



The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport

8 October 2017

President's Report to the Annual General Meeting 11 October 2017

When I became President in 2015, I said I wanted to strengthen and add value to our membership, increase the role of the Young Professionals (those under 35), increase the value the sections add to our membership, and increase the Institute's social media presence. These were to ensure the relevance and ongoing future of the Institute.

Membership

At 25 September 2017, our membership totalled 633 (632 in September 2016). Northern Section has 268 members, Bay of Plenty/Waikato Section has 63 members, Central Section has 173 members, Southern Section has 120 members and Fiji has 9 members.

Retaining and recruiting members continues to be a challenge, one that the Southern Section in particular has taken up. This section has grown over the year thanks to a committed section Chair and committee and an active membership drive.

Finances

The Council has continued to have a strong oversight of the financial matters and the payment of subscriptions. It remains prudent in its spending, and continues to look at new ways to increase revenue, through increasing membership and sponsorship. Attracting new sponsors is a challenge and one we must prioritise. Recently David Kriel has come onto the Council to focus on Marketing and Keith Robinson will focus on Sponsorship. We have reduced costs this year by moving to video conference council meetings and reducing magazine costs.

The Sections

Healthy sections are key to our continued success as an organisation. Our sections are the window to our members and provide networking and information sharing/education opportunities. I wish to acknowledge the section chairs and committees in working hard to put together interesting programmes and engaging local members. This year, Keith Robinson has recently replaced Mieszko Iwaskow as Chair Northern Section. Philip King, Chair Bay of Plenty/Waikato Section, Michelle McCormick, Chair Central Section and Nicole Timney, Chair Southern Section have continued in their roles. I am very appreciative of the work the Chairs in particular do, on top of their day jobs, to maintain the health of their sections.

Young Professionals

The Young Professionals network continues to remain a focus for the Council to ensure the CILT remains relevant to new generations of transport and logistics professionals. The network is strengthening and there is great potential to do more, and to increase links into the international YP network.

My thanks to Mieszko Iwaskow, who led the group since its inception and recently 'retired' as Convener. Ginny Christians has stepped forward to be the new Convener. Ginny is the 2016 Young Achiever and attended the International Convention in June this year.

Awards

Our Awards event is the highlight of our year. It recognises talent, achievement, commitment, and professionalism in the sector, and contribution to the Institute. The 2016 event in Wellington was a memorable event for all, especially for those who received the awards, and the 2017 Awards Dinner is shaping up to be for a wonderful event.

The event requires a substantial collective effort by the section committee, Awards Convener Fiona Knight, the awards judges, Marilyn Henderson and others, and I thank them for this. We are also indebted to our awards sponsors for partnering with the Institute so we can provide an array of awards, and being there on the night to celebrate with us.

Leaders for the Future

This year Jo Brosnahan has run the fourth Leaders for the Future course. The CILT is delighted to support Jo and the cohort to ensure the course continues to be successful and to strengthen the leadership capability in our sector. The graduates and their organisations give very positive feedback about the course and about the life changes that can result. I look forward to the graduation of the 2017 leaders at the Awards dinner. I strongly encourage all organisations to consider nominees for the 2018 course.

CILT International

I was fortunate to attend the International Convention in Macau, with Ginny. The Convention is an opportunity to meet with colleagues in other Branches and get fresh ideas, and updates on the international strategy and education activities. I met with several of the Trustees to discuss the health and activities of the New Zealand Branch, and with the International President, Kevin Byrne, who is keen to visit New Zealand in 2018. Internationally, the Institute continues to experience high growth particularly in Asia and Africa. A highlight was the welcome of CILT Kazakhstan as the newest member of the CILT global family.

Concluding remarks

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all my colleagues on the Council - President-Elect Cormac McBride, Immediate Past President Chin Abeywickrama, Dr Murray King, Fiona Knight, Dr Jean-Paul Thull, Ying Xie, Dr Robin Dunlop, Mieszko Iwaskow, Philip King, Michelle McCormick, and Nicole Timney. It has been a privilege to work with you all. When we all play our part, much can be achieved.

And a special thank you to Marilyn Henderson, for keeping the office running smoothly and administration for the Council activities. This time of the year is extremely busy with the AGM, Awards function and council meeting coinciding. As I noted last year, Marilyn's organisational skills and eye for detail really come to fore at this time.

This is my last year as President. With the dedication and enthusiasm I see on the Council and in our members, I am confident of a bright future for our Branch.

I welcome Cormac McBride as the incoming President, and look forward to supporting him in my new role as Immediate Past President.

Glen-Marie Burns
President 2016-17