



DATES TO DIARISE

22nd February 2022
Webinar – TBC

Troubleshooting workshops
postponed last year due to alert level
changes:

New date - 25th February 2022
Auckland Workshop –
Troubleshooting

New date - 25th March 2022
Queenstown Workshop –
Troubleshooting

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

Welcome back everyone and I hope you have all had the chance of a restful break. It is already starting to show that we have a very challenging year ahead. With what is envisaged for 2022, it is so important that we stay together! United we are a stronger force.

Parent/Grandparent category

Giving the majority of elderly migrants with just 3 months visitor visa when they need to apply again, is not helpful especially in this current Covid climate. These people have ended up being trapped in New Zealand due to Covid and we must not forget that they are the parent or grandparent of a productive New Zealand Resident or Citizen. The current situation is heartless as these aged people are stressed all the time, scared that they will be made to leave New Zealand and have nowhere to go. The fact that the Government states there were no promises made that they could stay, Covid has intervened and circumstances in their home countries have changed. Many of these people have applications lodged for Residence under the Parent/Grandparent Residence pathway which is closed.

Priority processing – Work to Residence

These are people that are earning twice the median wage who were told they would be given priority processing, and this is not happening.

Delays in lodging applications

Long delays are being experienced by clients lodging Residence from work applications. Some applicants are happy to apply for the new 2021 Residence Visa online but find that the application received at the INZ office, e.g. mid-November are still not being lodged in the INZ system and given an application number, therefore they cannot apply under the new 2021 Residence Visa until INZ accept lodgement.

June Ranson
NZAMI Board Chairperson

2021 RV Focus Group

I attended the latest Focus Group meeting on 21st of January 2022. Clearly we are getting close to the 1 March and there is a lot to work through. We have a mutual interest with INZ to see this roll out smoothly.

Below is a summary of the meeting.

Attendees:

Alison McDonald - OBE Deputy Secretary INZ (Chair)

Geoff Scott - General Manager 2021 RV

Darren Calder - National Manager Immigration Enabling

Garrik Perry - Senior Business Analyst

Members of the Focus Group.

At the date of the meeting, 3,700 applications had been approved (involving more than 7,000 people) with a further 1,000 applications awaiting final payment. The remainder were mostly waiting for Police or National Security checks.

INZ are confident that they will process most of the 1 December cases by mid-February putting them in good shape ready for the next cohort.

As you will be aware there will be a new platform for the March group using the enhanced Immigration Online system. Unfortunately, this will not be available to pre-populate applications in advance, despite representations from the industry.

With that in mind, I have discussed ways with INZ to prevent a large volume of cases being lodged in early March; this will not help either INZ or advisers.

Clearly, we must not be at a disadvantage over in person applicants when we shall have an extremely high volume of cases. The suggestion is that INZ will allow a period during which applications can be submitted from 1st March prior to applications starting to be allocated for processing. This would mean there will be no benefit in lodging as soon as the process opens. That will allow advisers a period of time to lodge applications. My view is that this needs to be 2-4 weeks and I have expressed that to INZ who have said they will consider this.

Allocation will not be on a first come first served basis. I suggest there should be a clear policy for allocation to include, for example, separated families as a priority. INZ said they will work through this and come back to the focus group with what they are proposing.

We may also see the advance opening for applicants who have an EOI lodged. Those would apply under the existing IGMS platform. This will take some pressure off for the 1st of March and allow advisers to submit some applications prior to the next cohort opening. It will make up around 10% of eligible cases.

**WELCOME TO
NZAMI**

Victoria Stevenson

Nomos Legal
Australia

I should stress that the above are yet to be decided. However, INZ have made it clear that they want to work with advisers to find a way forward that works best for all.

I have a further meeting with the Focus Group scheduled for the 4th of February and will provide an update as soon as possible.

Matt Gibbons
NZAMI Board Vice Chair

POLICY UPDATE

Welcome to 2022 and what will no doubt be an incredibly busy year ahead.

We have just over a month until the second phase of the 2021 Resident Visa applications begins and now have an understanding of the documentation required and the information that will be needed for the application. The volume of applications for Phase 2 is going to be so much higher than those that were submitted in Phase 1 and we eagerly await INZ's input on allocations and that their system can cope with the submission of such a high volume of applications. Advising people not to submit on the 1st of March 2022 and that it won't disadvantage them to wait, is simply not going to work.

We have been putting forward our views on how pressure could be eased on the system as outlined in our Vice Chairman's article. We believed that enabling pre-populating of forms before the release date would have made a significant difference. This would mean less time needed to be spent online by advisers (and migrants) to submit applications. As stated in our Vice Chairman's report this is not something that will be happening due to the change in the platform for the 1st of March applications. INZ will be letting us know what changes to the process (if any) will be made shortly but we really need to know as soon as possible to prepare and to ensure the system works on the 1st of March 2022.

Another issue that has been escalated to INZ is around priority allocation of residence applications. This seems to have been paused without any prior notification. A few months ago, the INZ website showed the 27th of September 2021 as the last priority allocation date, and we understand that no priority allocation has been done since. This situation makes it extremely difficult for some cohorts of migrants like those that applied for Residence from work and were going to be prioritised based on their income and were eligible for a Permanent Resident Visa (PRV) on approval. Those people, unallocated for months, now have to decide whether their only best bet would be to apply for RV21, like thousands of other migrants, and get a Residence visa instead of a PRV on approval. Scenarios such as these have been escalated to INZ and a response is awaited.

We are still working hard to get answers to issues impacting the industry so please keep sending them through to the policy team by sending an email to Julia @ secretary@nzami.co.nz. We would appreciate if you could please keep them as short as possible, clear and to the point, and ensure it is a policy-related question and not specific to a particular case.

Arunima Dhingra

NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

Dion Smart

NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

Professional Indemnity Insurance – to insure or not to insure?

It has been a crazy couple of years and through all the chaos, change and uncertainty, good days and bad days, we are all striving to do our best - for someone else. As an immigration adviser our clients put their trust in our professional skills to help them achieve their migration goals. We untangle the policy, the interpretation, the intent, and fight the good fight. That's what we do as advocates, right?

What happens when that client, the one that was so polite, even sweet and so grateful for your guidance and advice to start with, accuses you of an error. Did you really get that wrong?

What if you find yourself at the wrong of a complaint, investigation or enquiry? You didn't see it coming.

These allegations are more than unsettling and stressful. You start double guessing everything, you start to doubt every consult. Did I communicate that properly? Was something lost in translation? Have I recorded it appropriately? Did I even give the right advice? Every nuance, every sound bite, every response now comes under scrutiny.

We have carefully worded internal complaints processes in our agreements that clients agree to and sign, so that will protect me, right? At least I'll get the opportunity to fix my mistake and resolve the issue with my client, right? Wrong.

What if you receive a complaint that you can't seem to resolve alone with your client? What happens if the client complains directly to the IAA without giving you the opportunity of resolution first? Even if it's just a perceived error, you have to defend yourself.

Professional Indemnity Insurance, unfortunately, is yet another cost to a business already incurring costly compliance expenses, especially for those starting out in our industry. But at what cost of being uninsured?

Most of us think of the obvious, sometimes callous breaches we read about in the tribunal decisions, including determining factors of premeditation and financial gain. That won't happen to me.

DID YOU KNOW

You can find all the previous editions of the NZAMI eNews on the member side of the NZAMI website?

Once you have logged in, under the Member Resources card, click on the eNews Publications link.

But even when you take all the care in the world, innocent mistakes and errors can still take place when you least expect them.

Your business is your reputation and critical to your success.

Professional Indemnity Insurance is designed to protect you against the cost of dealing with a claim from a disgruntled client. It is designed to assist you with counsel to respond to claims against your business, for losses as a result of actual, or alleged acts or omissions, in the provision of your professional service or advice. Insurance will also assist with the legal costs associated with responding to or managing claims which are covered by the policy.

- **You provide expert advice and consultancy** - Clients can make a complaint if there's a perceived mistake in the advice you've given,
- **You handle people's information** - You could face claims if you accidentally disclose data or infringe on a client's legal rights,
- **A client insists you have it** - Many corporate clients will require that you have professional indemnity insurance in place before you can start working for them.

You may be faced with paying compensation to a client. If they make a complaint or claim of any sort, you have to defend it. And that defence comes at a price. Professional Indemnity insurance can help provide protection for potential risks including costs to investigate and defend complaints made to the Immigration Advisers Authority and to defend and settle claims arising out of alleged or actual negligence causing financial loss to a third party.

More now than ever, there is an incredible level of stress out there for migrants and advisers, on many levels. Mistakes are easy, even with the best of intentions and professional capability. And blame is effortless and reactive.

Think you'll never, ever need PI? Think again, be prepared. It will be a comfort if you have arranged insurance that can finance your defence and pay a settlement, should that be required. As an industry and community, we look out for each other. Look out for yourself too.

Nga Mihi,

Katy Marston-Key

NZAMI CPD Chair

As a member of NZAMI, you have access to Aon's Liability Insurance scheme which consists of the following policies:

- Professional Indemnity
- General Liability
- Statutory Liability
- Employers Liability

Check out our News web page
for the latest industry articles

More information can be found on our website on the Information Sheet and documentation.

1. [Liability Insurance with Aon - Information Sheet](#)
2. [Aon and NZAMI Member Liability Scheme Flyer](#)
3. [NZAMI Licensed Advisers Liability - Application form](#)
4. [NZAMI Making a claim](#)
5. [NZAMI Claims examples 2021](#)

NZAMI CPD Workshop: Troubleshooting Workshop for Immigration Advocates

Friday 25th February 2022 - Auckland

Friday 25th March 2022 - Queenstown

NZAMI along with Peter Moses and Matt Gibbons are excited to provide the highly anticipated workshop: Troubleshooting for Immigration Advocates.

This workshop covers a wide range of aspects to better prepare immigration practitioners to deal with difficult immigration matters and is suitable for both LIA's and Lawyers.

The workshop will cover areas such as:

- Privacy Act requests and complaints to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner,
- Internal INZ guidelines and how to use them,
- Reconsideration applications – key criteria and advocacy options,
- Complaints and Feedback process – the 'merit' vs 'process' distinction,
- Section 61 requests: getting client instructions and considering approaches to advocacy,
- Special direction requests to the Associate Minister of Immigration under section 378 Immigration Act - threshold criteria, engaging with the Minister's office and advocacy strategies,
- Deportation liability investigations and deportation appeals,
- Recognising possible refugee or protected person claims.

Much like the popular Written Advocacy and Risk Management workshops, the Troubleshooting workshop will be a highly interactive full day workshop focusing on discussion, groupwork and practical exercises therefore will be **limited to 16 participants.**

Between them Peter and Matt can claim 50 years of advocacy experience, both in legal practice and as a licensed immigration adviser. They have designed the programme to be engaging and interesting.

Costs: \$460.00 inclusive of GST for members (\$690.00 inclusive of GST for non-members)

Dates: Friday 25th February 2022 - Auckland / Friday 25th March 2022 - Queenstown

Time: 8:45am arrival/registration for 9.00 am start – workshop will finish at 5.00 pm (lunch will be provided)

Venue: Eden Park, Broadcasters Lounge, Auckland / Hotel St Moritz, 10-18 Brunswick Street, Queenstown

CPD: This workshop will contribute to 7 hours of CPD

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN - This workshop will not be available through livestream or MP4 so get in quick and register if you don't want to miss out. **Registration will close as soon as this event is full** and will be on a first in based system. Registration and payment is to be done via the NZAMI website to confirm your booking.

If you have any questions, please contact Julia via email at secretary@nzami.co.nz.

A WORTHWHILE READ

From the Beehive

Quarterly benefit numbers show highest number of exits into work - [Read more](#)

From the IAA

"Immigration advice" on online platforms & Client fees and refunds - [Read more](#)

Handy links

Migration Data Explorer – latest release notes 18 January 2022 – upcoming improvements to methodology for population data - [MBIE](#)



NZAMI Business Partner

Please note the views expressed in articles not produced by NZAMI Board members are those of the writer concerned and do not necessarily reflect the position of NZAMI.

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The devil in the detail

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

Here we are in the second month of the new year with so many vital dates etched into the Immigration calendar for major events which cover:

- 2021 Resident Visa 1 March 2022
- The new Accreditation – employers being able to lodge applications 1 May 2022
- Accredited Employer Work Visa – July applications being lodged for workers
- Recommencement of processing of offshore applications between July/October 2022 ????

With two weeks until Stage 2 2021 RV launch, we have not sighted the template for applications, nor do we have a renewed confidence in the online system. We have not been updated on the manner the applications will be processed, as once again migrants believe first in will be processed first, which puts huge pressure on the online system, but also the industry in managing their migrant clients.

The new Accreditation is having a disastrous impact on employers who are waiting to recruit migrants to fill their skill shortages. No information on requirements, timeframes for processing the application, and costs involved have been made available.

Does this sound like a well-oiled machine (MBIE/Immigration NZ) being proactive with the industry?

INTERIM VISAS

It has come to our attention that interim visas for temporary applications are not being issued on time. Migrants are being stressed when it is a week before their visa expires and they still have not received their interim visa. There are cases where teenage children are being sent home from college and the school is pressurising the children because they are not able to show an interim visa. This is not good enough!

Has this occurred because of a lack of training and case officers being confused about the two interim visas:

- For temporary visas
- New interim visa issued for 2021 resident applications

June Ranson
NZAMI Board Chairperson

POLICY UPDATE - AEWV AND MEDIAN WAGE

We have all been caught out by the flurry of media releases regarding the government's phased plan on reopening the New Zealand borders, all in the middle of catering to our RV21 clients and their inquiries. When INZ had released the information on their website, its important to note and be cautious in your advice with regards to Step 4 of the re-opening plan regarding Accredited Employer Work Visas (AEWV).

Note

The AEWV will mainly be limited to roles that pay above the New Zealand median wage. More information on this will be made available soon.

