

InternetNZ Annual Report 2012-2013





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InternetNZ (Internet New Zealand Inc) is the open membership incorporated society, established to promote and protect the Internet in New Zealand.

InternetNZ has overall responsibility for the .nz domain name space, and is an advocate for the interests of Internet users and domain name registrants in New Zealand and overseas.

InternetNZ Overview

InternetNZ (Internet New Zealand Inc) is New Zealand's Internet advocacy organisation. The growing importance of the Internet in peoples' everyday lives is reflected in our mission – 'to protect and promote the Internet for New Zealand'. We envisage an open and uncaptureable Internet that drives New Zealand's social and economic development and benefits the wider community.

InternetNZ is the delegated manager for the .nz Internet country code and represents New Zealand at a global level through that role. This delegation is from the international organisation that administers the Internet naming system – ICANN.

InternetNZ is a non-profit open membership incorporated society, overseen by a Council elected by Members. We have two wholly-owned subsidiaries who ensure that .nz is run effectively and fairly – the Domain Name Commission (DNC) develops and enforces policies for the .nz domain name, and .nz Registry Services (NZRS) maintains and publishes the register of .nz names, and operates the Domain Name System for .nz.

President's Report



Frank March

One of InternetNZ's principal objectives is to 'represent the common interests of the wider New Zealand Internet community'. When InternetNZ was formed in 1995 it was reasonably clear what this meant. Although Internet use was rapidly increasing in the mid-nineties, particularly private and commercial use, the 'Internet community' was to a large extent a self-defined group of technical folk and enthusiasts.

Now that voluntary Internet use is approaching 85% of New Zealanders and the 'Internet of things' is just around the corner, it is far from clear that the 'wider Internet community' is distinct from the general population.

This was driven home to me during our member engagement sessions in March. We have an increasingly diverse membership many of whom are attracted to InternetNZ as a result of NetHui. Many of our new members expect InternetNZ to address the wide range of policy issues that arise through NetHui discussions – often these extend well beyond what a small organisation can be expected to manage.

Some have expressed disappointment that we are not taking on a wider range of issues. Given the critical importance of the Internet as a driver and enabler of social and economic activity, we need to look carefully at our priorities and our policy development processes to ensure that we more effectively involve our membership.

We also need to continue foster an 'ecology' of organisations with aligned objectives so that we are effective in influencing the work that others are doing where they have greater relevant expertise and capacity. In addition, Council has set itself over the next year or so the objective of re-examining our objects as an organisation.

The calendar year started with the visit from Sir Tim Berners-Lee who spoke about the need to maintain an open Internet. He emphasised that the capacity of the Internet to adapt and change is under threat from many directions: some commercial, some from government interference and some from sheer inertia due to the overwhelming success of the Internet itself. For these reasons, our core activities and priorities will need to continue to remain focussed on the Internet itself.

I would like to pay tribute to everyone who has contributed to another highly successful year for InternetNZ. In January, we farewelled Vikram Kumar after three productive years as our Chief Executive. At the time of writing we are still in the process of recruiting a replacement. I am delighted that Jordan Carter has so ably filled the CE role in an acting capacity. I thank Jordan and his team for the great work they are doing. My thanks also go to all of InternetNZ's Council and Board members for another year of effective work.

Finally I would like to again take this opportunity to thank you, the InternetNZ members, for your support and commitment to InternetNZ during another busy year.

Frank March

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank March', written in a cursive style.

President
InternetNZ



Jordan Carter

Chief Executive's Report

It is my pleasure and privilege as Acting Chief Executive to contribute to this year's Annual Report.

InternetNZ is a curious and important organisation. It is both the embodiment of an idea, and the provider of an important service.

The idea is deceptively simple. "The Internet is open and uncapturable," we say. An open infrastructure, developed in the 1960s and 70s with a deliberately decentralised and flexible design, the Internet has given rise to powerful forces for growth and change, and has challenged existing ways of living, working and entertaining ourselves – not always without cost.

These days the impact is global, and governments are beginning to pay much closer attention. Whether it is within New Zealand (the past year has seen proposals to legislate against harmful digital communications, and new interception legislation is under development) or in the global arena (witness governments' attempts to increase their role in Internet governance through the ITU, or the developing surveillance efforts in the United States), the Internet is front and centre stage for governments.

It's a challenging situation. As the impact of the Internet accelerates, it is bound to keep knocking into older concepts of control and of governance – of people, of ideas, of resources – that its very nature helps to undermine. The same features at the core of the Internet that collide with the old, are foundational to the new. New ideas, new services, new economic opportunities, new social connections emerge. All can flourish, evolve, die and be replaced without guardians decreeing what can and can't be permitted.

All this adds up to a picture where InternetNZ's role has to develop and grow. Governments have the power of law. It is up to those of us who understand the Internet, warts and all, to convince the State that the benefits of this innovation are greater than the costs – while being realistic about both. A wide range of other challenges to that vision abound. Our job is to be the voice of the Internet in the debates that will determine whether what we have today can be protected, and whether the innovations it allows continue to benefit all New Zealanders.

