

# President's Message for October 2017



*Patrick Eastgate*  
ASMIRT President

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**I am writing this message from 37000 feet while returning from our recent weekend Board meeting. Our Board is really getting into its role of making sure it is guiding our organisation in line with our mission, vision and strategic plan. With our new(ish) CE Sally Kincaid, the sense of shared responsibility and direction is truly exciting. In August our Board got to meet with two companies which will help our ASMIRT meet its strategic goals. The first objective was around moving our examinations online. Currently all of our examinations are paper based and place a heavy reliance on our staff and volunteers in having these deployed. Going to an online examination has many benefits to not only our organisation but also for our members. The opportunities of moving to an online platform cannot be ignored and it is something our Board will continue to explore once we are comfortable with our chosen service provider and software.**

The second key suite that we have been working through is related to our IT infrastructure, including the website, CPD portal and database. Following a stringent tender and review process we had the opportunity to consult with a supplier which has most readily met our brief. Their IT capabilities will be a substantial leap forward for us in terms of member engagement, business intelligence and ease of use.

Both of these solutions are key elements of our Board's plan and form part of a suite of changes to our IT capabilities in ensuring that our ASMIRT is able to support a contemporary membership organisation. We will keep you informed throughout on the progress of these key developments.

Our CE and I were kindly invited to participate in the New Zealand Institute of Medical Radiation Technology (NZIMRT) 2017 Conference – 'Perfectly Centered' which was held in Nelson. It was an inspirational conference with some highlights being the presentations by Dr Sandra Turner, Nathan Faavae and our own Dr James Nol. We also had a constructive meeting with the NZIMRT Board. It is evident that both organisations are in great shape and heading in similar directions. As a New Zealander myself by birth I have been open and encouraged to promote our relationship and strengthen our Trans-Tasman alliance. I would like to personally thank Nic Ross (President NZIMRT) and Linda Whitehead (CEO NZIMRT) for their hospitality and positive approach to our professional relationship.

Let me come back to my comment about being a New Zealander, as you will no doubt have seen the issues in federal politics around dual nationality. I am a proud Australian adult citizen having also served in our Armed Forces while my education was in the Pacific region. The only time I become a one-eyed Kiwi is during the rugby, so I am only just tolerated by my Board colleagues!

The other very public current issue at a federal government level is something that affects us all through having to respond to the postal survey on the matter of Marriage Equality. Our Board are keen to remind our members and professionals of our Code of Ethics which also reflects our Vision regarding all Australians. It states that we "acknowledge the sociopolitical diversity in contemporary Australian society and will ensure the provision of non-discriminatory services to all people regardless of age, colour, gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, political allegiances, type of illness, ethnicity, race, and mental or physical status". It is ultimately about the right to gender equality in our society, something to which our Board is firmly committed. We do acknowledge that response on this issue is a very personal decision.

Patrick Eastgate  
ASMIRT President