

President's comments

The Institute is in good heart and membership is increasing even though the industry is going through considerable change at the moment. A number of people have commented to me that they support the positive role that the Institute is playing in the sector and see it as both independent and credible. They also want the Institute to take a greater leadership role in the sector.

At a time of ongoing change there is an increasing awareness of the need for the promotion of professional forestry and

supporting the professional development of members.

We are keen to take up this challenge and to ensure that the Institute has the necessary resources to do so. The NZIF Business Plan for 2004-2006 is summarised below. It describes the Objectives of the NZIF, the vision that we have, and the targets that we have set for the current two-year term. I welcome feedback from you on it.

Ket Bradshaw

NZIF Business Plan 2004-2006

Introduction

The Council of the New Zealand Institute of Forestry, elected for the two years from April 2004 to April 2006 has prepared this business plan to guide its activities during its two year term and to provide a basis for the work of future Councils. In preparing the plan, Council had regard to a number of issues including:

- The Articles of Association of NZIF.
- The existing membership of NZIF.
- The current subscriptions and financial arrangements under which NZIF operates.
- The NZIF Policy on Forestry and the NZIF Indigenous Forest Policy.

NZIF Objectives

The objectives of NZIF, as set out in the Articles of Association, are:

- (a) To be an independent advocate for forestry.
- (b) To serve its members by:
 - (i) Affording them opportunities to express and exchange views.
 - (ii) Overseeing members' ethics.
 - (iii) Encouraging fraternity and "esprit de corps".
 - (iv) Providing for the recognition of professional standards.

Vision

The NZIF vision is to be a vibrant professional organisation:

- demonstrating leadership;
- well respected for its independent and considered views;
- advocating forestry in its widest sense;
- relevant to current and new members.

In this vision, "forestry" is defined as the art and science of managing forests so as to secure a wide range of environmental and socio-economic benefits. This definition includes all forests in New Zealand, whether indigenous, natural or plantation and whether comprised of New

Zealand native or introduced species¹.

In determining this vision, NZIF distinguishes itself from other forestry sector organisations by:

- Having a membership comprised solely of individuals, who are forestry professionals or are otherwise interested in the profession of forestry.
- Focussing primarily on forests and on those activities that affect them.
- Defining forestry in the broad sense set out above to encompass all forests in New Zealand, not just some particular types of forest.

The vision will be achieved when:

- NZIF attracts most forestry professionals to be members.
- Government (national and local), forestry groups, the media and the public generally seek the views of NZIF as a matter of course on New Zealand forestry issues and those views are listened to and taken into account in decision making.

In order to achieve this vision, NZIF will need to:

- Develop the ability to and react promptly and effectively to issues as they arise.
- Deliver services of value to members.
- Attract and retain a broad membership that reflects the NZIF vision.
- Develop relationships with other organisations that can help NZIF.
- Obtain additional funding, particularly from sources other than members.

The NZIF Council will:

- Develop a project plan to identify the major

¹ For a more comprehensive description of what is meant by forests, forestry and management in this definition, and for definitions of indigenous, natural and plantation forests, refer to the NZIF Policy on Forestry and NZIF Indigenous Forest Policy.