The service is our management of .nz. InternetNZ's funding base is generated by the capable management of the .nz domain name space. With our use of these funds carefully constrained by our Objects as a society and shaped by our obligations as a charity, InternetNZ has the chance to contribute to the task of keeping the Internet open and uncapturable in a wide variety of ways: by making suggestions of public and technical policy innovations, by providing some funding for community investment through grants and partnerships to aligned organisations, and by creating platforms like NetHui for people to talk through these issues themselves, and drive changes in their own organisations and communities.

Following sections of this report show just how wide the range of activity was in 2012/13. Under the leadership of Vikram Kumar for most of the year, the operating team contributed in many ways to InternetNZ's mission. It is a proud record of work, and my role in seeing through those plans for the closing part of the year was made easier by the quality of what had gone before.

Our obligation now, heading into the 2013/14 year and beyond, is to be clear about the work we are doing and to drive the best possible value from the resources that InternetNZ has access to. In doing that, we need to involve our members effectively, and reach out to the huge array of stakeholders that can help us bring our vision about – from network investors and ISPs through to community groups, other NGOs, small businesses, government departments, regulators, politicians and more.

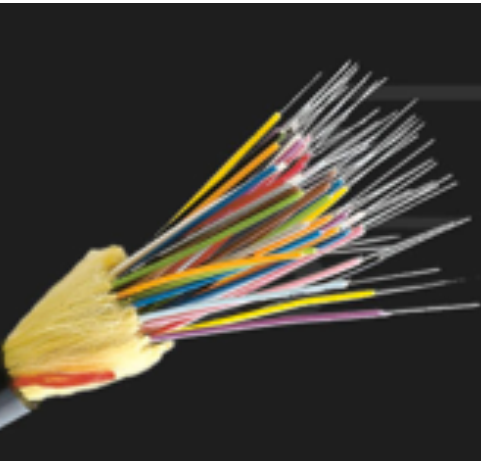
I look forward to contributing to that work as the year unfolds. I hope you do too.

Jordan Carter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jordan Carter', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chief Executive (Acting)
InternetNZ

Work Highlights 2012-2013



Unconstrained Broadband & Telco Regulation:

The Government's Ultra-Fast Broadband (UFB) and Rural Broadband (RBI) rollouts hit their straps in 2012-2013 with hundreds of kilometres of fibre laid and a number of new high-speed service offerings hitting the market.

As a strong supporter of the Government's efforts to accelerate the build out of fibre-to-the-home and improve rural broadband, we maintained our important watchdog function. Our gaze remained firmly fixed on the policy frameworks and regulatory decisions underpinning these once-in-a-generation infrastructure builds, with particular scrutiny reserved for the important UBA price review, the emerging 'copper/fibre' conundrum and pending review of the country's Telco Act.

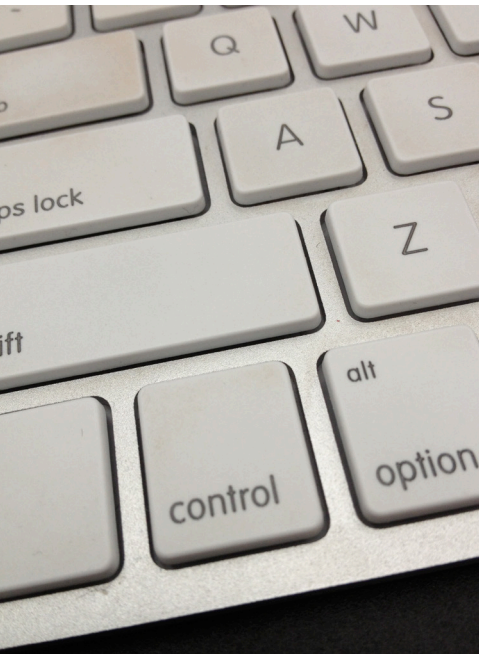
Digital Copyright & TPP:

As the Internet continues to grow and expand its reach, issues of digital copyright remain a talking point. We are steadfast in our view that enforcement of copyright in the digital realm should strike a fair balance between users' rights and the rights of content creators.

With the Copyright (Infringing File Sharing) Amendment Bill resolving the domestic debate until a review next year kicks off, our attention in 2012-2013 turned to intellectual property-related proposals in the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP). Despite being kept closely under wraps the proposals are understood to put at risk the Open Internet.

Not only have we maintained a visible presence at many of the TPPA negotiating rounds, we have taken the lead in forming the 'Fair Deal Coalition' - an international group that is socialising a global conversation on copyright in the TPP.





Submissions to Government:

We filed no fewer than 17 formal submissions in 2012-2013, including lengthy responses on demand-side broadband, the copper local loop and the UBA price review. Other notable submissions included those relating to Vodafone's acquisition of TelstraClear, Trans-Tasman roaming and the free-up of 700MHz radio spectrum.

