Nelson Marlborough Branch of the Institute of Directors

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

On behalf of the Nelson Marlborough branch committee, it is my pleasure to report on the 2024 year. It’s been nice to have a more settled year, allowing us to trial new in-person events while keeping some old favourites. We’ve also been able to organise site visits to both the Waimea Community Dam and Marlborough Lines Taylor Pass solar farm.

Our branch’s key objectives for 2024 were:

* Deliver at least 10 events in Nelson and five in Blenheim that provide thought leadership, inspiration, governance tools, continuing professional development and networking opportunities; and
* Maintain collaboration with other local organisations that have an interest in or connection to governance networks.

During the course of 2024, we have well achieved this. We delivered 19 face-to-face events in Nelson and 8 face-to-face events in Blenheim. We made sure that we scheduled some events to be smaller than we traditionally held, to cater for those members who prefer that, while still holding some larger scale events. Our “micro” events, such as *Bean counting over beans* and *Māpua members catch ups*, are initiatives that other branches are considering given the way they allow members to both learn and strengthen networks - the very ethos of a membership organisation.

**Branch Committee**

I wish to acknowledge the work of our branch committee – Pip Jamieson, Tracy Johnson, Euan McIntosh, Venus Guy, Matt Sutherland, Tim Cosgrove, Suzanne Jones, Gordon Shaw, Yolande Tzinavos and Justin Carter. They have given generously of their time and energy, I greatly appreciate both their support and the time they voluntarily give for our members here in Te Tauihu. A special thanks to Stephen Broad-Paul who resigned in May this year. His contribution and commitment to the committee over the last 4 years has been invaluable, and Otago branch’s gain will be our loss.

**Membership**

Overall branch membership is up from last year's total of 337 to 366. We continue to have above average engagement rates for our members attending branch events, training and newsletter readership.

Our congratulations to Morag Ingram, Sam Mellor and Gregory Rimmer-Hollyman who have become Chartered Members in 2024.

**Emerging Director Award**

This year we ran the Emerging Director Award for up-and-coming directors in the early stages of their governance careers, with the timing and publicity around these awards being co-ordinated nationally across the seven branches that offered this opportunity this year. We were delighted to announce Serean Gallagher as the winner of the Nelson Marlborough Branch award. A big thank you to our judges, Sarah Smith, Meg Mathews and Gráinne Troute, we can’t do it without you.

**National Office**

For those local members who were able to join either our AGM in Hamilton or our conference in Christchurch, I know they will have appreciated the scale and effort of input of our national office. For the South Island branches, it was particularly heartening to see the huge degree of support for national conference in Christchurch, which I understand was the largest conference yet. I think its success will see it back in Christchurch before too long, and that makes it just a little easier for our local branch members to attend.

**Branch Sponsors**

We are extremely grateful for the continued support of our branch sponsors, who are just so important in enabling us to continue to successfully deliver services to our members. We most sincerely thank Duncan Cotterill, Findex, Intepeople, and Ngāti Kuia for the support they provide us, not only financially but with their expertise, passion, spaces and commitment. We also appreciate our national partner ASB.

**Branch Manager**

Melanie Powick has been in the Nelson Marlborough Branch Manager role for 18 months and has made great connections with many of you will already. Thank you, Melanie, for all you have done for us in 2024, and I encourage you all to connect with her as you need to.

**Concluding Comments**

2024 has been a very solid year for our branch, and it has been an enjoyable year to chair it. I thank you for your support, and the IoD thanks you for your membership. We look forward to 2025 and to continuing as Te Tauihi’s leading governance thought leadership, support and networking organisation.

**Sarah-Jane Weir**
Chair, IoD Nelson Marlborough Branch

6 November 2024