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/covid-19/border-closures-and-exceptions/entry-to-new-zealand/border-entry-requirements>

No doubt members will all be fielding calls from employers seeking advice to bring in workers to fill shortage roles. Not all of these roles will be at or above the level of the median wage but many employers will still be struggling to find New Zealanders. Step 4 of the re-opening plan provides us with that opportunity for migrants on the median wage to come into NZ. It would appear that there will be some roles below median wage that are being considered by INZ for Step 4. We should expect to have some information soon (as above) but it is not clear what these roles being considered by INZ will be or when we will be advised?

Again, be careful with the advice you are providing to employers and migrants, and ensure you are continuing to monitor the media releases and advise our policy team of any issues, or concerns you may see in the information being provide so that we can raise this with INZ.

Arunima Dhingra
NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

Dion Smart
NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

CPD UPDATE

For those of you that haven't already registered for our next online webinar at 2pm, 22nd February, here's the details and the link:

RESIDENT VISA: THE DEVIL IN THE DETAIL

A one-hour webinar looking at crucial policy issues.

With phase 1 now practically behind us, we're getting ready for phase 2. While the intent of the 2021 RV policy is to be simple, it is in fact not entirely straightforward, and raises some interesting technical issues. This webinar will start with short presentations from **Zinnia Manchanda** (LIA, AIMS Global) and **Nicola Tiffen** (Barrister and Solicitor, Duncan Cotterill), followed by a panel discussion (**Borey Chum** and **Dion Smart** of the NZAMI policy committee, both LIA's). Based on feedback from our most recent webinar, we have set aside adequate time to deal with questions from the audience (both sent in advance, and on the day, sent via the zoom platform).

Facilitated by **Peter Moses**, Barrister

To register for the Resident Visa, the devil in the detail webinar [Click here](#)

At this stage, our CPD calendar is Traffic Light dependent, and we will continue to bring you updates as we can.

Nga Mihi,

Katy Marston-Key

NZAMI CPD Chair

As we left 2020, the year of chaos, we looked forward to some kind of normal in 2021.

However, 2021 didn't pan out as many of us had hoped. Now as we settle into 2022, it's easier to look back and acknowledge the incredible year of change that 2021 was. From the continuing impacts of COVID-19, lockdowns and breakouts, vaccine rollouts and society adapting to this new normal, 2021 has been a monumental year for most of us.

There is no doubt the last 2 years have been transformative on so many levels. While COVID continued its dominant path, so many other things also happened around the globe including demographics changes, social trends and technological advancements.

The Oxford Word of the year reflects the year's 'ethos, mood or preoccupations and has the potential for lasting cultural significance'. In 2021, we already know, the word of the year was 'Vax', showing how monumental the vaccine rollout was for everyone across the world. Also considering that 'vaccine' is not a new word, the colloquial term vax has been so widely introduced in 2021.

While searching through New Zealand's top Google searches for 2021, 'it seems millennials may have moved on from smashed avocado on toast, but not by much - the most-searched savoury recipe was guacamole.'

And as it only comes around once every four years, five years with a pandemic - the Olympic medal table was a top Google search for the year. Our athletes Lisa Carrington, Lydia Ko, and Dame Valerie Adams, Sophie Pascoe and Joseph Parker were also among the top searches.

And what New Zealanders googled most will come as no surprise: COVID-19, locations of interest, My Covid Record, New Zealand traffic light system, to name a few.

In 2021 we saw the fall of Afghanistan, celebrities in space, the Metaverse began. As 2022 begins we come together for Tonga, and tune into a spectator free Winter Olympics, based in a dry riverbed in a desert in China where it never snows, brought to life by an incredible team, including a highly skilled group of Kiwis. According to the New York Times, '... one of the most extensive snow-making operations in the history of the Games... for the first time, the competitions will take place almost entirely on artificial snow, necessitating an Olympic snow-making and water-management operation of enormous scale, and foreshadowing the reality of snow sports everywhere as the planet warms.'

Welcome to 2022. As we now google NFT's or Non-fungible Tokens, skills and labour market shortages, a fraying of trust in governments, inflation and the rising cost of fuel. I for one will make the most of an incredible display of athletics and celebrate New Zealand's first gold in the Winter Olympics, as I distract myself from the RV21 March 1st rollout.

Katy Marston-Key

NZAMI CPD Chair

FROM THE BEEHIVE

Border to reopen in stages from 27 February - [Read more](#)



Pearson
PTE Academic

NZAMI Business Partner

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NZAMI | ENEWS

NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION FOR
MIGRATION & INVESTMENT

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

We have been listening to your concerns about Phase 2 of the 2021 New Resident Visa, the stress you have all been placed under by your clients but also the migrants themselves on how this new Phase was being handled.

Whilst we have not been able to update you due to embargoes and confidentiality, let me assure you that Matt Gibbons who is representing us and the Reference Group, has been fiercely in our court on the Industry Focus Group. He has been listened to and should be thanked for the work he has done. Immigration New Zealand were looking for how best to handle the high volume of applications that would flood in, but also to process fairly, along with limiting the risk of overload on the online platform by everyone clambering to lodge on 1 March.

At the time of writing this article, Matt and I were in an early meeting this morning and once again the information which has now been released, we were told was embargoed until released by Immigration New Zealand on their website which was 2.30 pm. We do our utmost to work within the parameters we are given and if information is leaked from other sources, it is beyond our control.

One wonders what the benefit of any release being embargoed, when they appear on social media ahead of time before they are due for release!

The Webinar that NZAMI held on Tuesday this week also addressed issues that we were aware could present difficulties with lodgements. There is real benefit in these short webinars.

International Students

International Education had previously been rated as one of the major revenue earners for New Zealand. In 2019, it brought in almost \$30 million. We are now being told that Education New Zealand wishes to discourage students from primary and intermediate education. The benefits these students bring to New Zealand are both financial and provides a cultural learning platform for New Zealand students about other countries.

Reproduction of material, articles, and other content in this publication must on all occasions record the source of the material, and in particular both NZAMI and (where applicable) the author named in the e-News.

It appears from the recent release this week, that whilst our borders are opening, young students with families are not wanted. It is obvious that New Zealand is only wanting tertiary international students, but they are forgetting that we are in competition with the rest of the world, Australia and Canada are welcoming these students back!

June Ranson
NZAMI Board Chairperson

2021 RV 1st March 2022

You will have seen the announcement yesterday regarding the decision to use the enhanced immigration online system for the March cohort of applicants.

A lot of work has been going on behind the scenes to try to ensure that those applying from 1st March 2022 have a good experience. We all have a vested interest in this.

To assist with this the following will be in place:

- Applications from 1st March 2022 will be held until the end of March before processing begins. This will mean that applicants will have no incentive to see their applications lodged as soon as possible on or after the 1st March 2022. This will benefit advisers who may have a large volume of cases and be under pressure from clients to lodge immediately,
- Applications will be released for processing based on visa expiry of the principal applicant; those with the shortest time left of their visa will be released for processing first,
- It will only be necessary to upload the applicant's passport and the authority for the adviser at the time of lodgement,
- The INZ fee of \$2160.00 will be payable at the time of lodgement,
- INZ will invite applicants (or their advisers for those represented) to upload required additional documents as they are released for processing,
- INZ will be proactively monitoring capacity system performance. If that has been reached an applicant will be informed before they can start an application. They can either choose to wait until a space is available for them to log on and start their application or elect to come back and try again later.

Emails have been sent by INZ to the adviser community and there will be media releases.

I would like to thank the members of the Focus Group for their work on this together with all those who have contributed. We all want to see the successful rollout of the next phase of the 2021 RV. My particular thanks go to Alison McDonald OBE (Deputy Secretary), Geoff Scott

Check out our News web page
for the latest industry articles:

[Click here](#)

Previous editions of the eNews
can be found once you have
logged in, under the Member
Resources Card, click on the
eNews Publications link.

(General Manager 2021 RV), Darren Calder (Head of Digital and Programmes) and Yvette McKinley (Principal Communications and Engagement Advisor).

There will be a follow-up meeting of the Focus Group on the 4th March which the Immigration Minister hopes to attend.

We are going to be busy over the coming weeks!

Matt Gibbons

NZAMI Board Vice-Chairman

POLICY UPDATE

As you will be aware, early applications for the 2021 Resident Visas are underway for those who had submitted EOIs with lodgement spread out through this week dependent on the date the EOI was submitted.

As we close in on the second phase of applicants as outlined in our email to members on the 22nd of February 2022, those applicants submitting under phase 2 will be required to pay the full fee of \$2,160.00 on lodgement of that application. These applications will be on the new Immigration platform, not the existing form we are currently using.

We have been advised that those applicants who have an existing paper-based application eligible for a credit towards their 2021 Resident Visa application will apply under the old system (the form used for phase 1 and those with an on-hand EOI) and won't be required to pay upfront. These would be for those Residence from Work submitted after the 29th of September 2021 will be able to submit their 2021 visa through the current system.

Arunima Dhingra

NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

Dion Smart

NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

THE ACCREDITED EMPLOYER SCHEME

It's great to see clients finally progressing to residence through the 2021 Resident Visa. However, there is a lot of administration, not least co-ordinating dozens of application fee payments! Also, many clients do not have straightforward situations, as we all know! Amongst all this work, we can easily ignore the fact that the compulsory Accredited Employer regime is starting in around ten weeks.

Employers have been trying to manage with depleted workforces for over two years. A significant number of them have put on hold projects and expansion plans, pending the ability to obtain the necessary staff. I understand that the District Health Boards are short of 1800 nurses.

In other words, there is a large and pent-up demand for migrant staff, awaiting the staged border re-opening.

Unfortunately, we don't yet have the Immigration Instructions or the Accredited Employer application form to help employers prepare for submitting their applications from the 9th of May 2022.

However, here is a summary of some points that your clients should be considering right now, assuming they will be recruiting six or more migrants in the coming months:-

1. Is the employer completely up-to-date with all its employees' visas and working conditions?

A lot of employees will be transitioning to the 2021 Resident Visa. This means that it is an ideal time for an employer to undertake checks to ensure that the personnel files are up-to-date and employees are working in compliance with their visas. We all know of employees and employers who became confused by the visa extensions granted during and following the lockdowns.

2. Has the employer amended its standard advertising format to show the minimum and maximum pay rate, and also the guaranteed hours of work?

This will be a reasonably significant change, as New Zealand recruitment advertisements do not typically provide this information.

3. Has the employer put in place a system to ensure staff making the management decisions, will complete Employment New Zealand's online modules?

HR Teams are stretched right now. Time needs to be allocated to enable them to complete these modules, even though they should not take long.

4. Has the employer prepared a system and welcome pack to ensure that migrant employees can also complete the Employment New Zealand modules, and to provide the migrant employees with settlement information?

The settlement information needs to include guidance on how to get an IRD number, which is not always straightforward, obtain industry certification and manage job hazards. It also needs to provide community and services information such as accommodation options, information on the ever-increasing cost of living here, and how to get assistance i.e. through the Citizens Advice Bureau.

5. For employers who are actively recruiting from abroad, keeping a close watch on how the costs of this are met and evidencing this will be important. This is particularly the case if the employer is dealing with an overseas recruitment agent.

This should help ensure that there are no allegations of recruitment costs being passed on to employees. It is not uncommon for employees to find themselves paying money to an overseas recruitment agency, which the employer only learns of later.

It seems likely that the initial application process will be relatively straightforward, but employers do need to be aware of their obligations from the onset. This should mean they have the systems in place to ensure compliance. Losing accreditation would be a significant issue both for the employer business and its migrant employees.

Nicola Tiffen
NZAMI Board Director



THE NEXT EVOLUTION OF PTE ACADEMIC

In 2021 PTE launched a series of changes to ensure PTE Academic is the most convenient, stress-free English test available.

Shorter test, less stress

PTE Academic can now be completed in just two hours, instead of three.

The shorter test is the same accurate, trusted English test as before. The only thing that's different is the time it takes to complete it. The test format, question types, and the scoring scale all remain the same, but it now has fewer questions.

It continues to be accepted by the same universities and professional bodies – and by the New Zealand government for visa and immigration purposes.

Find out more @ <https://www.pearsonpte.com/pte-improved>

Enhanced Score Report feedback

The Score Report now contains personalised feedback on test performance, plus targeted advice on how English skills can be improved as part of the Skills Profile.

Read more @ <https://www.pearsonpte.com/articles/everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-new-pte-score-report-and-skills-report>

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DATES TO DIARISE

Postponed - 25th February 2022

Auckland Workshop -
Troubleshooting

Postponed - 25th March 2022

Queenstown Workshop -
Troubleshooting

An On-line Troubleshooting workshop is currently been looked at, will advise details once confirmed.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

I would like to say thank you to Immigration New Zealand for taking the initiative of forming a Focus Group with Industry representatives established to get broad industry feedback on the rolling out of the 2021 Residence Visa.

The industries involved include Business NZ, Federated Farmers, Employers & Manufacturers Association, Ryman Healthcare, NZ Indian Central Association, NZ Muslim Association, NZ Council of Trade Unions and the Immigration Industry Reference Group participant. This forum is led by Alison McDonald (OBE) Deputy Secretary INZ and Senior INZ executives, Geoff Scott, Darren Calder and Yvette McKinley. The forum also has participation from the Minister of Immigration, Kris Faafoi from time to time.

Employer Accreditation

We are all frantically busy handling Phase II of the New Residence applications. Let us now turn our thinking to the new Employer Accreditation which is due to open May 2022 for employers to submit their applications. At this stage, we are still in the dark as to the paperwork required, what the costs will be, and the length of time Immigration will take to process. We understand that there will be a further webinar by Immigration New Zealand on this topic.

Do remember that once the Employer Accreditation is in place and the employer is able to recruit an employee, during employment within paid working hours, the migrant employee will be required to complete employment modules that relate to the employment rights/regulations in New Zealand. This is to increase the knowledge of the migrant for working in New Zealand.

The question of how this will be policed is very relevant, which could be when the employer renews his Accreditation!

June Ranson
NZAMI Board Chairperson

FOCUS AND REFERENCE GROUP UPDATE

I attended a Focus Group meeting on Friday 4th March 2022.

Immigration Minister Kris Faafoi was able to attend.

We were given an update on the processing of Phase 1 and 2 applications as of that date, and provided feedback to Immigration New Zealand on progress.

