

# DIVISION REPORT

September 2020

## Aotearoa NZ ASID Division Report

The past month has been a challenge for all New Zealanders with the country going into Level 3 lock down again in August in the Auckland region and Level 2 in the rest of the country. It is really pleasing to know that although life is more restricted there are a number of reports from members of the excellent support people with intellectual disabilities are continuing to receive despite the impact of the pandemic on everyone's lives. At our recent division meeting it was agreed that it would be desirable for ASID to facilitate some forums where some of these stories could be shared. The first of these will take place in the Auckland region once lock down has been lifted. The division is organizing a number of webinars to keep members interested and involved. Details of these webinars will be listed on the ASID website when they are finalised.

Members may be interested to read the sobering, recently released report by New Zealand Chief Ombudsman, Peter Boshier entitled *Off the Record: An investigation into the Ministry of Health's collection, use, and reporting of information about the deaths of people with intellectual disabilities*. The link to this report is <https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/resources/off-the-record>.

Our division extends our best wishes to our friends and colleagues in Australia and look forward to the time we can meet up in person again at ASID conferences.



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