

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2021



Tēnā koutou,

The Cerebral Palsy Society (CPS) has been New Zealand's primary advocate and supporter of people with cerebral palsy for more than 70 years. Over that time, our purpose has remained unchanged – to ensure that no person with cerebral palsy is alone on their journey.

The organisation has gone through a period of significant change over the past year. These changes didn't come without their challenges. Many of you will have seen the statement the Board released regarding investment decisions to ensure Society funds are invested in an orthodox manner and directed where they should be – that is to you, the members.

CPS is now in a phase of rebuilding, which brings endless opportunities to become a bold, first-class charity, with our members at the centre of all our decisions. Clare and her team have provided invaluable input to board discussions and together, we have developed a new business strategy, which provides much-needed direction for everyone.

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We recognise that financial assistance is an important offering for our members. As such, we have improved our grants process and streamlined the old voucher system with new e-cards. This makes our funding systems more flexible and accessible for all members and reduces the pressure on administrative tasks for the CPS team.

We are also happy to report that our managed investment portfolio is doing well with the Society in an excellent financial position moving forward.

Advocacy and the incorporation of tikanga and te reo are going to be a key focus area going forward. Board director Renata Kotua is making fantastic progress in developing a relevant term for Cerebral Palsy in te reo.


The passion and commitment shown over this past year in some tricky circumstances has been inspiring. While our larger face to face events could not go ahead due to the Covid-19 risks, virtual events have become popular with the membership. The team aims to provide opportunities for members to engage and socialize in the virtual world as much as possible. Thanks to everyone who puts in the time and effort to coordinate and run these events, and those that attend.

I am extremely proud to be part of the current board team and believe transparency and good diverse governance is the key to achieve the goals of the CPS now and into the future.

Thank you all for coming on this journey with us – we can't wait to see what we can achieve together!

Ngā mihi nui
Emma Lovett – CPS Chair

We would like to sincerely thank Electionz for their generous assistance this year in the implementation and running of the virtual AGM. Moving the AGM to be managed online will enable members to cast their vote securely and efficiently ahead of time. A webinar event on the day of the AGM also means we can plan around covid restrictions regardless of levels.



**Cerebral
Palsy Society**
freedom & choice