A number of members have contacted us to provide comments on various matters and these have been collated and sent to Immigration New Zealand for a response.

June and I then attended a Reference Group meeting yesterday with senior Immigration New Zealand staff.

Around 90-95% of expected applications have been received for Phase 1 and 85% of Phase 1.5 (those with EOIs lodged).

There have been 44,000 applications so far under Phase 2 including 76,000 people.

As you are aware the Phase 2 applications are being held during March and will be released for processing at the beginning of April.

We have been advocating for split families for some time. I am pleased to report that Immigration New Zealand have agreed to establish a dedicated group to explore the options available.

We shall also be looking at the issues around partnership where clarity is required. I am hoping this will happen soon.

The group will involve myself, Steward Dalley and Kristy Verster (from the Reference Group) and Katy Armstrong has also kindly agreed to be involved as she has been actively advocating in these areas.

I shall update you as soon as there are further developments.

Matt Gibbons

NZAMI Board Vice-Chairman

POLICY UPDATE

Here is a quick update for you on how RV21 applications are progressing with INZ and where priority residence allocations are sitting. This information has been kindly shared with us by Christopher Adamson and Nathanael MacKay of INZ.

The INZ processing teams in Manukau, Hamilton, and Christchurch have been ramping things up since phase 1 of the Resident Visa 2021 was released in December 2021. Recruitment, training, and

staff movements have seen large volumes of applications being allocated and decided at speed.

RV21 - As at 12pm, 7 March 2022

Enhanced Immigration Online channel from 1st March (This is the new online system launched 1 March 2022).

- **38,251** applications had been submitted
- **15,003** were in draft

IGMS from 21st Feb (These are the Phase 1 and 1.5 submitted through old system IGMS)

9,793 applications had been received.

IGMS and Plone applications lodged since 1st December to 10pm, 5th March –(Plone was the submission channel that was set up to support IGMS in early Dec when IGMS experienced load capacity issues).

23,509 applications have been received.

- o Equating to **53,692** applicants
 - **10,379** applications have been approved in principle
 - **9,464 (subset of the above)** applications had been approved and issued visas
- o Equating to **21,620** new migrants
 - **12,548** applications are on-hand

To date, only 5 applications have been declined due to failing to meet instructions.

From INZ on staffing resources -

'We currently still have approximately 105 Immigration Officers working on RV21 applications (IGMS), though we have now trained additional staff ahead of the resources expected for processing the volumes of applications received in the Enhanced Immigration Online channel, and as part of this training they have been working on RV21 applications.'

Residual residence applications

Residual SMC/RFW applications are still processing in the background, albeit with limited staff. The Manukau office has been significantly affected with COVID-19 in the last 3 weeks which in turn has impacted processing.

The Manukau team have shared the below stats which are current from the 7th March:

- Currently have 660 applications in the priority queue
- Noting that previously they were below this number, however the increase is due to the lodgement of several hundred Residence from Work applications that were with NaDO and less than anticipated capacity from Covid-19

Check out our News web page for the latest industry articles:

[Click here](#)

Previous editions of the eNews can be found once you have logged in, under the Member Resources Card, click on the eNews Publications link.

- Currently allocating September 2021 onwards, and are still running weekly allocations
- 170 decisions were made in February
- Initial prediction of completing the allocation of all priority applications was mid-March 2022, but due to the increase in application from NaDO and significant capacity challenges recently this has been pushed back a few months.

Arunima Dhingra
NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

Dion Smart
NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

CPD UPDATE

I would like to start with a huge thank you to the amazing team that produced and presented our recent 22nd February webinar; Resident Visa: the devil in the detail.

Both Zinnia Manchanda's (LIA, AIMS Global) piece on Medical waivers and secondary applicants not meeting policy, and Nicola Tiffen's (Barrister & Solicitor, Duncan Cotterill) segment on Partnerships, children and deferrals, provided us all with some much-needed clarity and perspective on various scenarios.

Our panel discussion, skillfully conducted by Peter Moses, Dion Smart and Borey Chum, proficiently answered so many questions for us all, including some a few of us were afraid to ask. Once again, thank you for a very successful and highly informative webinar.

We always welcome your feedback, and we are now aware that the time limit of one hour was just too short to answer them all. We are constantly juggling the balance between the time people can commit in their day to attend these webinars, against keeping our content relevant and valid.

Unfortunately, our Troubleshooting Workshops have had to be postponed and we are endeavoring to re-craft these programmes, to enable them to be facilitated online. As our CPD calendar continues to roll at the whim of Covid regulations, we will continue to bring you updates as we can.

I hope you all continue to test negative and stay positive!

Nga mihi

Katy Marston-Key
NZAMI CPD Chair

Following on from Nicola's article in the previous eNews

JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT YOU HAD ENOUGH TO DO, ALONG COMES THE AEWV!

Clearly the 2021 Resident Visa is taking up a huge amount of time and headspace for advisers and lawyers (and clients of course!).

However, we would be wise not to lose sight of the upcoming Accredited Employer Work Visa scheme being introduced later this year. Anyone with clients who employ migrants will need to be across this category, and it's my experience that employers are already gearing up for it and looking for guidance.

Just a refresher – there will be three ‘gates’ for the new scheme:

1. The Employer gate, where the employer has to demonstrate they are a genuine business, compliant with employment and immigration obligations, and have taken steps to minimise the chance of migrant exploitation. If an employer wants to employ 6 or more migrants in a year they will also need to meet a minimum pay requirement of 10 percent above the minimum wage, or be covered by a collective or sector agreement
2. The Job gate, which relates to rates of pay and labour market tests; and
3. The Migrant gate, where the employee shows they are appropriately qualified, in good health and of good character.

The requirements of the Job gate differ depending on whether the employment will be in a city or a region – principally it will be much easier for those in the regions.

Accreditation applications open from 9 May 2022, with the full scheme coming into effect from 4 July 2022.

There is a great deal of concern about INZ's capacity to process accreditation applications in a timely way, particularly with the more than 100,000 2021 Resident Visa applications that are expected to be lodged in March. Employers should be looking to get their accreditation applications in as soon as possible”.

Nick Mason

NZAMI Director

NZAMI's newly recruited Executive Officer

I'm delighted to introduce you to Rebecca Goldsmith, our new Executive Officer, who joins us next week on Wednesday 16th March 2022.

Rebecca Goldsmith started her immigration experience when she moved from her native California USA to New Zealand back in 1999. A self-confessed movie nerd and film historian, Rebecca has a wide variety of skills in various executive and management roles and I look forward to Rebecca settling in and providing support to the Board & our members. Rebecca writes:-

“I’m happy to be working with a team that helps people through a big transition in their lives. I’ve been there myself and the help we can provide means a lot when you are changing your life in such a dramatic way. I’m very proud to be working with you.” – Rebecca.

WEBSITE

Currently working with the software company on a few more improvements to the membership database and our website. Will keep you updated once these improvements have been finalised and implemented.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INVOICES

Can’t believe it’s the middle of March already! I’ll be sending out the membership renewal invoices in the last week of March, these will be sent out via the membership database from the secretary@nzami.co.nz email address to each individual member.

If you have any questions, email me on julia@nzami.co.nz or secretary@nzami.co.nz

Keep safe and have a good weekend, happy Friday!

Julia Macklen

NZAMI Operations Manager

REMINDERS:

600 Border Exceptions Now Available For Tech Workers Article - [Click here](#)

ITP – A guide to the Tech Profession Class Exception - [Click here](#)

From the Beehive

Government fast-tracks support for Ukrainians - [Click here](#)

Boost in RSE numbers to help hort sector grow - [Click here](#)

From the IAA

February 2022 Newsletter - [Click here](#)

IAA’s PDF resource that can be shared when you see unlicensed advice being given on social media platforms [Click here for PDF file](#)



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Promotion Code on the payment
screen. The discount will be
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DATES TO DIARISE

1 April 2022 - SOLD OUT -
REGISTRATION HAS CLOSED
Online Webshop – Troubleshooting

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

While we hear from the Prime Minister that the opening of our borders is imminent, bringing people into the country is one thing but what about those who are not coming through the visa waiver pathway - the application for those requiring visas is very sketchy at this time. It is one thing to open the borders but there is a need to have confirmation of what this process will be.

Accreditation

It is obvious from the release on Tuesday, that strict controls are being put in place to keep the migrants well down in numbers from entering New Zealand. This means that industries that are really struggling for workers will be penalised again. The migrant salary rate is increased to \$27.76 per hour from the 4th of July 2022, which will have a flow-on impact on the domestic workers employed within the same company otherwise there will be a great divide in the workforce. The strains placed on employers for keeping their businesses operational makes us question - has the Government really thought this through, as we need small to medium-sized businesses to operate and not close, that is what New Zealand is made up of.

Going forward - the jobs that pay below the median wage, these are people that are needed in New Zealand, and whilst we are told the Government is still reviewing how these people will be treated, it is obvious at this stage that thoughts are turning to the employment of Working Holiday Visa holders - will we really get sufficient numbers coming to cater for New Zealand needs? This is not going to help employers as they need continuity of employment and the current planning will have a huge impact on the business community.

I can advise that whilst we have actively sought involvement in this policy development and we were given indications last year that this would happen, meaningful consultation did not occur before the current announcement.

A brief summary of what Immigration Policy is doing without Consultation with the Industry:

It can only be said that Immigration Policies that have been coming from Government, have decimated families by being torn apart resulting in marriage breakups, young children not seeing a parent etc. Placing huge strains on the family member left behind in New Zealand which includes a financial burden through two households being kept running and this is all due to the inflexible policy in place.

This has not helped the mental health of these people either. Whilst many of the population in New Zealand are not interested in migrants, they need to think twice about this - as without the migrant some of our industries would not be running, just look at our hospitals as one example that would not be operating without migrant doctors and nurses, migrants are the glue to New Zealand society.

Migrants give up so much to migrate to New Zealand, who add to this country's wealth and they are very vulnerable. Under normal circumstances they have to learn a new way of life and when the family is split, a huge amount of stress is placed on both partners. We have been losing and will continue to lose highly talented people as well as the skilled people needed in our workforce.

June Ranson
NZAMI Board Chairperson

POLICY UPDATE

Accredited Employer Work Visa (AEWV)

You will have received the Adviser Update on the 22nd of March 2022, providing further information on the introduction of the new AEWV. We now have implementation dates but still lack detail on the requirements of the application, so that we can properly prepare employers for applications opening on the 23rd of May 2022. Previously announced, high volume accreditation requirement of '10% above minimum wage pay' had become redundant when INZ advised that AEWV will be granted mainly for migrants paid above minimum wage, so this requirement has now been removed. This brings both accreditation categories - high volume and standard - to the same requirements, but strikingly different fees.

For a number of years now, employers have been hearing about this policy. Dates and deadlines for implementation have changed by INZ a few times and any further delays will lead to the if not already, the credibility of the regime to be questioned. Unless these dates and requirements are set in stone, this accreditation process runs the risk of leaving a sour taste within the employer industry.

WELCOME TO NZAMI

Dr Sirous Ahmadi
Visayab Migration Services

Tobias Tohill
UVISA Immigration Specialists
Ltd

Dev Karwasara
Re Immigration

The information released on the 22nd of March 2022 raises some concerns.

We believe the heavy focus on the median pay rate is going to be problematic. The update made reference to the government considering whether there will be any exemptions to the median wage rule. Will they be seeking genuine consultation in this area or simply making decisions?

Also, what happens to migrants paid below median wage? Workers currently on less than the median wage will need to be paid \$27.76 p/h from the 4th of July 2022 for a new visa. The impact of increasing wage costs by this percentage on already broken employers is beyond unfair. It will be hard for the tourism, hospitality and retail sectors, to name a few, that pay below the median wage and rely on migrants if a solution is not found.

If this change is dependent on industry sector agreements and/or any nominated lists, then the industry - we and employers - will need to know this NOW so we can plan. Some businesses will have many people paid below median wage and may not have been eligible for RV21, or may not want to take the 2021 Interim Visa and will need this information to make informed decisions. The changes are too close in the future to avoid such important details.

One massive change which will affect a great number of people - at the job check stage, the labour market test is no longer regionalised. All employers need to advertise their vacancies unless the role is paid at least twice the median wage. This is a complete U-turn from what was released in the cabinet papers and what INZ has stated prior to the updates on the 22nd of March 2022.

So many questions and such scanty details. Employers asking what they need to do and when they can start the process and what they will need to provide? While this release is helpful, having more detail on preparing and presenting the application is urgently needed.

Arunima Dhingra
NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

Dion Smart
NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

[Click here](#) for our News web page for the latest industry articles.

Previous editions of the eNews can be found once you have logged in, under the Member Resources Card, click on the eNews Publications link.

RV 2021 Plus

March Madness is coming to an end however only the application wave has passed, there certainly is a lot more to come going forward.

RV 2021: I think credit must be given when due, Immigration New Zealand did a fantabulous job on their enhanced system. Initially it seemed that the system may not be able to handle the traffic, however this was not the case. Practitioners as well as applicants were truly sceptical about how things would pan out, INZ did hold up to the expectations and beyond, so a huge round of applause to INZ on their excellent effort on the IT systems.

Now that most of the applications are lodged, we wait to see how the processing goes. There are several issues with the 2021 Resident Visa forms on the enhanced system, I believe these would be addressed at the time of processing.

There is still a lot of anxiety about the processing time frames as well as the processing standards especially for applicants under the scarce and skilled criteria. We now play the waiting game!

The 'Border' game: New Zealand is staggering the opening of its border in stages as we know; although it is well overdue, we are finally opening our doors, however these policies seem flawed as some significant aspects have been left out. The ones left out are important and they need to be addressed with more urgency than it may seem to the policy makers. Specifically, critical workers and families.

Critical workers - A huge number of our critical workers who have been there for us in the utmost difficult times have been left out from the 2021 Residence Visa scheme because they did not hold an eligible visa on 29th September 2021. These are our doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers. In my personal opinion, we should be extending RV2021 to all critical workers, regardless of the type of visas they hold, because they are 'critical workers' - it is in the name! They are important to us because they are 'critical' aren't they?

