



# EARLY EDUCATION FEDERATION

Barnardos NZ, Bethlehem Tertiary Institute, Christian Early Childhood Education Association of Aotearoa, Early Intervention Association of Aotearoa/NZ, Federation of Rudolf Steiner Waldorf Schools in NZ, Hospital Play Specialists Association of Aotearoa/NZ, Montessori Aotearoa NZ, National Association of ECE Directors in Universities, NZEI Te Riu Roa, NZ Kindergartens – Te Putahi Kura Puhou o Aotearoa, NZ Playcentre Federation, Te Aho O Te Kura Pounamu/The Correspondence School, Te Rito Maioha Early Childhood New Zealand, Te Wananga o Aotearoa, The Open Polytechnic, World Organisation for Early Childhood Education OMEP Aotearoa/NZ.

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*The symbol of the Early Education Federation is a woven mat. This represents the weaving together of diverse groups with their own unique philosophy and structure - united by similar aims, promoting quality Early Childhood Education and supporting families/whanau in Aotearoa New Zealand.*

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# Early Education Federation

## *Annual Report* 2017/2018

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## Annual Report 2017/2018

### *The Federation's purpose and focus for 2018*

In its report to the 2017 Annual General Meeting, the Secretariat Sub-committee recommended that a proposal be put to the December Council meeting for discussion to clarify the Federation's purpose and establish the focus for the organisation for the year ahead.

At the September Council meeting, delegates began this process by establishing the agreed values of the organisation. The meeting then discussed the Federation's strengths and limitations and drew up some proposals for how to move forward.

A paper was put to the December Council meeting by the Chairperson. This set out the proposed focus for the Federation for coming year. As a result, delegates agreed to focus on the following objectives from the Federation's Constitution:

- to provide a forum for the promotion and support of activities and campaigns that foster the health and wellbeing and are in the best interests of children and their families/whānau
- to network and share information that supports and promotes the objects of the Early Education Federation
- to identify and provide a platform for debate and discussion on issues of interest and importance to the sector
- to foster and support the interest of all the Early Education Federation members.

### **Revised Constitution registered**

The Constitution was revised at the 2016 Annual General Meeting. A further amendment was made at the 2017 Annual General Meeting and the revised Constitution was approved by the Registrar of Incorporated Societies in September.

### *Issues of particular interest to members 2017/2018*

#### **Coalition Government Early Childhood policies and approach**

In December, after the Election, delegates discussed the new government's shift in focus and priorities and the possible impact on the sector. At the meeting it was agreed that the sector should support the new more collaborative approach, and that Federation members would engage in discussions on the development of a *Statement of National Education and Learning Priorities (the NELP)*.

In June 2018, the Federation wrote to the Minister of Education congratulating him on the new more collaborative approach, and let him know that Federation members are looking forward to future engagement in the process of change. An invitation was also sent to both Minister Martin and Minister Hipkins to attend the September meeting of the Federation but neither could attend.

#### **Minister's Advisory Group progress**

At the June 2018 Council meeting, Carmen Dalli (Chairperson of the Ministerial Advisory Group on Early Learning) reported to the Council on the process for development of a draft Strategic Plan, and Susan Foster-Cohen reported on the cross-sector Education Summit she had attended in Christchurch in May.

#### **Other issues discussed at Council meetings**

Delegates also shared information and views about a number of other issues at Council meetings and via email throughout the year:

- The Minister's National Education and Learning Priorities
- Communities of Learning

- Professional development for implementing the updated Te Whāriki
- Learning Support changes
- Ministry of Education's Mental Health Social Investment Initiatives
- Te Rāngai Kāhui Ako ā-Iwi
- Ministry of Education's data on workforce supply
- Teacher-led Innovation Fund
- Review of Tomorrows Schools
- Mental Health Social Investment Initiatives
- Education Review Office's evaluation of its methodology.
- Education Review Office data collection on the new Te Whariki professional development programme
- Change in focus of the Education Review Office's pre review self-audit process
- Proposal to move responsibility for early learning professional development to the Education Council
- Home-based Review
- New government's review of cohort entry policy
- Children's advocacy community media release
- Speech language therapy package roll out
- Tuia Mātauranga – First Encounters 250 commemorations
- Education summits 2018
- Targeted funding for disadvantaged
- Ministry of Education workforce strategy
- Consideration of location of early childhood services in regard to release of sexual offenders into the community

