

Kia ora

2019 has been SIBA's tenth year, a milestone year that we've used to take stock and think about SIBA's future, while continuing the initiatives that have seen SIBA well placed within New Zealand's geospatial environment.



In our ten years so far, we have established ourselves firmly as an industry voice; the popular NZSEA awards are in their 6th year; and our annual Talk Geospatial breakfast series continue to connect and grow the industry around the country.

Our focus has been as always on growing relationships with communities in our industry and giving them assistance with funding activities and events. We've supported communities such as Emerging Spatial Professionals, New Zealand GIS for Emergency Management (NZGIS4EM), The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), and Women in Spatial. A highlight this year was The New Zealand Geospatial Research Conference which took place in Queenstown in September.

We continue to work alongside our partner organisations S+SNZ, LINZ and SIBA | GITA and NZTech.

Meanwhile, wider ICT technologies and industries have been converging as well as evolving. SIBA is in a strong position to capitalise on closer alignments.

With these initiatives and activities firmly in place, this year the executive committee has turned its attention and energy to designing SIBA's future.

With support from consultant Alma Hong and NZTech CEO Graeme Muller, the executive committee has been assessing our future as an organisation and the ways in which we can deliver on our objectives of advancing, sustaining, and promoting the spatial industry, to the benefit of all our members.

At our AGM we presented our findings to the members. They gave their unanimous support for the option of SIBA transitioning from an incorporated society to a community under NZTech, and for us to develop a transition strategy in the new year. We believe as an NZTech community SIBA will be able to concentrate its efforts and pick up the pace with growing spatial around the country.

This transition will go to vote in the first quarter of 2020.

Thank you for your continued support over 2019 and please get in touch if you wish to discuss any aspect of the exciting transition that has been proposed.

Wishing you all a most excellent holiday and new year.

Ngā mihi

Anne