Split families - Next in line are families trapped offshore for several months, some over three years. Before COVID hit and the borders were closed, the partnership processing was already extremely tight. It took anywhere between 6 months to 2 years or even more for offshore partnership applications prior to March 2020, then our borders closed. Applicants were marked pending since then and several applications were even made to lapse.

Even partners of citizens and residents had to and still must go through several hurdles. These are perfectly healthy, tax paying individuals who contribute to the diminishing labour market

having to leave New Zealand to be with their partner so they could bring them to New Zealand. I know a number of clients who were perfectly fine, in well-established jobs had to leave New Zealand, had to encounter COVID and spend a fortune to be able to bring their partner to New Zealand while entertainers, sports stars, celebrities and the rich were allowed in.

We have learnt nothing from the past it seems and we have not addressed the split family issued in the border reopening steps.

While I acknowledge that it is not always possible to please everyone, I say not only have we done injustice to the critical workers, we have been unjust to second or third-time students in New Zealand and we have been unfair to those stuck overseas due to no fault of their own, as they are restricted from applying for 2021 Resident Visa.

Step 5 Border reopening: From October 2022, the border reopens and normal visa processing resumes for all live visa categories, including visitor and student visas. There are a lot of applicants waiting for this moment, parents who have not seen their children, elderly who are holding on the hope of seeing their children and grandchildren and families awaiting to be reunited.

While the enhanced system may be able to take on the load when there is an influx of applications, it will be interesting to see how INZ manages the processing time frames of these applications. Also, step 5 has been phased out too far, we are still 220 days away from October 2022.

Special Ukraine Visa: Once again INZ has been generous and created a special category for family of Ukrainians in New Zealand. We could have elaborated the policy and we could have definitely done better especially considering there is a very small number of Ukrainians in New Zealand, nonetheless at the least there is something available.

Christchurch attack: 15th March 2022 marked 3 years since the Christchurch shootings, INZ created a special category visa to support the victims under the Christchurch Response (2019) Category of residence instructions. I take this opportunity to thank all the practitioners who participated in supporting those affected.

Karishma Malek

NZAMI Director



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Read more @ [PTE Everything you need to know](#)

REMINDER:

Membership renewal invoices will be sent out in the last week of March, these will be sent out via the membership database from the secretary@nzami.co.nz email address to each individual member.

Handy links:

- Accreditation: what you need to commit to | [Immigration New Zealand](#)
- Employment NZ (elearning.ac.nz) | [Employment Learning Modules](#)
- New employer accreditation and work visa | [Immigration New Zealand](#)
- NZ Ready is changing | [Immigration New Zealand](#)
- WHS reopening order | [Immigration New Zealand](#)
- New Zealand Traveler Declaration | Travellerdeclaration.govt.nz



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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

I am looking forward to seeing many of you, next Friday in Auckland. There is certainly a lot to catch up on and for us to discuss.

I am particularly looking forward to meeting many of you in person. I am sure that many of the Immigration New Zealand representatives, who have kindly agreed to attend, are too. This is a great opportunity for you to get to meet these people in person and, we hope, get answers to many questions.

Skilled Migrant Category

Last week, the Minister announced that this will re-open on 9 November. As I write this, I understand that we will be imminently receiving the Amendment Circular, with the necessary details, such as what level the median wage will be set out. However, it is a positive step for many of our clients, both migrants, and businesses.

Proposed changes to the Skilled Migrant Category

We have some concerns in respect of the proposed changes to the Skilled Migrant Category, such as:

- Will a highly simplified points system be fair, as intended? The shift of focus on formal qualifications or professional registration could prevent many skilled migrants from qualifying.
- Will the proposed extension of the stand-down period to all migrants who do not meet the residence criteria, lessen employers' ability to recruit migrants to New Zealand? Will increase operational costs, forcing them to recruit new groups of migrants every three years?
- How will the proposal to limit the eligibility of certain retail and hospitality occupations, unless they are paid 1.5 times the median wage, impact our struggling hospitality industries?

The Board is already working on its detailed response to the government's consultation document on these and other proposed changes to the Skilled Migrant Category.

However, we do need your help!

Please contact Julia via secretary@nzami.co.nz, to volunteer your time or your thoughts. The more feedback we have, the more informed our response to the consultation will be.

Ongoing and day-to-day practical issues

We know that there remain ongoing and day-to-day niggles in working with ADEPT and in respect of the Accredited Employer Work Visa process. We are all encountering them, every day.

Please send any questions that you have to Julia via secretary@nzami.co.nz and we will direct them to the appropriate senior managers within Immigration New Zealand. In most cases, we can get some helpful feedback or even progress towards resolving the issue.

This week, we have been liaising with INZ in respect of problems with the ADEPT system crashing, applications disappearing, and of course, the ongoing issue of pre-completed medicals being linked with Resident Visa 2021 applications and Accredited Employer Work Visa applications.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can help with your queries.

Nicola Tiffen
NZAMI Board Chairperson

POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

SMC reopening

After months of anticipation, we finally had the SMC announcement from the Minister last week. In a somewhat low-key event, the Minister announced the re-opening of both the SMC and the Parent categories.

The re-opening of the SMC category came with a very tight window for new EOIs at 160 with the first selection on 9 Nov, which will increase to 180 for the next selection in Jan 2023 and subsequent selections until the new SMC policy is in place.

The re-opening of the SMC category came as welcome news for the industry and migrants who still have EOIs in the pool who missed out on the 2021 RV, may now have a chance to apply for residence.

We have raised the question to INZ management whether the EOIs can be submitted with a minimum of \$27/ hour wage rate for skilled employment or do these need to meet today's median wage of \$27.76/hour. As of 19th of October, 11 am (time of writing this

WELCOME TO NZAMI

Mary Faustina Joseph
AJV Global

GC Angelo Dumlao
Dumlao Immigration Law Advice

Na Fiona Zhou
Fragomen Global Pty Limited

piece), this information is awaited and is expected shortly. This will be communicated as soon as it arrives.

More recent arrivals in NZ may also qualify at the 180 threshold which may provide some certainty to them given we've had no pathway since the 2021 RV closed.

Invitation to membership - Consultation for the new SMC

With the re-opening of SMC, the Minister also provided insight into the proposed changes to this category termed for mid-2023. The proposed changes seek to simplify the SMC category to better align with the immigration rebalance.

NZAMI has started work on preparing a submission on this and we would like to invite (and encourage) members to make contributions to this very important piece of work by emailing Julia at secretary@nzami.co.nz with your interest.

Please note that MBIE is seeking submissions by 5 pm on the 18th of November 2022 so we request that members contact Julia before the 27th of October 2022 with your interest. We will then revert to you with a format and topics of how you can provide your input. This is to allow enough time for the team working on this piece to weave all the different inputs together into a cohesive submission.

If you have not already got hold of this paper, here is a link for your ready reference - <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/future-of-the-skilled-migrant-category>

Chef qualification requirements removed

After months of lobbying by various groups, the Government removed the requirement for an NZ Certificate of Cookery or equivalent which will allow employers to recruit highly skilled or experienced chefs who do not have formal qualifications. This will be welcome news for the hospitality industry with the upcoming tourist season.

This requirement was due to come into effect on the 18th of October. The question is whether INZ will allow for job checks approved prior to this date (with the qualification a mandatory requirement) to allow for AEWVs to be submitted without meeting this qualification requirement. As we know, the AEWV form is auto populated with the mandatory requirements listed in the Job check.

This has been raised and we will circulate the response as soon as we receive it.


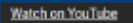
OIA Requests

NZAMI put in two OIA requests last week. The first is to find out the number of SMC EOIs currently in the pool, including how many at 160, 160-180 and 180+. The second OIA is for finding out the number of Parent category EOIs currently in the pool and their breakdown.

To access the MP4 recording, please follow the below steps:

- Login to your member/non-member dashboard
- Scroll down to the 'Navigation' Card
- Select the 'Tickets' link (in blue)
- Select the heading of the MP4 recording
- This will direct you to the recording page
- Scroll down the page for the video and speaker presentations

If you have purchased a MP4 recording after the live event, the recording is available straight after the purchase.

Pls note - Depending on the format of the video, they either play through our website by clicking the play  button or click on the "watch on YouTube"  link.

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ADEPT issues and outage

We have all witnessed announced and unannounced ADEPT outage this week and as a result, have faced many issues. This has been raised with INZ management as well and we have been advised that users are requested to clear their cache on the browser the ADEPT system is being used on. For some, the system works again in 'Incognito' mode.

We have been advised that this can be done at any time you have issues with an application that you have been able to access but suddenly can't. When applications are upgraded this can resolve old links etc and appears to have been the issue in this instance.

This is done through the browser and can be different depending on the browser you use i.e.

For Edge: through settings (found in three dots) select Privacy, search and services, and select Clear browsing data.

For Chrome: through settings (found in three dots) select Clear browsing data.

Many of us are having issues with the ADEPT system for many days now, in spite of doing everything we have been advised to. NZAMI has escalated this issue and the implications this outage is having on us, as a priority to INZ and a revert is awaited.

If you encounter issues, whether with the ADEPT system or general policy/industry wide operational matters, please email Julia via email at secretary@nzami.co.nz with:

- Specific details of the issue
- An application number
- Date of the issue

Arunima Dhingra
NZAMI Vice Chairperson
& Policy Co-Chair

Arno Nothnagel
NZAMI Policy Co-Chair

NZAMI - MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

The NZAMI is an independent professional association whose main aim is to support and provide benefits to its members, including CPD.

Considering the quick pace at which immigration settings change, I wanted to recap the membership benefits briefly. This recap will enable all the members to check if they are utilising all the services and benefits they can as a member of NZAMI. The members can also pass on the information to their non-member friends to benefit the industry.

One of the foremost benefits for members of NZAMI is the availability of a friendly platform for members to share their ideas, problems, and concerns. There are many examples where businesses have found themselves alone and sought help from peer groups. We often do not know the benefits of such a forum until we experience it.

To update your Privacy settings please follow the below steps:

- Login to your account,
- Scroll down to the 'Navigation' Card
- Select the 'Privacy' link (in blue)
- This takes you to all the personal information that you can choose who sees the information
- From here, select from the drop-down arrow (Nobody, Members Only, The Public) for each field
- Click save (at the bottom).

Please note - The System default setting is "Nobody"

To update your specific area, languages and countries of expertise, please follow the below steps:

- Login to your account,
- Scroll down to the 'Navigation' Card
- Select the Update Visa / Permit link (in blue) and or the Language and Countries links (in blue)
- Tick the relevant areas/visas you work on/ languages/ countries of specialisation
- Click save (at the bottom).

NZAMI membership and events also provide opportunities to its members to share personal experiences, cope and strategise, or first-hand access information about the professional challenges faced. Due to the limited resources in the grievance/complaint redressal space, individual concerns may not be given due attention by the authorities. NZAMI can fill this gap by raising a unified voice and presenting a solid case before the authorities.

In addition, the CPD events make a powerful statement about the commitment of the membership to best practices. The members can view the CPD events as an opportunity not only from the professional development context but also for maintaining mental well-being.

NZAMI events are always filled with networking opportunities with peers, budding talents, and industry experts. In addition, the events provide ways for members to connect with leaders within the industry to expand their professional base.

NZAMI Cell Groups allow members to work together and grow their knowledge and expertise at no cost (aside from what they choose to pay for food and beverages) and include these meetings in their NZAMI CPD records.

Membership opens continual access to updated information and knowledge not publicised elsewhere. A fortnightly eNews is sent to all NZAMI members and is full of valuable information for anyone in the immigration industry. Previous editions are also available for reading on the member side of the NZAMI website.

Professional Indemnity Insurance

This has been explicitly tailored for Immigration Adviser's needs, and a very competitive membership-only price has been calculated for NZAMI members.

In addition to the PI insurance and inclusive of the standard fee, the following liabilities are covered. Thus all the usual liability issues are covered in this policy:

- General Liability
- Statutory Liability
- Employers Liability
- Internet Liability

NZAMI is the primary association of legal professionals whose main aim is to support and provide benefits to its members, including continuing professional development. The membership will keep you updated with the industry's intricate knowledge and enable you to practice your profession in a meaningful and compliant manner.

Vandana Rai

NZAMI Membership Co-Chair



Migration Associates are seeking to support a Provisional License holder who would be based in our office in Christchurch.

We currently have four fully licensed Immigration Advisers who have over 20 years of combined immigration experience to share, and we take pride in assisting our clients with the immigration process. Migration Associates understands the need for a healthy work-life balance and takes pride in our warm, supportive team culture. You would be actively supervised on a daily basis and would be working alongside a great team from a range of back grounds that actively provide each other with collegially support.

Migration Associates has a sustainable stream of clients and offer a wide breadth range of services which immerses its Licensed Immigration Advisers deep into the Immigration industry and provides a variety of immigration work. Our clients are domestic and international individuals, and families who require a range of services, from temporary to resident visas. We also work with employers from vast industries who require assistance with accreditation, job checks, and their employee's visas.

We are looking to initially support a Provisional License holder part-time in 2022, and there will be an opportunity for full-time work in early 2023.

Key Requirements:

- Based in Christchurch and has or will meet the IAA requirements to apply for a Provisional Licence.
- Able to handle a sustainable workload through organisation and accuracy.
- Previous customer service experience and a natural desire to provide good service.
- Exceptional written and spoken English.
- Sound computer skills and experience with Microsoft Office applications, Xero, and Customer Relationship Management systems.
- Proficient time management and reliability.
- A team player with a positive attitude.
- Legal right to work in New Zealand.

Check out our website to meet our Licensed Immigration Advisers and read our success stories. - www.migrationassociates.com

If you are interested in applying, please email your CV and cover letter along with any questions to jessica.baker@migrationassociates.co.nz

2022 CONFERENCE SPONSORS



Aon and NZAMI | Member Liability Scheme

As the preferred insurance broker for NZAMI, Aon's specialist liability team have tailored an insurance package to provide cover for risks faced by Licensed Immigration Advisers in New Zealand.

We are pleased to work with NZAMI to deliver a comprehensive insurance solution to its members.