A permanent record of all our submissions is available at <http://internetnz.net.nz/our-work/submissions>

Partnerships & Grants:

In 2012-2013, we continued our association with long-term partners NetSafe, Victoria University and the IPv6 Task Force and established new strategic partnerships with Creative Commons Aotearoa NZ, the 2020 Communications Trust and AUT University. We intend working much closer with these partners, exploring areas of mutual interest and developing closer operational ties.

2012/2013 also saw two dedicated funding rounds held – the Policy & Legal Funding Round and Community Investment Funding Round – and general grants funding was provided for an impressive range of Internet-related projects, including:

- Raising awareness of the barriers faced by blind and vision-impaired people using the Internet, and developing an Internet-enabled resource for those with cognitive disabilities.
- Facilitating New Zealand researchers to attend and present at international fora including the 9th International Workshop on Wireless Network Measurements, the IEEE International Conference on Communications and the 17th Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association Conference.
- Sponsoring conferences and events such as Girl Geek dinners, KiwiCon 6, the New Zealand Open Source Awards, NetSafe 2012 and the Australian Digital Alliance Copyright Forum.

Further information about grants can be found online at: <https://internetnz.net.nz/our-work/funding>



Workshops & Public Events:

Member and public participation is a vital part of our policy and advocacy work. A slate of workshops and events were held in 2012-2013 designed to harness and record the views and opinions of the wider community.

Technical folk gathered at the InTAC meet-up and number fanciers attended our Internet Statistics presentation. A meeting of ICT industry NGOs was held, as were workshops on the New Media and Cyber Bullying Bills.

The Parliamentary Internet Forum - a seminar series for MPs where they can learn more about the Internet - was revitalised, and public lectures with global Telco consultant Martin Geddes and inventor of the WWW Sir Tim Berners-Lee helped raise our profile in the eyes of the general public.



NetHui – Platform for Discussion:

Our flagship NetHui Conference is going from strength to strength. In July 2012, over 600 delegates from across the New Zealand community come together in Auckland and 150 gathered in Dunedin in September for a regional incarnation. Squarely focused on the impact of the Internet and how it is influencing and shaping our economy and our society, NetHui is unquestionably a platform for discussion. This year, NetHui is being held in Wellington and will explore the whys and wherefores of the 'Open Internet'.

www.nethui.org.nz



ANZIAs 2012:

InternetNZ and auDA (the Australian Domain Administration) co-held the fourth annual Australia and New Zealand Internet Awards in October 2012, recognising excellence in both countries' development and use of the Internet. Testament to the strength and vitality of the local ICT scene New Zealand organisations were strongly represented, taking out four of the six Award categories!

GNS Science's 'GeoNet Rapid' earthquake monitoring initiative won the Information category. Wellington-based Aura RedEye Security's 'RedShield' cyber-defence service won the Security & Privacy category. The 2020 Communications Trust's 'Mobile Stepping Up' initiative won the Internet Access & Digital Skills category, and an innovative English-Maori translation app from Auckland-based Hika Group won the Diversity category. The New Zealand Internet Task Force and Land Information New Zealand were Highly Commended in their respective categories.

www.internetawards.co.nz

Thought Leader:

In 2012-2013, we commissioned a number of initiatives looking at technical and economic aspects of the New Zealand Internet. Exploratory work was undertaken on the potential creation of a Network Measurement Lab, and research was conducted on 'White Spaces' wireless technology. Reports from NZIER and Infometrics focused on the impact the Internet is having on the country, giving us a better understanding of how the Internet as an emerging general purpose technology is changing people and economies.

International Activity:

We continued our proud tradition of engaging at the highest levels of global Internet governance throughout 2012-2013, with our staff participating in a train of ICANN and Internet Governance Forum (IGF) meetings – notably making strenuous representations concerning ITU involvement in Internet governance.

InternetNZ Directory 2012-2013



1. Frank March

President 2009 – 2015
Vice President 2007 – 2009
Secretary 1997 – 2001
Council 1994 – 1997, 2006 – 2007, 2009 – 2015
InternetNZ Fellow – awarded 2001



2. Jamie Baddeley

Vice President 2009 – 2015
Council 2006 – 2015

3. Brenda Wallace

Council 2012 – 2015



4. Donald Clark

Council 2008 – 2014

5. Michael Foley

Council 2007 – 2013



6. Neil James

Council 2008 – 2013
InternetNZ Fellow – awarded 2001

7. Hamish MacEwan

Council 2007 – 2015



8. Jonny Martin

Council 2006 – 2013

9. Dave Moskovitz

Council 2010 – 2014



10. Nathan Torkington

Council 2009 – 2014

11. Michael Wallmannsberger

Council 2002 – 2003, 2008 – 2014
Treasurer 2006 – 2008
Secretary 2003 – 2006

12. Lance Wiggs

Council 2010 – 2013