



President's Report 2017

Welcome to everyone attending the 2017 AGM for the Cerebral Palsy Society of NZ Inc. Special thanks to our life members Pauline Angus, Florence Hutchins, Glenis Lobb, June and Neil McCrorie and Margaret Thomson and to all members here today- thank you for coming in person. I would also like to acknowledge those members who are unable to attend.

We have had a busy year, and I hope to summarise what we have been up to.

Essential Assets Limited (EAL)

Our wholly owned subsidiary, Essential Assets Ltd (EAL) has had another steady and successful year of operation, generating a Net Profit (after payments to the Cerebral Palsy Society) of \$1.056m, consistent with the \$1.052m Net Profit in the previous year. Total Assets invested are now \$26.6m compared with \$26.2m in the previous year.

Having sold the last Community Living property at the end of last financial year this was the first full year of having all assets invested by our investment managers, First NZ Capital and BNZ. Whilst there have been periods of volatility in the global equity markets, EAL has been well placed to take advantage of opportunities to generate positive returns.

During the latter part of the year, the Board of EAL made the decision to consolidate the investment management with First NZ Capital. Whilst at year-end all funds and investments have been transferred to First NZ Capital we are going through a careful and timed process to rebalance the portfolio according to our agreed Statements of Investment Policy and Objectives (SIPO). This is likely to be completed in the first half of the new financial year.

Having a single investment manager is expected to deliver significant benefits to EAL. It will avoid the inefficiencies of duplicated investments, provide for a single cohesive investment strategy and with the active investment management from First NZ Capital provide EAL the opportunity to maximise returns on a risk-adjusted basis.

Global markets are expected to remain volatile given geopolitical uncertainty on various fronts and EAL will be exposed to that volatility. The Board of EAL has a conservative balanced portfolio plus other risk mitigation policies in place to limit the effects that any volatility will have on the value of its investments.

The Board of EAL remains focussed to deliver the income requirements to the Cerebral Palsy Society and generate sustainable positive returns to its portfolio to provide for the long-term future of the Society and its members.

The time, work, effort and results delivered by the Directors of EAL -Daniel Aldersley, Robyn Stent and Dave Thomas needs to be formally acknowledged.

Cerebral Investments Limited (CIL)

For the year ended 30 June 2017, the combined result for the CIL Group of Investment companies is a Net Loss of \$(22,810), subject to final Auditor confirmation.

- We are holding 2 Whangaparaoa properties, one of which has imminent plans for resale and the other property we are in the early consenting stages for planned sub-division development. Therefore no income return has yet to be realised from these investment properties.
- Our new Landscaping business start-up is starting to record strong results.
 - Sales Income for the first 6 months of the financial year were \$243k while the second 6 months has achieved \$422k, a 73% increase.
 - Strong Sales results have been maintained over subsequent winter months.
 - Improving Gross Profit Margins also reflect greater work efficiencies in our landscaping crews.
 - The first 6 months produced a Net Loss of \$(16)k whilst the second 6 month period was a turnaround Net Profit of some \$84k.
- Sufficient Cash on hand to manage the current stages of our property investment holdings.
- Over the coming months we will be looking at further opportunities.

Programmes

We continue to work improving our programmes based on feedback from our members. During the past year we have:

- Approved 67 grants for a range of creative and innovative ideas requested by the members.
- Provided 345 members with 6,900 getThisandThat vouchers valued at \$42,348.(increase of 11% members)
- Provided 1,425 membership applications with 57,000 getOutThere vouchers valued at \$207,180.
- Provided 477 membership applications with 23,850 getPhysical vouchers valued at \$107,355.
- Provided 13 members with getStructured opportunities
- Provided 20 members with getUpAgain support
- Provided 71 trikes and we are actively looking at walking trikes to assist our membership.

Membership

Membership continues to grow. We currently have 1577 members with around 6000 members when we include families. It is also positive to see an increasing number of members making use of the multi-year membership.

