

## GOVERNMENT HEALTH AND SAFETY LEAD

# DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

### SAFEGUARD AWARDS

#### - MILLIE IS A FINALIST:

This month started with some excitement, as it was announced that Amelia Thompson (Millie) is a finalist in the Mental Health Champion of the year category for the 2023 SafeGuard awards. This is a well-deserved acknowledgement of all the work Millie has put in to increase mental health understanding across the sector. Her Mentally Healthy Work Programme has been met with a lot of enthusiasm and encouragement and the team is excited to celebrate this achievement with her.



Millie Thompson,  
Principal Adviser  
Mentally Healthy Work

### INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE GHSL

I would like to again express my gratitude to everyone who contributed to the external review of the GHSL function, conducted by Deloitte. The report is currently in draft form and has been forwarded to our Chief Executive, Ray Smith, for consideration. The review has highlighted several key themes and recommendations, which I believe will improve how the GHSL engages and works across the sector. I look forward to working with you to incorporate these recommendations into our work going forward.

### OFFICER DEVELOPMENT - COURSE 10

Registrations for the GHSL Officer Development Programme are open now. This is being run on the 16th August and 13th September, and is the last programme for 2023.

To register or enquire please email [Anita.Mcghie-Filkins@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Anita.Mcghie-Filkins@mpi.govt.nz)



## WORKFORCE CAPABILITY UPLIFT:

The evolution of the GHSL Early in Careers (EiC) Programme into a micro credentialed Public Sector Early in Careers Health and Safety Certificate is underway, with our application to the New Zealand Qualification Authority for level 3 certificate now submitted. We see micro-credentialling the EIC programme as not only being beneficial for public sector H&S practitioners but also as potentially being extended to practitioners and H&S Reps outside the public sector. This will aid the Health and Safety profession's growing demand for competent and capable H&S practitioners and uplift the overall capability of H&S Representatives, who play an important role in all our workplaces.

We have a handful of spaces still available for this year's programme, starting on 5 July and finishing on 8 November. Please contact Anita or Debbie to book your place. The cost to attend is \$1,165 +GST per attendee.

### Expressions of Interests are still open for 2023/24 Summer Internship Programme

We have had a good response from agencies, with 13 expressions of interest to date. There is still time for you to sign up and get an intern – if you aren't sure about the value, feel free to give Debbie a call 022-0134-884 – or talk with one of your peers who has recently had an intern. This month the team attended Victoria University Career Fair and Employers Week Presentation to promote our intern programme and the Health, Safety and Wellbeing careers. We were blown away with the engagement, interest, and interaction we had with all the students at each event as we spoke to over 60 at the fair and 25 registered for our presentation. It re-affirmed our thinking that interns are an untapped candidate pool in this tight employment market who can provide valuable support and bring a fresh insight to your teams. By supporting the intern program, we can provide additional workers to the government H&S pool, encourage diversity and provide a fresh perspective to review, challenge, ask, and learn from. The interns recruited are the best of the best, eager to learn, prove themselves, and provide the highest quality of work they can

Recruitment will start at the end of July until mid-September, with the programme kicking off at the end of November 2023. Cost is \$15,600 for 14 weeks employment at \$26.00 per hour (as of 1 Sept Living Wage).



Debbie Bridge and Bailey Cavanagh-Welch (GHSL Adviser and former GHSL intern) at the Vic Uni Careers Fair

## GHSL H&S REPS CONFERENCE:

Our own conference is now only a few weeks away and is a great opportunity to celebrate the work our H&S Reps do across the sector. The finalists have been announced - check them out below – and we are looking forward to a day filled with fun and learning.



• Bonnie MacGregor - ACC



• Stephen Rolls - MPI



• Nathan Mills - Kainga Ora



• Jen Sommerville - NZDF



• Justin Moore - NZ Police



• Nicole Price - Ara Poutama Dept. of Corrections

