



SPANZ

SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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President
Peter Gall

Papatoetoe High School

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Dear Colleagues

Last week many of you were without your PA for a couple days as they attended their annual conference in Rotorua. On the Thursday evening I had the enjoyable task of welcoming delegates and saying some kind words on behalf of all of us. The mood was very relaxed, friendly and almost festive, but I can assure you that there were some excellent professional learning opportunities during the day-time sessions.

Feedback comments included:

"Fantastic conference – every workshop was brilliant – I took something from every presenter."

"Excellent opportunity to network. Extremely valuable."

"Excellent speakers and workshops. Best in the four years I have been attending."

"This is my first conference and I found it just great."

"A wonderful experience – when can we do it again? Fantastic to meet with other PAs and to be able to pick their brains."

Our PAs are very important people in our working lives and they probably understand the role of principal and the complexity of the job better than anyone else in our schools. Those that attended the conference certainly felt valued and they really appreciated the networking opportunity and the chance to discuss the variations in their jobs.

Ros Robson, our executive manager, and her assistant, Jo Christini, are to be acknowledged for their expert organisation and we all look forward to next year's conference which will be held in the South Island.

Peter Gall
President