

VIA Chairmans report for the 2021 – 2022 membership year.

This AGM marks 35 years of our industry association, a significant milestone and one that deserves celebration.

Many people have contributed to the success of our association and industry over this time and I am sure they reflect proudly on what has been achieved.

While we will continue to face challenges, it is now almost impossible to picture a New Zealand future that isn't driven by used imports. We are already (and have been for a while) the largest providers of private transport in the country, our goal for the next 35 years is to ensure that Government and the broader industry recognises our industry as the market default and benchmark, given that for years now we have provided on average, holistically safer and more efficient vehicles to Kiwi's at a price point they can afford.

As our industry has grown, changed, and matured so must our association, which is why today we are showing our members the next steps of the VIA revitalisation.

Our plan began with the creation of our member tiers and a Council, this brought transparency to our funding, clarity to our purpose and a platform for membership engagement.

While these changes helped to correct our financial position, the association was left with only a thin surplus and an ongoing need to engage and support members in new ways that created value.

Starting in July David will begin his transition into retirement (only from the VIA executive; he has many activities that keep him busy) by moving to a 20 hour a week role, David will remain the CEO and face of VIA, however he will be less involved operationally. Later in the financial year these hours will reduce further as the Board continues to investigate options for how VIA will be lead in the future.

Also today we will be saying farewell to Bev, who has served the association for almost 30 years as the office manager.

Saying goodbye to people we have worked with for so long is always sad and difficult, but it is also a necessary part of change and growth.

The Board would like to sincerely thank Bev for her many years of hard work, dedication, and support, and wish her well as she looks to spend more time with her grandchildren, in her garden and listening to cricket.

These changes make space in our budget to bring on a new team member who's role will be focused squarely on membership engagement and communication. So watch this space, the job description is almost complete and recruitment will begin in July.

Acknowledgements

As an industry association that is entirely funded by its members, I would like to start by thanking members for their support. Your financial contributions during times of economic uncertainty have been treated with the respect that they deserve and your non-financial contributions of time and resource are always greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank my fellow Board members for their time this year, you all have significant business commitments, yet somehow always find the time to meet and champion good governance within our association.

Last but not least, thank you to the VIA team, your continued resilience and adaptability in the face of continued change shows the commitment you have to our association.

In particular I would like to acknowledge David for his support over the last two years. Thank you for your dedication, hard work, honesty and professionalism, you have given a great deal to our industry and association over many many years and we undoubtedly would not be where we are today without you and your leadership.

David's transition plan is something that we have crafted collaboratively over the last 12 months and throughout the process it was always obvious that he put the needs of the association and its members before his own.

Board up-date

The Board of Directors made up of Sean Stevens, Ken Quigley, Matt Battle and myself were reappointed following the last AGM. The completion of this year marks two year of our three-year tenure and brings up our constitutional need for renewal.

The requirement for renewal was designed to keep the VIA Board fresh and encourage participation from other members of Council, it was also intended to provide a level of consistency by maintaining a balance between new Board members and old. Because all the current Board members were appointed at once the requirement for continued (and staggered) renewal means that this year we must start bringing new people onto our Board, which is why we are seeking expressions of interest from current Council members to join the Board as our fifth and potentially sixth members.

Any Council members wishing to join to Board should contact me directly before the 21st of July.

On behalf of the Board I am pleased to report that the associations Governance affairs are all in order and that the association has again posted a small surplus.

The draft 2022 financials show a surplus of \$9,155 against a budget of \$18,340. The two significant contributing factors were lower than expected revenue and slightly higher then expected expenses. While still a surplus, this has highlighted to the Board just how susceptible to change our financial position remains.

Our 2023 budget is currently in draft with some further work needed around staffing costs and structures, because of this the final numbers are not yet available, however the draft again shows a small surplus of about \$15,000. once finalised and approved by the Board the 2023 budget will be shared with members.

In anticipation of the original AGM date, our annual council elections were finalised and the list of 2023 member year VIA council members has been posted. I would like to take this opportunity to thank any departing members for their contributions and welcome any new members joining us.

Chris Stephenson

Board Chair