

Onboard

Newsletter of the Social Workers Registration Board

**Tena koutou,
Ka nui te mihi kia koutou!**

Resignation of the Chief Executive – Sean McKinley

It was with sincere regret that the Social Workers Registration Board accepted the resignation of Sean McKinley recently.

Sean McKinley was appointed as Chief Executive and Registrar of the Social Workers Registration Board in July 2004 having previously been the Executive Director of the professional association for Psychologists, the New Zealand Psychological Society.

The SWRB Board had begun the process of developing policies and procedures to implement the SWR Act but the operational arm of the SWRB was yet to be properly established. The Board had secured a sublease of the Physiotherapist Board's office in Morrison Kent house and employed an office manager on a fixed term contract to begin setting up the office in anticipation of being able to receive applications for registration from 1 October 2004.

From zero permanent staff and no registered social workers the SWRB office in 2017 has grown to 11 staff and over 6,000 registered social workers. The SWRB is also supported by a large number of competence assessors, complaints assessment committee members as well as a Complaints and Disciplinary Tribunal of 10 members.

Sean resigned to seek a "new horizon", after having accepted the position as Chief Executive of the Veterinary Council. The Social Workers Registration Board regretfully accepted his resignation. The Board were particularly sorry to see Sean go as he has been involved in the establishment, implementation and consolidation of the SWRB since its inception and his knowledge of the sector was exceptional. We are on the cusp of mandatory registration and a review of our Act, Sean and his excellent staff have put us in a strong position for change. The Board are currently seeking a new Chief Executive and until this position is filled, Dr Jan Duke is Acting CE.

A farewell for Sean was held on Thursday 16 February 2017 and those who attended gave him a fitting send off. He was honoured by Minister Anne Tolley, the profession, educators, SWRB staff, the wider social services sector both government and NGO, and Māori (Tangata Whenua Association of Social Workers). With the two former Chairs Toni Hocquard and Robin Corrigan we thanked him for his service to the profession and the people of Aotearoa New Zealand.



Nga mihi,

Shayne Walker

Chair Social Workers Registration Board