'Say Hello' to an Aon broker today to find out how we can help you with your liability insurance.

Contact nz.nzami@aon.com | Visit aon.co.nz



Forsyth Barr is proud to support the New Zealand Association for Migration and Investment Inc.

Investors have put their trust in Forsyth Barr for investment advice for over 85 years.

We are a fully staff and New Zealand owned NZX firm providing a full range of investment and wealth management services including portfolio management, investment advice, sharebroking, research, investment banking, cash management, investment funds and KiwiSaver.

Founded in 1936, Forsyth Barr has 24 offices across New Zealand.

Contact our team of local Investment Advisers for advice on all your investment needs.

xxxxxx.xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxx.xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xx.xx

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"Ezy Migrate understands that Immigration Advisers were looking for ways to strengthen the communication and collaboration between their clients and advisers so they could increase their productivity and customer satisfaction.

With Ezy Migrate easy-to-use CRM solution, we were able to help Immigration advisers do exactly that".

Find out how at Ezymigrate.com

Previous editions of eNews

Previous editions of the eNews can be found once you have logged in, under the Member Resources Card, click on the eNews Publications link.

Members can email secretary@nzami.co.nz if you would like to include an article in the eNews publications, we welcome all members to contribute, share success stories or even provide insight/learnings on a particular aspect on immigration.

The NZAMI Logo

You are entitled to use the NZAMI logo on your website, business cards and other marketing material.

Please read Regulation 5 - [Regulation 5 - NZAMI Branding](#), to ensure that you use the logo within the guidelines set by NZAMI.

To find the logo in either the jpeg or png format, please follow the below steps:

- Login to your member dashboard
- On the 'Member Resources' Card
- Select the 'General' link (in blue)



“At Bank of New Zealand, migrants can open their bank account up to 12 months before they arrive in New Zealand through a simple online application.

With the support of a dedicated team, migrants are able to deposit funds into the account before they arrive and view their balance in internet banking. Upon arrival the account can be fully activated by completing the identification process in any of our branches across the country.

As one of New Zealand’s leading full-service banks, BNZ has been helping people start a new life in this country since 1861.”



NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF
TRANSLATORS & INTERPRETERS
Te Rōpū Kaiwhakamāori ā-waha, ā-tuhi o Aotearoa

NZSTI is the national professional association for translators and interpreters in Aotearoa New Zealand. Our members hold specialised qualifications in translating and/or interpreting.

We promote high standards through continuing professional development and work to ensure professionalism in our sector.

Search the directory at nzsti.org to find a translator or interpreter for your needs.



MYJOBSPACE.CO.NZ
— The launch site for every Kiwi career —

Myjobspace is very proud to be 100 % New Zealand owned
(unlike Seek and Trade Me who are 100% owned offshore)

Our mission - To develop the most user-friendly job site for job hunters and most cost-effective job site for employers.

Our core aim is to provide the best value-for-money platform for employment advertising and a free stage for job hunters to promote themselves as well as search for their new dream jobs.

We are happy to provide Proof of Advertising letters for those that use our services.

Should your clients need any assistance with advertising jobs we are here to help.



Pearson | PTE

Business Partner

Reproduction of material, articles, and other content in this publication must on all occasions record the source of the material, and in particular both NZAMI and (where applicable) the author named in the e-News.

REMINDER - USEFUL INFORMATION

Christchurch Office

The expansion of Christchurch has resulted in the establishment of two processing offices. Christchurch 1, is the office responsible for other temporary entry work visa products such as Specific Purpose, Religious Workers and Variation of Conditions. Any queries for these products can continue to go to CHCHTx@xxxx.xxxx.xx

Christchurch 2 are responsible for the lead and processing on the Accredited Employer Work Visa categories, including Employer Accreditation, Job Check and Work Visas. You can send any AEWV queries to AEWVChristchurchTx@xxxx.xxxx.xx

IT Issues

If you experience IT issues with the INZ system, email iccmpleyerenquiry@mbie.govt.nz regarding this issue. This mailbox specialises in IT issues regarding MBIE systems.

Immigration Call Centre

The INZ contact centre are also fully trained to assist with IT system queries and should be able to escalate the system error to the appropriate person if necessary. This email inbox is more for general, and application specific technical queries related to Accredited Employer Work Visa instructions. The email address to email ICC is adviserenquiries@mbie.govt.nz

LIA/Lawyer service numbers for INZ enquiries:

Where	Number
Within Auckland	0800 542 469
Within Wellington	04 910 9923
From any other location, including from overseas:	09 969 1464

The service is available from 8 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday.

These are the Contact Centre phone numbers for the dedicated employer line:

Where	Number
Contact Centre (Toll-free from NZ landlines only)	0508 967 569
Auckland	09 969 1458
Wellington	04 910 9916

Please note for requests for priority processing of AEWV email: EmploymentVisaEscalations@mbie.govt.nz

The Parent Category Expression of Interest Update Form to be emailed to: EOIupdate@mbie.govt.nz

HANDY LINKS

Skilled Migrant Category reopening | Immigration New Zealand - [Click here](#)

How a Skilled Migrant Category expression of interest expires | Immigration New Zealand - [Click here](#)

Online Services | Immigration New Zealand - [Click here](#)

Explore visa options for living permanently | Immigration New Zealand - [Click here](#)

Parent Resident Visa restarts | Immigration New Zealand - [Click here](#)

Sponsorship for the Parent Resident Visa | Immigration New Zealand - [Click here](#)

Parent Category Expression of Interest Update Form (INZ 1249) (immigration.govt.nz) - [Click here](#)

Customer Refund Request Form (INZ 1183) (immigration.govt.nz) - [Click here](#)



Guide to PTE Academic - Discover everything there is to know about PTE Academic. From test format and scoring to exam preparation and advice - we'll help you get the best score possible.....

A series of short videos that you can share with your clients to get to know about PTE - <https://www.youtube.com/>

Please note the views expressed in articles not produced by NZAMI Board members are those of the writer concerned and do not necessarily reflect the position of NZAMI.




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When booking your test enter the Promotion Code on the payment screen. The discount will be automatically deducted.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

Well! We're certainly having to keep on our toes in the last few weeks of the year!

This week's announcement about additional roles being added to the Green List, the extension of employers' accreditation, the availability of Specific Purpose Work Visas to Critical Purpose Visitor Visa holders, and Post Study Work Visas being available to those affected by the border closure are all very welcome, I am sure. However, they are certainly keeping us busy, on top of managing niggly issues with ADEPT and the backlog of people needing their visas.

It is also good to see a delay in the implementation of the changes in work rights for Accredited Employer Work Visa (AEWV) holders, the Instructions for varying AEWVs and Essential Skills Visas, and the long-awaited publication of the acceptable Direct Investment and Managed Funds application guidance.

I hope you are all managing to keep on top of all these changes and your workload. If you encounter any issues or want any help, please reach out to us.

Meeting with the Immigration Minister on 30 November

As mentioned in the last eNews publication, I and Arunima, along with other experienced members of the legal and immigration adviser community, met with the Immigration Minister on the 30th of November.

At this meeting, our members' concerns about the proposed change to work rights for partners AEWV holders was formally put to the Minister. Although I am sure we cannot claim credit for the subsequent announcement delaying the implementation of this policy, we were very pleased to see it, as I am sure you are.

We also communicated your concerns to the Minister about the operation of the ADEPT system and how this is impacting our clients, and particularly those who are not represented. The Minister is very aware of the issues and the need to communicate effectively with us.

Reliable sources of information

It is great that we can communicate so quickly and easily, through platforms such as Facebook, Twitter or WhatsApp. However, it is important to be sure that any information that you rely upon, to advise your clients, comes from a reputable source. Recently, I became aware of a Facebook post about Immigration New Zealand's approach to processing visitor visas, which was not entirely accurate. This post may have created an incorrect impression and therefore unrealistic expectations. If you do come across information and want to check whether it is accurate, please let us know, we can check this for you.

It's difficult with so many changes, and we certainly need as much information as we can. We will continue to send you all the information that we have and to provide helpful CPD events. Next year's calendar has already almost been prepared, thanks to Katy Marston-Key and Karishma Malek. As mentioned above, if we can check anything for you, just let us know.

Thank you

Finally, I'd like to thank all of you for being such a great membership to represent. I am particularly grateful to the members who have reached out with questions, information, or feedback this year. I've really enjoyed getting to know you better and the questions and information have been, without exception, thought provoking and useful. It has been a very long year for all of us. I hope you all manage to get some rest over the summer.

Nicola Tiffen
NZAMI Board Chairperson

POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

What a year it's been. Border re-opening combined with a new work visa policy and ADEPT has been a challenge for all of us and we are all looking forward to a well-deserved break.

Partner work visa changes deferred

As you may be aware, Minister Wood announced that the changes to partner work visas have been deferred to April 2023.

This came as a huge relief to the industry, although temporarily, and we will continue to work with the Minister's office to get the best possible outcome on this matter.

You will receive communication from us in January 2023 with an opportunity to provide your comments and thoughts on this matter, as NZAMI will be putting forward a formal submission to the Minister on this matter.

WELCOME TO NZAMI

Nisha Rani

Student Advisor NZ Ltd

&

Juergen Mader

Visapath Pty Ltd & Hahn &
Associates Ltd

Variation of Conditions

AEWV

VOC instructions for AEWV visa was released on 5th December 2022. AEWV visa holders can now apply for a Job Change to change their employer, job, location, or a combination of these.

The new employer must be accredited to hire migrants for the AEWV and have a valid job check. Applicants will need the job check approval number for their VOC application.

If a change is needed to a job paid below the median wage, it must be exempt from paying the median wage. Applicants need to ensure that their current visa must also be valid for no longer than the maximum visa length allowed for roles paid below the median wage. A new AEWV is needed if the current visa is valid for longer than the time allowed.

Essential Skills

Essential skills work visa holders may be granted a variation of conditions to change the conditions of their visa relating to their employer, occupation, location of employment or a combination of these.

Essential skills work visa holders seeking to change their occupation or location of employment will need to meet a labour market test unless:

1. their new occupation is listed on an Essential Skills in Demand list, and they meet the requirements of the list; or
2. their new occupation is listed on the Green List (Appendix 13) and they meet the requirements of the list; or
3. they are being paid at least twice the median wage (WA3.20(a)(i)).

The labour market test is met if:

1. the employer has advertised the position; and
1. they did not find any suitable and available New Zealand workers for the job

Accredited Employers in NZ

A list of accredited employers as of 22 Nov 2022 is now available at [d14729a03beeed92fdb223e8324f9ad04ba0d76a](https://www.parliament.nz/d14729a03beeed92fdb223e8324f9ad04ba0d76a) (www.parliament.nz)


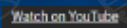
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Pls note - Depending on the format of the video, they either play through our website by clicking the play  button or click on the "watch on YouTube"  link.

Changes to the Green list

Another welcome relief has been the addition of numerous occupations to the green list.

- Fast Track residence category now includes Registered Nurses, Midwives, and specialist Doctors from 15 Dec 2022,
- Work to residence category now includes 10 additional occupations ranging from all Primary and Secondary Teachers to Gas fitters, Drain Layers, Motor Mechanics etc.

Sector agreement for transport industry

A new sector agreement has been agreed in principle by the government which will allow a temporary residence pathway for Bus and Truck Drivers. What this will look like and if this would apply to any new migrants coming into these roles to help employers fill with labour shortages, we would only know once the policies and details are released.

Accreditation

Employers that apply for their accreditation before 4 July 2023 will be granted a 12-month auto extension on their accreditation period.

RV21 RFIs for Medicals

It has been escalated as an ongoing issue to INZ that RFIs for medicals for RV21 applications are going directly to panel doctors or applicants. This means that we as their representatives have no visibility of the fact that INZ is waiting for the medical and therefore cannot facilitate this to ensure the processing remains timely.

The new requirements that were going to be introduced in the accreditation regime in 2023 to cover all migrants, including those with open work rights has been deferred until 2024.

If you encounter issues, whether with the ADEPT system or general policy/industry wide operational matters, please email Julia via email at secretary@nzami.co.nz with:

- Specific details of the issue,
- An application number,
- Date of the issue.

Arunima Dhingra
NZAMI Vice Chairperson
& Policy Co-Chair

Arno Nothnagel
NZAMI Policy Co-Chair
& Director

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- Select the 'Privacy' link (in blue)
- This takes you to all the personal information that you can choose who sees the information
- From here, select from the drop-down arrow (Nobody, Members Only, The Public) for each field
- Click save (at the bottom).

Please note - The System default setting is "Nobody"

To update your specific area, languages and countries of expertise, please follow the below steps:

- Login to your account,
- Scroll down to the 'Navigation' Card
- Select the Update Visa / Permit link (in blue) and or the Language and Countries links (in blue)
- Tick the relevant areas/visas you work on/ languages/ countries of specialisation
- Click save (at the bottom).

2022 RECAP

2022 has been a historic year. The Government has announced several new policies, it is pretty much a replacement of most of the previous policies, basically an overhaul of the policy settings that were in place. With the ADEPT system put in place, it has also been one of the most dramatic years compared to the past several years.

Amongst all these policy changes, the 2021 Resident Visa has been life changing for more than 200,000 people. The unprecedented RV2021 was a one-off chance for those who qualified to apply for residence under this scheme, many won and some lost in their battle to achieve their goal of obtaining residence in New Zealand while some have continued to work towards achieving their goal, it is still “work in progress” for them.

The introduction of mandatory accreditation for employers who wish to employ migrant staff is new in the scheme of policies within our immigration system. Just like many other policies, the employer accreditation policy also has its dark side - for example - an aspect of this new scheme has a ‘one size fits all’ approach.

A small or medium franchised fast-food or liquor retail outlet employing maybe 3/4 staff, has to go through the same process and pay the application fees of \$1980.00 for accreditation, whereas an employer requesting the high-volume accreditation would pay \$1220.00. The franchised outlets are never going to need several staff due to the structure of the business but because it trades under a franchisee, that employer would need to pay almost twice the standard fees towards accreditation.

