



New Zealand  
Teachers Council

*Te Pouherenga Kaiako o Aotearoa*

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

September 2008



Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou  
Warm greetings to you all

### Peak Practising Certificate Renewal

At this stage Council registration staff are ready and waiting for the big increase in the numbers of applications that should already be here because this is our peak renewal period. Almost 10,000 teachers' practising certificates expire between September and the end of this year.

To ensure applications are received, processed and approved in a timely manner and before the expiry of the teacher's current practising certificate, we send a reminder letter three months before expiry by email or post to the address details we have.

For teachers whose practising certificate expires in the period of 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> October 2008 and where we had an email address, their reminder was included in the information about enrolling for elections and using electronic voting. The Returning Officer has informed us that significant numbers of these emails are yet to be opened.

**It is very important that all professional leaders ensure their school/centre registration database is now checked. All teachers employed in teaching positions in their school/centre whose practising certificate expires prior to the end of 2008 should have already sent in an application.**

The Council always sends an acknowledgement letter on receipt of an application so a professional leader can ask any of their staff members for their copy. Applications are usually processed and approved within four weeks of the date of that letter. The only exception is if the Council is waiting for an applicant to provide some further information.

Your assistance with getting in the registration applications still outstanding is appreciated.

## Consultation on the draft Registered Teacher Criteria

There has been a good response so far from centres and schools to our consultation on the draft Registered Teacher Criteria. The consultation closes on 10th October. I am sure many of you have meetings planned before term ends on 26<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the Criteria and complete the feed back form. The documents are available either on request to [alastair.mclean@teacherscouncil.govt.nz](mailto:alastair.mclean@teacherscouncil.govt.nz) or from our website <http://www.teacherscouncil.govt.nz/policy/consultation.stm>. We look forward to receiving your responses.

## 2008 Council Election for Sector Representatives and Principals

I would be grateful if you would pass this message on to teachers in your institution:

### [PLEASE VOTE NOW](#)

The Election is now well underway. Voting opened on 1st September 2008. Thank you to those professional leaders and teachers who have voted already. We are also appreciative of the positive messages concerning the ease of the e-vote process. For those who did not opt to e-vote, you should have received your voting papers by mail. If you have not received your e-vote email (only if you registered to e-vote) or your voting papers, please contact:

**Warwick Lampp | Returning Officer – New Zealand Teachers Council**

**Election Hotline 0508 666 336 | [electionz.com](http://electionz.com) Ltd**

Level 1, 506 Wairakei Rd, Christchurch | PO Box 3138, Christchurch 8140

**P** +64 3 377 3530 | **F** +64 3 377 1474 | **M** 021 498 517

**E** [wlampp@electionz.com](mailto:wlampp@electionz.com) | **W** [www.electionz.com](http://www.electionz.com)

## Voting closes at noon 1st October 2008

## World Teachers Day Conference 31st October

Once again, the Teachers Council is marking World Teachers' Day in New Zealand by hosting a one day conference for teachers – and this year, particularly for professional leaders. We aim to give priority places to those centres and schools who have participated in our consultation on the draft Registered Teacher Criteria.

The theme of the conference will centre on **'the role of a teacher in the 21<sup>st</sup> century in Aotearoa New Zealand'**. We are hoping for some lively debate on issues related to this theme.

Invitations will be issued around the middle of September.

Apart from the conference, we hope you will also remember to celebrate World Teachers' Day in some way with your teachers. The Education International theme every year is *Teachers Matter!* Promotional material is available on their website.

### **In Conclusion**

The Council is now in its eighth year of operation and we have a number of professional and operational projects well underway to improve services to teachers and the wider profession. A brief summary of these projects can be viewed on our website. Please feel welcome to be in touch on any issues you may wish to raise with me. You may contact me at [peter.lind@teacherscouncil.govt.nz](mailto:peter.lind@teacherscouncil.govt.nz).

Kind regards

**Dr Peter Lind**  
**Director**