

## Advocacy Report – November 2014

### Key Activities and their progress –

October advocacy visit to Wellington – the executive committee accepted the recommendation (the Board was informed) that the second 2014 advocacy visit to Wellington be cancelled for the following reasons:

- a. the disarray within the Labour party.
- b. New Cabinet ministers have only been announced and so will be very unfamiliar with their portfolios.
- c. The Federation's financial position is fairly tight at present – therefore it is unlikely that a visit at this time would provide good value for money.

2. Advocacy Issue register – time has been set aside to review all the issues that the advocacy chair has received this year and a recommendation will be made regarding on-going action on individual issues at the next Board meeting. A survey of the success or otherwise of the advocacy issues taken to decision-makers will also be carried out. In other words an orderly stock-take of where we are at advocacy-wise is intended.

3) Grey Power Federation Advocacy Toolkit - with agreement from the Board and appropriate others it is proposed that a toolkit be provided to relevant personnel at Federation level which will basically build on Doug Bailey's (Grey Power's lobby advisor) presentation to the 2013 Grey Power Federation AGM. If the Board agrees to this project – it will be undertaken by the advocacy chair with input from the advocacy standing committee and NAG chairs.

4. Correspondence sent to decision-makers re Grey Power advocacy issues – these have been provided in the Board meeting correspondence list.

5. Meetings attended on behalf of the Advocacy Standing Committee – none

The question arises here about how much involvement the advocacy chair/standing committee should have with meetings/seminars/forums etc.

The advantages are that these meetings provide good over-all advocacy net-working opportunities and an over-view of which issues individual NAGs are pursuing as they gather their advice for the Board; this advice enables well-informed Board decisions.

The disadvantage is the cost of an extra person at such meetings.

6. Details of submissions sent by the Advocacy Standing Committee – none since the last report

7. Date for the next advocacy visit – not confirmed as yet.

8. Recommendations requiring the Board's action:

- a) Agreement or other-wise on a Federation Board advocacy toolkit
- b) Agreement or other-wise on advocacy standing committee presence at appropriate meetings, forums, seminars etc.

Jan Pentecost – Chair Advocacy Standing Committee.