Furthermore, the majority of these small businesses would have only one of each position available, for example - they would need one store manager and one assistant manager, and so on so, a job check would be required for each role. Whereas the large employer would have multiple vacancies for the same position like multiple drivers, store persons, etc., and would only need 1 job check to fill several vacancies for a single role. Thus, the small employer gets a harder hit on their back. There is no customised setting to make it easier & cost-effective for small or medium businesses.

The Accredited Employer Work Visa then came into play, six categories of work visas were made redundant and replaced by the one Accredited Employer Work Visa.

Another huge disappointment struck when the Government announced no working rights for partners from the end of 2022 unless the main applicant met a certain criterion. Recently it was announced that this has been deferred until April 2023, which was good news to those who were considering coming to New Zealand to work.

There have been some changes to the Study Visa settings, the international student market has taken a major hit due to the shift in the post study work visa rights and uncertainty in the residence policy.

To update your personal details, please follow the below steps:

- Login to your member/non-member dashboard
- On the ‘Navigation’ Card
- Select the ‘Personal Details’ link (in blue)

To update your address details, please follow the below steps:

- Login to your member/non-member dashboard
- On the ‘Navigation’ Card
- Select the ‘Addresses’ link (in blue)

Then came the temporary resumption of the Skilled Migrant Category. This was on two levels, 160 points & 180 points. The Government made a few adjustments post these announcements to allow to submit the English test results and the NZQA report at a later date to meet the EOI submission deadline.

Further announcements were made in the Parent Category residence space, the category is set to resume, and the income threshold lowered which would enable more migrants to be eligible to sponsor their parents. Due to the fewer number of spaces available and the huge backlog from the past several years, it is going to be a long wait for many.

The new Active Investor Plus Visa category opened for applications on Monday 19 September 2022. The Government has created this new visa category to attract skilled and experienced high-value investors to New Zealand. The Active Investor Plus Visa replaces the previous Investor 1 and Investor 2 categories.

Just as we thought that this brings us to an end of many policy changes or announcements for the year, on 12 December 2022, the Government announced even further changes and some policy adjustments.

The 12 December 2022 announcements appeared to be like an emergency medical kit from which a few band-aids were pulled out to fix the botched operations. Realistically one could argue, the whole of 2022 appears to be a year of band-aid solutions.

Phew....! And these are only the highlights of the major changes. Even before we could grasp one set of changes something new would emerge, it has been a marathon year keeping up with all the policies.

Amongst all this madness, NZAMI also hosted its annual conference for the first time since the pandemic. The presence of the minister of immigration, politicians, media, and some fantastic speakers at the event was a treat. To sum it up, it was an outstanding conference, with a tremendous turnout of attendees, great food, and drinks and not to mention the exceptional topics and speakers! The NZAMI Conference is undoubtedly an event to look forward to.

A huge thanks to our valued sponsors and to everyone who contributed to making the Conference a success. Also thanking all our wonderful participants for making the success possible and our dear attendees for your support!

After such an eventful year we all deserve a restful break, regardless of how the weather behaves, I hope each one of you can put your feet up and enjoy.

Wishing you all Happy Holidays!

Karishma Malek

NZAMI CPD Co Chair & Director

The countdown is on! 9 more sleeps until Christmas!

The year has gone by really quickly - it is hard to believe it is already the end of the year! We are very lucky here in New Zealand to have the warmer weather, perfect for Christmas get-togethers, being outdoors, and having great summer evening barbecues.

I would like to acknowledge & say thank you to all the presenters who have contributed to NZAMI's CPD programs throughout the year. Many thanks to the board members and our CPD consultant Peter Moses, and our highly valued membership - what an extraordinary year it has been - we made it!

INZ PPI / RFI dates reminder

On or after Monday 12 December 2022, any information request or PPI issued should have a response date that reflects at least 20 working days through the holiday period. This will allow clients, Licensed Immigration Advisers (LIA), and Immigration Lawyers sufficient time during the holiday period to respond. Should other circumstances prevent a client, LIA, or lawyer from responding, such that they require an extension, the usual process of requesting an extension will apply.

Where statutory holidays fall on a weekend or on a day another holiday is observed, they are observed on the nearest week (working) day. Therefore, the observed public holidays for the 2022-2023 Christmas/ New Year period are:

- 25 December - Christmas Day. Falls on a Sunday, so is observed on Monday 26 December.
- 26 December - Boxing Day. Falls on the Monday Christmas Day is observed, so is observed on Tuesday 27 December.
- 1 January - New Year's Day. Falls on a Sunday, so is observed on Monday 2 January.
- 2 January - Day after New Year's Day. Falls on the Monday New Year's Day is observed, so is observed on Tuesday 3 January.

Normal response timeframes will resume from Monday 9 January 2022. For a list of the normal response timeframes, please see [Visa Pak 438](#).

NZAMI Business Partner

Get in quick as PTE's 10% discount code is only valid in New Zealand until the 31st of December 2022. Share [this video](#) to your clients to find out everything they need to know about the Pearson Test of English (PTE).

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Christmas is a time of good food, time with family, joy, and fond memories in the making. May this Christmas bring you all of the above and more! Have an awesome Christmas and New Year and of course stay safe!

Julia Macklen
NZAMI Operations Manager



REMINDER - USEFUL INFORMATION

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Christchurch 2 are responsible for the lead and processing on the Accredited Employer Work Visa categories, including Employer Accreditation, Job Check and Work Visas. You can send any AEWV queries & amendments for incorrect details on visas to AEWVChristchurchTA@mbie.govt.nz.

IT Issues

If you experience IT issues with the INZ system, email iccmpleyerenquiry@mbie.govt.nz regarding this issue. This mailbox specialises in IT issues regarding MBIE systems.

Immigration Call Centre

The INZ contact centre are also fully trained to assist with IT system queries and should be able to escalate the system error to the appropriate person if necessary. This email inbox is more for general, and application specific technical queries related to Accredited Employer Work Visa instructions. The email address to email ICC is adviserenquiries@mbie.govt.nz

LIA/Lawyer service numbers for INZ enquiries:

Where	Number
Within Auckland	0800 542 469
Within Wellington	04 910 9923
From any other location, including from overseas:	09 969 1464

The service is available from 8 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday.

These are the Contact Centre phone numbers for the dedicated employer line:

Where	Number
Contact Centre (Toll-free from NZ landlines only)	0508 967 569
Auckland	09 969 1458
Wellington	04 910 9916

Please note for requests for priority processing email:

EmploymentVisaEscalations@mbie.govt.nz

Please include in the email:

- full name and date of birth
- the details of anyone included in the application, like a partner or dependent child
- passport number
- application number
- INZ client number, if known
- an explanation of why the processing of the application should be escalated.

The Parent Category Expression of Interest Update Form to be emailed to: EOIupdate@mbie.govt.nz

HANDY LINKS

Major expansion of Green List | [Beehive.govt.nz](#) - [Click here](#)

Green List roles | Immigration New Zealand - [Click here](#)

Information about Specific Purpose Work Visa | Immigration New Zealand - [Click here](#)

Information about Partner of a Worker Work Visa | Immigration New Zealand - [Click here](#)

Spain Working Holiday Scheme to re-open on 29 November 2022 - [Click here](#)

Changes to Working Holiday Scheme visas announced | INZ - [Click here](#)

Working Holiday Visas | INZ - [Click here](#)

Visa Escalation | INZ - [Click here](#)

How a Skilled Migrant Category expression of interest expires | INZ - [Click here](#)

Online Services | INZ - [Click here](#)

Explore visa options for living permanently | INZ - [Click here](#)

Parent Resident Visa restarts | INZ - [Click here](#)

Sponsorship for the Parent Resident Visa | INZ - [Click here](#)

Customer Refund Request Form (INZ 1183) ([immigration.govt.nz](#)) - [Click here](#)



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DATES TO DIARISE

15th February 2023

Webinar (live) Specific Purpose Visas & Skills Residence pathways & pitfalls

23rd February 2023

Webinar (live) New Investor Platform overview

2nd March 2023

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8th March 2023

Webinar (live) Citizenship and Permanent Residency Visas

FROM THE CHAIR'S DESK

Happy New Year!

I hope that all of you had a restful and relaxing break and are ready to face the year ahead. I am hoping for a more settled year, with less policy changes, so both we and INZ can focus on meeting New Zealand immigration demands. However, with impending changes within the government's cabinet and the economic outlook, we can expect further changes as the year progresses.

ADEPT Issues

On Wednesday, Arunima and I met with Alison McDonald, the Deputy Secretary for Immigration, and two of her colleagues, McLeish Martin and Stephen Vaughan. We met, in person, at the MBIE offices in Stout Street. It was a constructive meeting.

Alison confirmed that there will be a further software release in February that should, we hope, deal with the frustrations we have been encountering with ADEPT. There will be a further test in March, and INZ has confirmed that they will work with us then to identify any outstanding issues.

My understanding is a solution to the issue of matching medicals with applications has also been developed. Going forward, this should no longer be an issue, which will be a big relief to many of us! However, please do contact Julia with details via email at secretary@nzami.co.nz if you continue to have issues with medicals not being matched.

Immigration New Zealand contacts

Our Relationship Managers have kindly provided us with an update on the contact list that we sent out in September. I believe a comprehensively updated list is on its way, and we will send that to you as soon as we have it.

Resourcing at Immigration New Zealand

At our meeting on Wednesday, Arunima and I were reassured that Immigration New Zealand and the ICC trusted adviser line have been working very hard to ensure that there are sufficient staff and resources to manage applications and queries. I understand that wait-times on the helpline have substantially reduced. Alison and her team are working hard to create as many efficiencies, as they can too.

Operational Manual updates

This is just a reminder that the online Operational Manual can take a while to be updated after an Immigration Amendment Circular (IAC) has been issued. INZ are working on improving this, but in the interim, do take care to check the IACs before advising a client.

Please keep in touch!

Please keep in touch with us to let us know if we can help when you are having difficulties with a case, and/or with managing your practice or clients. This is what your association is here to do.

Nicola Tiffen

NZAMI Board Chair

POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

After a busy 2022, we hope that you all had a good festive season and energized for what is set to be an interesting 2023. With the unexpected resignation of our PM and the newly appointed PM; this year will shape up quite interestingly in the political sphere leading up to the election.

Immigration will be a hot topic as always, and we look forward to the year ahead and the changes we may see.

Meeting with INZ management

On 24 Jan 2023, your Chair Nicola Tiffen and Vice Chair Arunima Dhingra, met with Alison McDonald, Stephen Vaughan and McLeish Martin of Immigration NZ. We had a robust discussion on a range of issues and we look forward to their continued engagement with NZAMI this year.

Some of the key topics we discussed are:

- Ongoing technical issues with ADEPT – We have been advised that the bugs raised are being fixed at the moment and a new release is scheduled for February.
- Operations manual – We have raised the issue of increased delays with updating Ops manual after an amendment circular is released. For eg. VOC to AEWV changes were released via an AC in early Dec 2022 however the Ops manual was still not updated at the time of writing this piece.

To update your Privacy settings please follow the below steps:

- Login to your account,
- Scroll down to the 'Navigation' Card
- Select the 'Privacy' link (in blue)
- This takes you to all the personal information that you can choose who sees the information
- From here, select from the drop-down arrow (Nobody, Members Only, The Public) for each field
- Click save (at the bottom).

Please note - The System default setting is "Nobody"

To update your specific area, languages and countries of expertise, please follow the below steps:

- Login to your account,
- Scroll down to the 'Navigation' Card
- Select the Update Visa / Permit link (in blue) and or the Language and Countries links (in blue)
- Tick the relevant areas/visas you work on/ languages/ countries of specialisation
- Click save (at the bottom).

- We discussed about resourcing across the board and the training of immigration officers.
- New SMC details are being worked on in the background and we will be consulted at the design phase.

This has been further detailed in the Chair's report earlier in this eNews.

Medicals & Identity resolution

INZ has confirmed that they are running a data script twice a week to match up medicals and fix identity resolution issues for 2021 RV, AEWV, and visitor visa applications.

HAT (Health Assessment Team) has also confirmed that they are experiencing high volumes of medical checks and are experiencing delays, with current processing times at 6-7 weeks which will delay most temp applications.

Proposed partner work visa changes

NZAMI will be putting forward a submission to the Immigration Minister on this proposed change. Please email through your comments and thoughts on this matter to Julia via email at secretary@nzami.co.nz by the end of February.

If you encounter issues, whether with the ADEPT system or general policy/industry wide operational matters, please email Julia via email at secretary@nzami.co.nz with:

- Specific details of the issue,
- An application number,
- Date of the issue.

Arunima Dhingra

NZAMI Vice Chair & Policy Co-Chair

Arno Nothnagel

NZAMI Policy Co-Chair & Director

VISITOR VISAS

I, like many of you, have been inundated with Visitor Visa applications since the borders reopened last year – in particular, Visitor Visa – Partnership applications. For the most part, these have been processed with minimal issue.


However, recently our office has seen some rather perplexing decisions made by Immigration Officers processing these applications where the couple have little or minimal evidence of 'living together'.

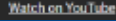
Some of you may be familiar with IAC 19-01 which was introduced on the 19th of November 2019. The aim of this IAC was to provide advice to INZ staff on assessing partnership applications, where there is little or insufficient 'living together' evidence.

To access the MP4 recording, please follow the below steps:

- Login to your member/non-member dashboard
- Scroll down to the 'Navigation' Card
- Select the 'Tickets' link (in blue)
- Select the heading of the MP4 recording
- This will direct you to the recording page
- Scroll down the page for the video and speaker presentations

If you have purchased a MP4 recording after the live event, the recording is available straight after the purchase.

Pls note - Depending on the format of the video, they either play through our website by clicking the play  button or click on the "watch on YouTube"

 link.

To view your CPD records, please follow the below steps:

- Login to your member/non-member dashboard
- On the 'My CPD' Card
- Select the 'View my CPD History' link (in blue)
- This will direct you to your CPD records

In summary, IAC 19-01 advises INZ staff to consider a Visitor Visa – General as an alternative if the applicant is considered ‘bona fide’.

Our letters always prompt the officer to consider Visitor Visa – General and refer them to the IAC to ensure that it is always considered.