Fundraising

The Cerebral Palsy Society is committed to ensuring the ongoing viability and sustainability of our organisation and future proofing the Society. We have a healthy asset base (due to the exceptional management by this and previous Boards.) If we

keep spending and growing the way we are at present, we will have used all our assets up within the next decade.

We want to provide better services to our members and new innovative opportunities. In order to do this, we need to raise funds so we do not deplete our current asset base. Steptember was the initial fundraising platform and we are now focusing on fundraising with Events; grants and working with corporates.

- **Steptember** - We are again delighted by the success of Steptember in 2017. New Zealand was the second highest achiever in the world (despite other countries having many years of operation). The Steptember success has buoyed our fundraising efforts and inspired many members to become more active and engaged. Steptember 2017 has again surpassed our expectation for 2017 and we are excitedly waiting to announce the final total. The funds raised from Steptember are committed to bringing out Karen Pape and Pia Stampe in March; working with young people about their rights for respite and care; parent meetings and trainings; encouraging young people in more adventurous Respite (Tenacious and camps) as well as continuing our current programmes.

Other Services for members with Cerebral Palsy

We have continued to develop the initiatives we started all based on member's prioritisation.

Research

We held our second Researcher's Day with a number of researchers and members contributing to a productive day with recommendations to continue enhancing opportunities for people to work collaboratively together. We also have established a Member's Research Committee to oversee proposed research to identify to fund what is considered useful research for members.

CP Day 2017

focused on "I AM HERE" – with a number of morning teas in several different locations around the country sharing morning tea and social media. This went very well and we hope to expand the use of social media for this event in 2018 to include more New Zealanders with CP in regional and rural locations

Events

We are very grateful to the members' Events Committees in Auckland and Christchurch for their work in redefining the events that are of interest to members (in their Region) and the style of those events. We have increased the number of events and changed the range of events - all based on members' feedback.

Youth Alliance (YA)

We have established two Youth Alliance groups in Auckland and Christchurch. The Christchurch YA is working with PHAB and looking at access issues around Christchurch whilst the Auckland YA is looking at providing advice for Respite; developing a Code of Conduct and initiating work in youth transitions.

Respite

CPS has initiated a number of meetings involving parents, Ministries and providers looking at the options for Respite for young people. Currently, we have four working parties looking at a range of innovative ideas and different concepts.

Working with other organisations who work with people with physical disabilities.

CPS has established a consortium of physical disability organisations increasing our opportunity to work together around Advocacy, Employment and the youth sector. This is a long-term project hoping to improve outcomes across the sector.

Website

There has been a major commitment to improving our website' accessibility, utilisation and functionality. This will also assist us with projects we are working on such as families with newly diagnosed children and parents of children with CP.

Financials

The financial statements reflects the strong returns received of investments throughout the year and acknowledges the strengths of the investment companies.

Board

Again, I wish to thank the CPS Board for their time, treasure and talent. I appreciate the collegiality, wise direction and strong work ethic of our voluntary Board of Directors over the past twelve months. The Board enhanced the strategic plan this year focusing on the four main areas. These are all included in your information you have received for the AGM.

Members - ensuring all programmes and services are developed with the intent of empowering members to enhance their lives

Funding - to ensure ongoing viability, sustainability and growth to support our asset base

Advocacy - to define strategies for the Society that empower members (based on clarification of purpose and core set of values)

People - to ensure members are empowered to enhance their own lives

Office

On behalf of the Board (and members), I want to recognise and sincerely thank the staff/team within the Society Offices - they keep the key services, programmes and ideas running smoothly. Thank you to our interns - Travis, Grace and Sid for their work this year. Special thanks to Michael, Matt, Amy, Paul, Bronwyn, Sarah, Shelly, and Gilli. Thank you all for your tireless dedication and commitment to the Cerebral Palsy Society - we really appreciate it.

Peter Fergusson, Chairman