## **Membership**

The following organisations were members of the Federation during this year:

- Barnardos New Zealand
- Bethlehem Tertiary Institute
- Christian Early Childhood Education Association of Aotearoa
- Early Intervention Association of Aotearoa NZ
- Federation of Rudolf Steiner Waldorf Schools in NZ
- Hospital Play Specialists Association of Aotearoa/NZ
- Montessori Aotearoa NZ
- National Association of ECE Directors in Universities
- NZEI – Te Riu Roa
- NZ Kindergartens – Te Putahi Kura Puhou o Aotearoa
- NZ Playcentre Federation
- Te Aho O Te Kura Pounamu/The Correspondence School
- Te Rito Maioha – Early Childhood New New Zealand
- Te Wānanga o Aotearoa
- The Open Polytechnic NZ
- World Organisation for Early Childhood Education OMEP Aotearoa/NZ

## **The Council**

### **Council members**

Council members were elected for the year at the Annual General Meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Delegates who attended meetings as representatives of the Federation member organisations during the year were:

•Barnardos NZ	- Heather Taylor
•BTI	- Thelma Chapman
•CECEAA	- Thelma Chapman
•EIAANZ	- Susan Foster-Cohen, Lee Jones
•FRSWSNZ	- Karen Affleck
•HPSANZ	- Marianne Kayes, Nicky Woollaston
•MANZ	- Cathy Wilson
•NA of ECD	- Sue Cherrington, Carmen Dalli, Mary Jane Shuker
•NZEI/TRR	- Charmaine Thomson, Donna Eden, Sandie Burn,
•NZK	- Jacinta Blank
•NZPF	- Susan Bailey, Ruth Jones
•TAoTKP/TCS	- Annie Malir
•TRM/ECNZ	- Sophie Hamilton, Emma Madison-Ross
•TWOA	- Tracey Mansell
•The Open Polytechnic NZ	- Liz Everiss, Sonja Rosewarne
•OMEP A/NZ	- Juvena Jalal, Diti Hill, Ann Pairman

### **Council Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson**

At the Annual General Meeting in September 2017, Jacinta Blank was elected as the Chairperson and Tracey Mansell was elected as the Deputy Chairperson for the 2018 year. Jacinta however, resigned from the office of chairperson at the end of 2017 and Tracey Mansell was performed the role of Chairperson for the 2018 year.

### **Council Meetings**

Four meetings of the Council were held during the year, one in September 2017, one in December 2017, one in March 2018 and one in June 2018. At the March meeting it was agreed that Council meetings would be held the day before the Ministry of Education's Early Childhood Advisory Committee (ECAC) meetings instead of the day after, for the rest of the year.

It was also agreed that ECAC representatives would send out minutes of previous ECAC meetings to Federation delegates as soon as they became available, and that agendas for the next meeting, would be sent to the Secretary to send out as soon as they are available. This was intended to give the Federation members as much opportunity as possible to consider and issues prior to ECAC meetings.

At the June 2018 Council meeting, delegates discussed items on the agenda for the ECAC meeting the next day and developed questions and issues to raise.

At the beginning of 2018, NZEI notified the Federation that they could no longer offer a venue for the Federation to meet. For the March and June meetings this year, National Associations of EC Directors in Universities delegates have arranged for venues at Victoria University.

### **Communications**

The Secretary sent out regular memos and emails reporting on outcomes of meetings, notifying members of upcoming meetings and issues for discussion and consulting members on issues between meetings.

Members Updates containing a collation of recent announcements, media releases, upcoming events and links to relevant articles and research, were sent out to members on a regular basis throughout the year.