In most instances where the couple have limited evidence of living together, such as a newly married couple who were unable to live together before marriage due to cultural and/or religious grounds, we have received a letter or email from INZ stating that they are satisfied the relationship is genuine and stable, although are unsatisfied that the couple meet ‘living together’ requirements. INZ then offer a Visitor Visa – General “in accordance with current processes and the interest of family reunification.”

This process is in line with the advice provided to staff in IAC 19-01 and recognises cultural and religious practices of migrants that differ from what is considered the ‘norm’ within New Zealand.

Unfortunately, not all officers have followed this advice and rather than offering a Visitor Visa – General, they have declined the application. Upon being asked whether IAC 19-01 had been considered, the general response has been that the IAC had been considered, however the officer “didn’t deem this was suitable.” This stance has been backed up by Immigration Managers – which seems contrary to ‘Fairness and Natural Justice’ principles.

For the applications in question, we have subsequently applied for a Visitor Visa – General, with no extra documentation, almost immediately following the decline. These applications have gone onto be approved without question.

If the exact same application, with the exact same documentation was approved without question the second time around, why was a Visitor Visa – General not issued at the first opportunity? Where is the consistency?

At a time when INZ is facing a serious backlog of applications, it is these sorts of niggly little issues and inconsistencies that end up wasting more of our time, more of the officer’s time, more of the second officer’s time as well as forcing the applicant to spend another \$200.00 on another application.

Nick Frost
NZAMI Director

HANDY LINKS

Green List roles | Immigration New Zealand -[Click here](#)

Information about Specific Purpose Work Visa | Immigration New Zealand -[Click here](#)

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Customer Refund Request Form (INZ 1183) (immigration.govt.nz)-[Click here](#)

Previous editions of eNews

Previous editions of the eNews can be found once you have logged in, under the Member Resources Card, click on the eNews Publications link.

Members can email xxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xx.xx if you would like to include an article in the eNews publications, we welcome all members to contribute, share success stories or even provide insight/learnings on a particular aspect on immigration.

The NZAMI Logo

You are entitled to use the NZAMI logo on your website, business cards and other marketing material.

Please read Regulation 5 - [Regulation 5 - NZAMI Branding](#), to ensure that you use the logo within the guidelines set by NZAMI.

To find the logo in either the jpeg or png format, please follow the below steps:

- Login to your member dashboard
- On the 'Member Resources' Card
- Select the 'General' link (in blue)

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8th March 2023

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

I am sure you are all well settled into the working year. I know that Arunima and I have been very busy, and no doubt you are too.

ADEPT

In the last newsletter, I reported back that there will be a further software release in February, which should, we hope, resolve many ADEPT issues. By way of update, I now understand that this is scheduled for later this month.

I am also aware that INZ has undertaken a lot of manual work to clear through issues that have arisen with RV2021 applications, to enable them to move from the “Preparing application” stage. Please let us know if you are concerned about any applications that are languishing at this stage.

Matching medicals with applications

I also reported that there has been a solution to matching medicals with applications, which I hope you are all seeing take effect. I believe that a large percentage of medicals are now being automatically matched.

However, if an applicant has provided everything requested by INZ, including medicals, and the ADEPT system advises that it is “Gathering Information” please let us know. We can then potentially escalate this with INZ. It is important that these requests are raised through the NZAMI to ensure that INZ can efficiently manage them.

Skilled Migrant Category processing timeframes

I am often asked whether the processing timeframes on the INZ website will be updated. I understand that they will be very soon, once INZ has enough data to do so. As you know, the category has only recently re-opened, so it is difficult to have a great deal of information to base processing times on yet.

Skilled Migrant Category consultation

We, along with other industry representatives, have been asked to participate in a working group to assist INZ in finalising how the proposed new Skilled Migrant Category will work. It has been great to have some active consultation on this category. Obviously, we can't report back on any of the details, but I can confirm that the concerns that we raised in our consultation document (thanks to those who participated) have been noted.

Regular Operational Meetings with INZ

Don't forget that Arunima and I meet with senior INZ management, every second Friday. If you have any concerns or issues that you wish for us to raise, please let us know by the Tuesday beforehand, so we can add it into the list of matters to be discussed.

Meeting with the Minister

We, along with other industry leaders, have another meeting scheduled with the Minister on the 18th of April. Please let us know if there are any issues you wish for us to raise at that meeting. Please email them to Julia at secretary@nzami.co.nz.

Nicola Tiffen

NZAMI Board Chair

POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

We hope that you all are safe after the unprecedented floods we've had over the past two weeks in Auckland. One of the challenges now will be the cleanup and repairs to critical infrastructure, and this will be a challenge given our low unemployment rate and shortage of workers in NZ.

Minister Michael Wood who is also now the Minister of Auckland has his work cut out for him to get our immigration settings right to enable key people to be able to enter NZ so that we can get back to normal as quickly as possible.

Median wage increase

The new median wage of NZD \$29.66 an hour will be adopted into the immigration system on 27 February 2023.

All wage thresholds indexed to the median wage will also be updated. This includes the Accredited Employer Visa (AEWV), occupations covered by sector agreements, and residence visa categories.

To update your Privacy settings please follow the below steps:

- Login to your account,
- Scroll down to the 'Navigation' Card
- Select the 'Privacy' link (in blue)
- This takes you to all the personal information that you can choose who sees the information
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- Click save (at the bottom).

Please note - The System default setting is "Nobody"

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- Login to your account,
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- Select the Update Visa / Permit link (in blue) and or the Language and Countries links (in blue)
- Tick the relevant areas/visas you work on/ languages/ countries of specialisation
- Click save (at the bottom).

For the AEWV, migrants must meet the wage threshold in force at the time they apply for their visa. This means that if the wage threshold increases between the job check being approved and the migrant applying for the visa, the migrant will need to meet a higher wage threshold than was approved in the job check pay range.

Clarification on what this means for job checks already approved with advertising below the new median wage, is awaited from INZ and will be shared with members as soon as received.

Residence visa categories and pathways with median wage-related criteria will also be updated. This includes the Green List and Highly Paid pathways, the Skilled Migrant Category and the Parent Category.

2021 RV Processing update

INZ has made good progress on the 2021 RV applications and now has less than 30,000 applications left in the queue.

We received an update at the end of January advising that there are approximately 8,000 RV21 files in the Preparing Application and Gathering Information stages, with approximately 17,000 RV21 applications at the Under Assessment stage awaiting allocation, the oldest being from mid-October.

We have been advised that the team decided over 1500 RV21 applications in the week of the 23rd of January.

Active Investor Plus

NZTE announced that they have appointed an independent advisory panel to support New Zealand's new Active Investor Plus visa programme. The panel will help NZTE determine which investments – whether a managed fund or a direct investment into a New Zealand business – will qualify for the visa's special weighting.

The panel is scheduled to meet for the first time on 20 February and is expected to initially meet monthly to review applications. Applications to be assessed at this meeting must be submitted by 31 January.

Information ICC 'can' and 'cannot' provide

INZ has clarified what can and cannot be provided by ICC staff after a number of general observations across the sector as a whole. If you encounter a departure from these, please let us know.

Here is the information provided to us:

There are some limitations on the information the ICC is able to release to immigration professionals, including but not limited to:

- o 2021 RV applications are processed by multiple officers, so ICC staff are not able to provide case officer details or advice about an estimated timeframe for any 2021 RV application stages on enhanced Immigration Online. It is expected that the majority of applications will be processed within 18 months – information is available [on our website](#).
- o ICC staff are unable to provide their own email address for additional documents to be sent to, as the correct channels for communicating with INZ regarding applications under processing must be followed.
- o For applications on enhanced Immigration Online, ICC staff cannot release an immigration officer's details unless there has been a PPI or RFI. This is because applications are processed by multiple case officers who complete various application tasks, rather than a single case officer being allocated the application, and some application stages do not have case officers. The exception to this is employer accreditation applications and job check applications, as these applications are assigned to a single case officer.

To allow for faster handling of calls, we would be grateful if immigration professionals will not seek general information from the ICC, and will instead use the tools and resources available to them as industry professionals. These include immigration instructions, information on INZ's website, and the advice of other advisers.

We would also appreciate it if immigration professionals' interactions with contact centre staff are professional and respectful and refrain from placing any pressure on staff not to follow INZ's policies and guidelines.

Our [What information can the Immigration Contact Centre \(ICC\) release to an LIA or a lawyer?](#) web page contains further information about which information can be released.

If you encounter issues, whether with the ADEPT system or general policy/industry wide operational matters, please email Julia via email at secretary@nzami.co.nz with:

- Specific details of the issue,
- An application number,
- Date of the issue.

Arunima Dhingra

NZAMI Vice Chair
& Policy Co-Chair

Arno Nothnagel

NZAMI Policy Co-Chair
& Director

HIRING FROM THE PHILIPPINES

The unemployment rate in New Zealand rose to 3.4% in the fourth quarter of 2022, from 3.3% in the prior quarter and therefore many employers are facing a very tight employment market and have no other options but to consider overseas skilled workers. In the past 6 months I have had a lot of employers inquiring about wanting to hire skilled workers from the Philippines and therefore understanding the basic process of hiring from the Philippines is really important.

The first question I would have an employer answer is whether they have previously hired directly from the Philippines? To determine this, I would advise them to email the Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO), who undertakes activities facilitating workers' employment and promoting the welfare of Filipino workers in New Zealand (polo.newzealand@philembassy.org.nz), to check their database. An employer can hire up to 5 workers directly before they need accreditation with the Philippine government.

Please be aware POLO have been inundated with work job orders since our borders opened last year and the below table shows all of the job orders verified by POLO as of July 2022:

2020	1,081
2021	1,816
2022	17,403

If the employer needs to apply for accreditation there is a process where the employer must work with an agency based in NZ or the Philippines and is required to submit a job order with POLO to obtain Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) accreditation.

The NZAMI held a live webinar on this subject matter last year in October 2022 and if you were unable to attend my advice is that you consider purchasing the MP4 recording that includes a copy of the presentation, which would provide you with a great start on how to tackle this process.

Topics of the NZAMI webinar included:

- What is POLO?
- What is POEA?
- What is an OEC?
- What is an employer's risk if an employee arrives without an OEC?
- What are the NZ employer's obligations in respect of migrants recruited from the Philippines? (e.g. insurance requirements),
- What is the situation for an employee who arrives through an employer's approval and moves to work for another employer?
- What about family members visiting NZ? Do they need POLO/POEA approval?

The webinar was hosted by Nicole Macaballug, a Senior Solicitor at Duncan Cotterill and the current Honorary Consul of the Philippines in Christchurch, NZ, and Angel Borja Jr, the current Labour Attaché and head of the Philippine Overseas Labour Office in Wellington, NZ.

The website link to purchase the MP4 Recording for members and non-members is: [MP4 Recording Zoom Webinar – Hiring from the Philippines: Understanding the POEA Process - 19 October 2022 : NZAMI](#)

It can be a daunting and confusing process and the NZAMI MP4 webinar recording and presentation has assisted me greatly to advise my employer clients – good luck!

Borey Chum

NZAMI Relationships Chair & Director

DION SMART – OBITUARY

I am honoured to have been asked to write about my mate Dion Smart, an LIA/NZAMI Director and all-round good guy, who recently passed away after a short battle with a brain tumour. I have to say at the outset that this was an undignified way for Dion to leave us all, including his loving family, as he was always a proud person who I am sure didn't like what the drugs were doing to him but was determined to do what he could to be around for his family for as long as he could despite the enormous obstacle that had been placed in front of him.

My friend/colleague Peter Crosson and I were fortunate enough to travel to Tauranga in August 2022 to spend some time with Dion and we had a great time, Dion entertaining us with his normal sense of humour, including saying to us when we first saw him that he had got a bit bigger since we saw him last and that he was almost as big as (another mate/colleague), Albert Bosma. This was as a direct result of the bloating the drugs were causing – but this was an example of Dion as a person, always friendly, always having a laugh and generally loving life, as well as a true professional in his professional life. It is fair to say that anybody that knew Dion liked the guy – that was his personality – he could get on with everyone – even though he taunted me by putting my face on other people's bodies and making very funny videos and pictures – the best one of all putting my head on Boris Johnson's body!

As a testament to Dion's sense of humour, determination and overall attitude, we went out for lunch and had sat for some time. Dion was a bit wobbly when we left and as we meandered along the Tauranga waterfront Dion walked into a lamp post. I ran over to him and enquired about how he was. He looked at me and smiled and said, "Don't worry, it happens all the time – you get used to it"!

Albert Bosma was one of Dion's best mates and I asked him for some information that I could put in this piece. He told me that he first met Dion in 1993 when they were working in the Citizenship office in Wellington. In late 1994 they both left that office and started their own immigration business, Complete Immigration in Wellington, which was eventually bought out by Malcolm Pacific in 1995. Malcolm Pacific was where the relationship between Peter, Albert, Kim Saull, Pam Hyslop, Dion and I had its beginnings.

Dion and Albert travelled overseas, and Dion began working for Malcolm Pacific in London, finishing there in about February 2001 and returning to New Zealand. He worked for Malcom Pacific in Auckland and in their International Division with Kim and Pam, whom he would later team up with to own and operate e-Migration Central Division in Tauranga in 2005, when e-Migration NZ was formed.

He and Pam operated a very successful business in Tauranga and had very many loyal clients. It's fair to say when I was dealing with Dion's clients as he became too unwell to deal with them himself, I was not at all surprised to hear how much they cared about him and what a truly wonderful and professional LIA he was, and what a lovely person he was. One of his clients rang me almost weekly asking how he was and once cried explaining the relationship he had built with Dion over the years he had been dealing with him.

As well as a great guy, with a wicked sense of humour and a bit of a 'scallywag', Dion was a terrific family man. He had found his soulmate in Rebecca and took on not only being a father to his own wonderful children, but to hers as well. I was lucky enough to spend some time with Rebecca last year when we visited and she was a tower of strength, albeit knowing how ill Dion was. She doted on him, and he told me many times what a wonderful person she was, how lucky he was to have her and that he was determined to marry her. Unfortunately, his health didn't allow that to happen, but Rebecca knows just how much Dion loved and adored her. They were a truly wonderful couple in a partnership that was meant to be.

