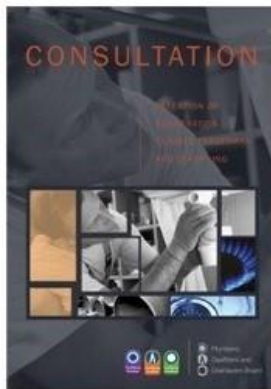


TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **Passive or Aggressive**

IN OTHER NEWS

Reminder



Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board Consultation

Just a quick reminder that today is the last day for submissions regarding the Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board consultation on Classes of Registration.

It's vitally important you have your say.

You can read the Federation's submission on the Plumbers Forum at:

www.plumbers.co.nz/forum/fellow-practitioners-update/41/federation-submission-to-the-pgdb-consultation-on-classes-of-registration-2018/2292

Passive or Aggressive



This week we had a supporter ask us what's next on the agenda and if it is going to be passive or aggressive? This is a hard question to answer when the entire industry is reliant on other organisations where we as an industry

have no say. Our reactions are dependent on their actions or non actions. Let's look at a few examples.

The Skills Organisation is responsible for industry training, yet they haven't consulted with the industry for quite some time. They have been chipping away doing what they want for months. The industry has no final say in what happens and when it does speak up it has generally been ignored by The Skills Organisation.

Obviously there is the Tertiary Education Council who has been letting the Skills Organisation away with blue murder and the New Zealand Qualifications Authority who don't seem to have been taking much interest either.

The Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment are responsible for administering the Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Act 20006 but seem to be lost in their flash tax payer funded offices. The review of the Act is now five years overdue and there have been recommendations by the industry and the Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board but these were years ago now, so the entire review would need to be started afresh as there has been a lot of water under the bridge over the last few years.

The Ministry is also responsible for advising the Minister of Building and Construction on all things to do with plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying. They are also to liaise with industry groups but that's been nonexistent as well.

The Government are meant to be involved too, but the last substantial issue they dealt with was when the made lawful that which was unlawful in the Plumbers Gasfitters an Drainlayers Amendment Bill – we are sure you recall the time they implemented

/msg11270# msg11270

You can give your support to the Federation by completing the feedback form on line direct to the Board at:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/DGMXMN5

Answer "No" to question 1.

Answer "I support the Federations view" for question 2.

Answer "Yes" to question 3

Answer "I support the Federations view" for question 4.

Complete the rest of the form and submit it to the Board.

Here's hoping we get some go forward on this issue.

Can you answer these questions?

We are after your feedback and thoughts.

Who has ultimate responsibility for the setting and vetting of exam questions?

If a question is wrong who can correct it?

How long are you prepared to wait for change in the industry?

Should the industry position its self to take a form of strike action to force change?

Would you be prepared to help form a new Governance Board for the industry?

In forming a new Board

retrospective legislation to save the PGDB having to pay out over a million dollars taken from industry illegally. This was a slap down of the industry in an attempt by them to show they were still in charge and all it did was expose the Government's incompetence. It was certainly a sledge hammer to crack a walnut scenario.

What about members of the National Party serving on the Regulation Review Committee making recommendations and then going into the House and voting against their own recommendations. We believe the Government should be interested in the industry but alas it seems like a fairy tale - a Government that is interested in progressing the industry. **Nine years of nothing from National and we are off to a flying start of the same from the Labour lead Coalition.**

You know the stupid thing about the entire situation is that there are hundreds if not thousands of people in the industry that want to make change and progress, but they are being held back by the actions and inactions of others.

All these Government departments on big budgets with employees with bucket loads of university degrees and they are too stupid to realise when an industry wants to help itself. Too busy to sit around a table and ask what we as an industry need. Then they are too tied up in bureaucratic bullshit to implement anything in a time span that is relevant or timely enough to make a difference.

All their pissing around has resulted in poor training, lack of support for apprentices, lack of tradespeople prepared to take on apprentices and effectively they have dragged our industry from being one of the best in the world to one which is going backwards. The old saying of too many cooks spoils the broth comes to mind.

Give the Federation and industry even a tenth of the budget being wasted by the organisations listed above and watch what can be done with passion and common sense.

The question must be asked who is going to effect change? Do we keep wasting money fighting the incompetence or do we say "your problem" and walk away. If the Government and their departments won't give the industry control of its own direction and the industry has no control then what an absolute waste of decades of training and developing of plumbing gasfitting and drainlaying skills in New Zealand.

Let's make progress happen. Go and ask your Member of Parliament what's happening with the plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying industry. If you don't have time then send them an email or text. Do it every week if need be until they are forced to take action. We shouldn't have to take this type of action but as the saying goes not even duct tape can fix stupid.

from the industry for
the industry what
organisation would
you mirror or would
you start afresh?

Please send your
thoughts to
wal.gordon@xtra.co.nz

While you're at it – ask where our Minister is? She appears to be missing in action. We are running a poor second to the other responsibilities she has. Perhaps we just aren't as glamorous. Either way it isn't good enough for her not to front and EXPLAIN to those of us paying her wages through taxed exactly what she is doing about the Review of the Act, the extreme shortage in our industry and the lack of "go forward".

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