

26 June 2018

Hon Julie Anne Genter
Minister for Local government
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

By email: j.genter@ministers.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Ms Genter

Thank you for speaking at our Wellington branch event earlier this month. Our members appreciated your frank and comprehensive look at transport strategy, and your focus on increasing the profession's diversity. This is something we've embraced as a priority, with the launch of our Diversity Agenda in April, and we would like to meet and talk further about it.

WHO ARE WE?

Engineering New Zealand is New Zealand's professional body for engineers, with more than 20,000 members – and New Zealand's strongest and most influential voice on engineering issues.

You might also remember us as IPENZ. On 1 October 2017, we changed our name to Engineering New Zealand. Our new name explains much more clearly who we are and what we stand for.

We have undertaken a significant programme of transformation in the past three years. Our new name reflects our change in strategic direction, which is based on extensive feedback from our members. They want us to deliver greater credibility, recognition, influence and connection. It's our job to bring engineering to life.

WE'RE WORKING TO CHANGE THE FACE OF ENGINEERING

With the current shortage of engineers, it's crucial to grow our pipeline. And as you said in your presentation, it's crucial that engineers better represent and reflect the diverse New Zealand that they serve.

On 11 April we launched the Diversity Agenda to drive change in New Zealand's engineering and architecture firms. It started as a partnership between Engineering New Zealand, the New Zealand Institute of Architects and ACENZ – and more than 50 firms have already come on board and committed to our goal.

Our goal is to get 20 percent more women in engineering and architecture roles by 2021. We would love your support.

We are also looking to create initiatives to increase the number of Māori engineers from 5.5 percent of the profession, and Pasifika from 2.4 percent.

WE'RE SPEAKING UP FOR ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALS

We're developing a high impact, accessible piece of thought leadership, taking an engineering view on challenges around water, climate change, and seismic resilience, that will launch in August.

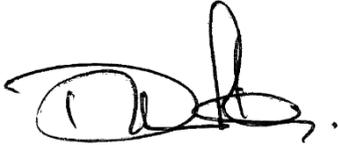
The approach to transport that you outlined to our Wellington branch is very relevant to our consideration of clean energy as a facet of climate change, and we would like to discuss it further with you.

Our report 'Engineering a Better New Zealand' will be launched by Building and Construction Minister Jenny Salesa on 16 August 2018 at the Legislative Council Chamber at 4pm, and we invite you to attend.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU

Thank you for this opportunity to outline our work. We would very much like to meet in person as soon as possible to discuss the Diversity Agenda and anything else that would be helpful.

Na māua noa, na



Dean Kimpton
President



Susan Freeman-Greene
Chief Executive