Dion was a proud member of the NZAMI and I talked him into becoming a Director. He quickly became a valued member of the board, and it was not inconceivable that had he not become ill that he may well have gone on to be Chair at some stage. He was very respected by INZ as they knew he was an honest and hardworking LIA. He would do his best for his clients and would often call me to bemoan the way some of his clients had been treated but have delight in telling me later that he won the battle!

He had a lot of friends in and out of the immigration industry all of whom miss him terribly but reflect on what a great mate he was and what a tremendous human being he was. Not long ago he came down to Christchurch to relocate his father here where his sister lives.

I would like to personally thank those who pitched in and donated to the various events that were set up predominantly by Albert. I would also like to personally thank the NZAMI for the donation of \$1000.00 given to the Waipuna Hospice. Finally, I would like to personally thank Dion for being our mate, colleague, father and partner.

Simon Moore

LIA - e-Migration NZ (South Island Division)



Dion was a very special guy with a huge heart who will be sorely missed by all. Our thoughts are with all his family, friends, and colleagues.

Dion was a tremendous board member and a wonderful person. His unflappable nature and light-hearted approach to all that he undertook was inspirational.

With deepest sympathy as we remember Dion.

NZAMI Team

Someone so special can never be forgotten!

ZOOM WEBINAR (LIVE)

Skilled Residence Pathways and Specific Purpose Visas

Wednesday 15th February 2023

Join NZAMI for the first webinar for 2023.

Skilled Residence Pathways topics include:

- Pathways & pitfalls (it's been a while for all of us),
- SMC claiming points – 'soft' points and 'hard' points,
- Nexus of qualifications and relevance of experience.

Speakers:

Steve Norrie - Steve is a fully licensed immigration adviser and has had over 30 years' experience in international financial markets and as an investment banker and private equity investor.

Katy Marston-Key - Katy is a licensed immigration adviser at Key Advice Ltd and a Director and Co-Chair of CPD at NZAMI. Katy has vast experience in Human Resources and Employment Relations gained in Senior Human Resource Management roles in Hospitality, Retail and Civil Construction.

Karishma Malek - Karishma is a licensed immigration adviser and principal at Meridian Migration. Karishma is a Director and Co-Chair of CPD at NZAMI.

Arno Nothnagel - is an NZ Immigration Director at Absolute Immigration where he oversees all international visa applications. Arno is a Director of Governance and Co-Chair for Policy and Advocacy at NZAMI.

Specific Purposes Visa topics include:

- Where and when to use Specific Purpose Work Visas,
- Pros and cons of Specific Purpose compared to AEWVs,
- What are the negative aspects of a SPWV,
- Update on Specific Purpose Work Visa Policy.

Speakers:

June Ranson - June is the founder and Managing Director of Woburn International Group, operating for 30 years. Past Chairperson of NZAMI and a Life Member, June is also one of the founders of the Global Relocation Partnership and Intercultural Consulting.

Nicholas Frost - (Nick) is a Licensed Immigration Adviser at E-Migration in Christchurch and a Director of CPD, Membership as well as Finance and Management at NZAMI.

This webinar is designed to better prepare immigration practitioners in dealing with Skilled Residence Pathways and Specific Purpose Visas and is suitable for both LIAs and Lawyers.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

This webinar will be Recorded. Please register now if you do not want to miss out as registration will close as soon as this event is full!

Time: 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

Date: Wednesday 15th February 2023

Venue: Zoom webinar platform - Zoom access link will be sent once registration closes.

Costs: The cost to attend this webinar live is \$120.00 inclusive of GST for members and \$195.00 inclusive of GST for non-members. Select the 'Zoom Webinar (Live)' option at registration.

The cost to purchase the MP4 recording of this webinar is \$120.50 inclusive of GST for members and \$195.50 inclusive of GST for non-members. Select the 'MP4 Recording' option at registration.

CPD: This webinar will contribute to 2 hours of CPD.

Registration and payment is to be done via the NZAMI website to confirm your booking.

Please note that if you order the webinar live attendance and you chose not to attend, your order cannot be switched to the MP4 recording after the event.

Registration will close on Monday 13th February @ 2 pm.

If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca via email at xxxxxxx@xxxxx.xx.xx

CHRISTCHURCH (IN-PERSON) WORKSHOP:

Troubleshooting for Immigration Advocates

Thursday, 2nd March 2023

Welcome to our first workshop of 2023! NZAMI is proud to present the informative and popular, Troubleshooting for Immigration Advocates Workshop. This event will be in-person and will be held in Christchurch.

This workshop covers a wide range of aspects to better prepare immigration practitioners to deal with difficult immigration matters and is suitable for both LIAs and Lawyers.

The workshop will cover areas such as:

- Privacy Act requests and complaints to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner,
- Internal INZ guidelines and how to use them,

- Reconsideration applications – key criteria and advocacy options,
- Complaints and Feedback process – the ‘merit’ vs ‘process’ distinction,
- Section 61 requests: getting client instructions and considering approaches to advocacy,
- Special direction requests to the Associate Minister of Immigration under section 378 Immigration Act - threshold criteria, engaging with the Minister’s office and advocacy strategies,
- Deportation liability investigations and deportation appeals,
- Recognising possible refugee or protected person claims.

The Troubleshooting Workshop will be a highly interactive full day workshop focusing on discussion, groupwork and practical exercises therefore will be limited to 16 participants.

Between them Peter and Matt can claim 50 years of advocacy experience, both in legal practice and as a licensed immigration adviser. They have designed the programme to be engaging and interesting.

Date: Thursday 2nd March 2023

Time: 8:45am arrival/registration for 9.00 am start – workshop will finish at 5.00 pm (lunch is provided)

Venue: Duncan Cotterill Plaza, 148 Victoria Street, Christchurch

Costs: \$460.00 inclusive of GST for members and \$690.00 inclusive of GST for non-members

CPD: This workshop will contribute to 7 hours of CPD.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

This workshop will not be available through livestream or MP4 so get in quick and register if you don’t want to miss out. Registration will close as soon as this event is full and will be on a first in based system. Registration and payment is to be done via the NZAMI website to confirm your booking.

If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca via email at rebecca@nzami.co.nz



Migration Associates are seeking to support a Full or Provisional License holder who would be based in our office in Christchurch.

We currently have three fully licensed Immigration Advisers who have over 20 years of combined immigration experience to share, and we take pride in assisting our clients with the immigration process. Migration Associates understands the need for a healthy work-life balance and takes pride in our warm, supportive team culture. You would be actively supervised on a daily basis and would be working alongside a great team from a range of back grounds that actively provide each other with collegially support.

Migration Associates has a sustainable stream of clients and offer a wide breadth range of services which immerses its Licensed Immigration Advisers deep into the Immigration industry and provides a variety of immigration work. Our clients are domestic and international individuals, and families who require a range of services, from temporary to resident visas. We also work with employers from vast industries who require assistance with accreditation, job checks, and their employee's visas.

We are looking to initially support a Full or Provisional License holder in 2023, and there will be an opportunity for full-time work starting immediately.

Key Requirements:

- Based in Christchurch and has or will meet the IAA requirements to apply for a Full or Provisional License.
- Able to handle a sustainable workload through organisation and accuracy.
- Previous customer service experience and a natural desire to provide good service.
- Exceptional written and spoken English.
- Sound computer skills and experience with Microsoft Office applications, Xero, and Customer Relationship Management systems.
- Proficient time management and reliability.
- A team player with a positive attitude.
- Legal right to work in New Zealand.

Check out our website to meet our Licensed Immigration Advisers and read our success stories.

www.migrationassociates.com

If you are interested in applying, please email your CV and cover letter along with any questions to jessica.baker@migrationassociates.co.nz



Immigration Adviser Support

If you're at the beginning stages of an immigration advice career and want to benefit from access to well-developed processes, support from licensed colleagues and a supervisor who has over 15 years of immigration experience to share, then we have a full-time role that you should look at!

FRENZ International is a well-established and growing recruitment and immigration company that specialises in dairy farming and construction located in Auckland CBD but with clients throughout NZ.

We are looking for a professional and energetic individual with plenty of initiative, good task management and attention to detail to come into an established role.

This role works closely with the advisers:

- Compiling and helping to draft documentation for submission
- Engaging with key immigration contacts on behalf of the adviser
- Interacting with Immigration NZ, Immigration candidates and potential employers

Additional assistance with overall company administrative functions including:

- Researching markets and instructions
- Capturing and updating key client information
- Helping ensure that the process steps and document collection is on track
- Account input and invoice generation
- Assisting with creation and distribution of letters, ads, newsletters and emails
- Assisting with various employment related tasks
- Answering and conversing with clients calling in

You'll enjoy this role if you're

- self-motivated but able to work collaboratively
- thorough and practical
- curious with a drive to learn and an enjoyment in thinking outside the box
- an effective listener who is comfortable in engaging, through verbal and written communications, in a way that is personable but which achieves objectives while valuing your or the client's time
- able to prioritise tasks and work concurrently where required/logical to do so
- familiar with the construction or health care industry
- able to speak a second language (this is an advantage)

You must be:

- already enrolled in an immigration graduate diploma, or hold a provisional license
- organised, conscientious and articulate.
- a NZ citizen or resident visa holder

We offer you:

- access to tested systems, practices, existing clients and precedents to give you a unique advantage on your way to becoming a knowledgeable and trusted adviser
- a competitive salary
- career development and room to grow within our organisation.
- IAA supervision from an experienced adviser

If you're interested, please send your CV and/or queries to tammy@frenz.co.nz

REMINDER - USEFUL INFORMATION

Christchurch Office

The expansion of Christchurch has resulted in the establishment of two processing offices. Christchurch 1, is the office responsible for other temporary entry work visa products such as Specific Purpose, Religious Workers and Variation of Conditions. Any queries for these products can continue to go to CHCHTA@mbie.govt.nz.

Christchurch 2 are responsible for the lead and processing on the Accredited Employer Work Visa categories, including Employer Accreditation, Job Check and Work Visas. You can send any AEWV queries to AEWVChristchurchTA@mbie.govt.nz.

IT Issues

If you experience IT issues with the INZ system, email iccemployerenquiry@mbie.govt.nz regarding this issue. This mailbox specialises in IT issues regarding MBIE systems.

Immigration Call Centre

The INZ contact centre are also fully trained to assist with IT system queries and should be able to escalate the system error to the appropriate person if necessary. This email inbox is more for general, and application specific technical queries related to Accredited Employer Work Visa instructions. The email address to email ICC is adviserenuquiries@mbie.govt.nz

LIA/Lawyer service numbers for INZ enquiries:

Where	Number
Within Auckland	0800 542 469
Within Wellington	04 910 9923
From any other location, including from overseas:	09 969 1464

The service is available from 8 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday.

Contact Centre phone numbers for the dedicated employer line:

Where	Number
Contact Centre (Toll-free from NZ landlines only)	0508 967 569
Auckland	09 969 1458
Wellington	04 910 9916

Please note for requests for priority processing of AEWV email: EmploymentVisaEscalations@mbie.govt.nz

Please include in the email:

- full name and date of birth
- details of anyone included in the application, like partner or dependent child
- passport number
- application number
- INZ client number, if known
- an explanation of why the processing of the application should be escalated.

The Parent Category Expression of Interest Update Form to be emailed to: EOIupdate@mbie.govt.nz

HANDY LINKS

Green List roles | Immigration New Zealand -[Click here](#)

Information about Specific Purpose Work Visa | Immigration New Zealand -[Click here](#)

Information about Partner of a Worker Work Visa | Immigration New Zealand -[Click here](#)

Working Holiday Visas | INZ -[Click here](#)

Visa Escalation | INZ -[Click here](#)

How a Skilled Migrant Category expression of interest expires | INZ -[Click here](#)

Online Services | INZ -[Click here](#)

Explore visa options for living permanently | INZ -[Click here](#)

Parent Resident Visa restarts | INZ -[Click here](#)

Sponsorship for the Parent Resident Visa | INZ -[Click here](#)

Customer Refund Request Form (INZ 1183) (immigration.govt.nz)-[Click here](#)

PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF ENEWS

Previous editions of the eNews can be found once you have logged in, under the Member Resources Card, click on the eNews Publications link.

Members can email secretary@nzami.co.nz if you would like to include an article in the eNews publications, we welcome all members to contribute, share success stories or even provide insight/learnings on a particular aspect on immigration.

THE NZAMI LOGO

You are entitled to use the NZAMI logo on your website, business cards and other marketing material.

Please read Regulation 5 - [Regulation 5 - NZAMI Branding](#), to ensure that you use the logo within the guidelines set by NZAMI.

To find the logo in either the jpeg or png format, please follow the below steps:

Login to your member dashboard

- On the 'Member Resources' Card
- Select the 'General' link (in blue)

Please note the views expressed in articles not produced by NZAMI Board members are those of the writer concerned and do not necessarily reflect the position of NZAMI.

NZAMI uses its best diligence to ensure the accuracy of the material contained herein. However, such does not purport to constitute immigration advice as defined in The Immigration Advisers Licensing Act 2007. The Association accepts no liability for any loss, whether actual or anticipated, suffered by any person or organisation as a result of reliance upon the facts or opinions expressed herein. Readers are advised to take independent advice before acting on specific matters relevant to their own situation.

To view your CPD records:

- Login to your member/non-member dashboard
- On the 'My CPD' Card
- Select the 'View my CPD History' link (in blue)
- This will direct you to your CPD records


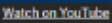
To update your address details:

- Login to your member/non-member dashboard
- On the 'Navigation' Card
- Select the 'Addresses' link (in blue)

To access the MP4 recording:

- Login to your member/non-member dashboard
- Scroll down to the 'Navigation' Card
- Select the 'Tickets' link (in blue)
- Select the heading of the MP4 recording
- This will direct you to the recording page
- Scroll down the page for the video and speaker presentations

If you have purchased a MP4 recording after the live event, the recording is available straight after the purchase.

Pls note - Depending on the format of the video, they either play through our website by clicking the play  button or click on the "watch on YouTube"  link.