CCS Disability Action and Amputees Federation of New Zealand sign historic Memorandum of Understanding



Mark Bruce and Kim Willetts make the new partnership between the two notfor-profit organisations official.

On 15 September 2017 Mark Bruce, President of the Amputees Federation of New Zealand and Kim Willetts President of CCS Disability Action marked a new chapter in the two organisations' history.

The pair met in Christchurch to sign a Memorandum of Understanding which commits to connecting the respective members of both organisations with shared information at both a local and national level. The agreement also paves the way for joint efforts to advocate for societal changes on areas of mutual interest. Both organisations share a desire to see people with disabilities live good lives in the community.

The MOU promises to strengthen the reach and voice of both organisations.

"We are thrilled to partner with the Amputees Federation of New Zealand in this way. We believe our respective members have a number of shared concerns that together we can make greater progress on addressing. Issues like access in the built environment, ensuring people receive high-quality person-directed support services and can navigate the social systems which are there to ensure people with disabilities can lead a good, connected life in their local community," says Kim Willetts.

Mark Bruce shares this enthusiasm. "On behalf of our organisation, I'm excited to reach this point. I believe, by working together we can provide more effective support for our members and our communities," he explains.

About the Amputees Federation of New Zealand (AFNZ)

The Amputees Federation of New Zealand is a nationwide, non-government, not-for-profit, voluntary organisation that is governed by a National Executive elected by a National Council. Established in 1947, the organisation's primary purpose is to support and promote the welfare of all amputees, either independently or in liaison with the nine Regional Societies affiliated to AFNZ.

The Amputees Federation of New Zealand liaises closely with the NZ Artificial Limb Service to ensure that amputees receive the best possible service and in encouraging individual amputees to achieve personal goals.

To find out more go to www.af.org.nz

For news and events from around the country you can 'Like' the AFNZ Facebook page <u>www.facebook.com/Amputees-New-Zealand</u>

About CCS Disability Action

CCS Disability Action is a nationwide organisation that provides support, information and advocacy for people with a disability. CCS Disability Action has been advocating for disabled people to be included in the community since 1935.

CCS Disability Action currently provides support to 4,995 children, young people and adults through 18 branches, which operate from Northland to Invercargill. This support focuses on breaking down barriers to participation.

CCS Disability Action also runs the Mobility Parking scheme. As of 30 June 2016, this scheme supported more than 130,000 people to more easily access their local towns and facilities.

To find out more go to <u>www.ccsDisabilityAction.org.nz</u>

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