpected opportunity arise for you to practice for a very brief period of time, you are still required to hold a current APC regardless, and would be practising illegally should you not have this. To save embarrassment please contact the Board should this situation arise.

## **ON-LINE ANNUAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATE (APC) RENEWAL PROCESS**

The Board is pleased to advise that work is on track for an on-line option for practitioners to be able to renew their APCs for the 2015-2016 practising year. This function is expected to be available early next year, practitioners will be advised closer to this time.

Practitioners will be able to login to the Board's website, create their own password, update any addresses and contact details themselves and apply for their APC (with their own data prepopulated). For those choosing not to practice applications to remain on the Register and pay the Inactive Maintenance fee will also be available.

## **WEBSITE**

The Board's website is also undergoing a re-development and should be live early next year.

## **PBRFC AUDIT**

- **SELECTION POLICY**

Practitioners are again advised that policy now requires all renewal applications for Annual Practising Certificates received **after 31 March** (where the practitioner has held an APC the preceding year) may result in that practitioner's name being included in the following year's PBRFC Audit process.

- **REQUIREMENTS**

A reminder to all practitioners selected for PBRFC audit that it is the previous 4 years (or quadrennium) worth of your continuing competency records that the Board wishes to view. For some of you this may require sending in 2 logbooks, as your previous quadrennium may span the timeframe for example, of the last 2 years of your previous logbook and 2 years of your current logbook.

- **CCME**

It is essential that evidential documentation is provided for activities claimed in this area.

- **2015 PBRFC AUDIT**

Practitioners in the 2015 audit will be advised within the next month.

## **PODIATRY BOARD OF AUSTRALIA (PBA)**

As mentioned above, the Board welcomed representatives of the Australian Board at its last Board meeting and a very collegial, mutually beneficial and productive meeting ensued.

### **ANZPAC (Australia & NZ Podiatry Accreditation Council)**

The Board is a member of ANZPAC and it uses them for qualification and skills assessments for registration applications from overseas trained podiatrists and podiatric surgeons.

They are currently reviewing the Entry-Level Accreditation Standards and Competency Standards for the podiatry profession.

ANZPAC has incorporated its analysis of stakeholder feedback and other developments and now seeks a further round of feedback from stakeholders on the re-drafted Accreditation Standards for Podiatry Programs in Australia and New Zealand and Podiatry Competency Standards for Australia and New Zealand. Following analysis and incorporation of this public round of stakeholder feedback, ANZPAC will present a final version of both sets of standards to the Podiatry Board of Australia and Podiatrists Board of New Zealand for approval.

Copies of the standards are available from [http://www.anzpac.org.au/standards\\_review.html](http://www.anzpac.org.au/standards_review.html)  
Submissions can be sent to [standardsreview@anzpac.org.au](mailto:standardsreview@anzpac.org.au) and will be accepted until 5pm on Wednesday 17 December 2014.

### **PodiatryNZ**

The Board's Executive Committee meets periodically with PodiatryNZ representatives and the Board values this collegial contact.

PodiatryNZ runs a number of courses and activities throughout the year that are eligible for PBRFC credits, including the conference which this year was held 13-15 November. Please refer to their website <https://www.podiatry.org.nz/> for information on their current courses.

To clarify the roles of both the Podiatrists Board and PodiatryNZ:

- The Podiatrists Board's legislated role is to protect the health and safety of the public by providing mechanisms to ensure podiatrists are competent and fit to practice and
- PodiatryNZ's role is "to advance the quality of and access to podiatry in New Zealand".

### **AUT**

The Board values its contact with the School of Podiatry and the Head is invited annually to address the Board at their meeting.

The Board Registrar has recently spoken with the third year students providing some background on the Board's functions, and registration, certification and continuing competence Board requirements for practising podiatrists in NZ.

### **SECRETARIAT**

The Board is very pleased to continue with its SLA with the Occupational Therapy Board, providing office accommodation and secretariat support as needed.  
The office is also co-located with a number of other larger health Regulatory Boards over two levels and this has proved to be a cost effective arrangement.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE WORK**

Expressions of interest are sought from experienced podiatrists (7 years or more) to join a pool of practitioners who are available to undertake work for the Board serving on various committees. These would include Competence Review Committees and Professional Conduct Committees (PCCs).

### **UPDATE REGISTER**

**Please ensure the Board has your correct address.**

The Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCAA) requires that you notify the Board of any address change within one month.

**This is important to ensure you do not miss out on any posted information from the Board.** This includes correspondence the Board may post to registrants who are non-practising, regarding a revision of the Register (under section 144 of the HPCA Act) whereby the Board is able to remove registrants from the Register if no response is received to posted correspondence on 2 occasions over a 7 month period.)

**Please also advise the Board of any email and phone number changes as well.**

## **CONTACT**

For all queries please contact the Registrar, Annabel Whinam

**[registrar@podiatristsboard.org.nz](mailto:registrar@podiatristsboard.org.nz)**

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