

# FIRST AID TRAINING MATTERS

*Promoting quality in the first aid industry*

**AECTP**



**Association of Emergency Care Training Providers Inc.**

**Volume 9: Issue 2: August 2020**

## 2020— Webinars on website from late September

Several key webinars will be uploaded onto the AECTP website for members to use as teaching updates and interesting professional development opportunities.

Our presenters will provide PDD on both the clinical and teaching concepts from within our sector and provide both points of interest, key messages and present “what’s on top”.

We remain mindful of the constraints within the current COVID-19 climate and our provider responsibilities to community health, safety and wellbeing. Our presenters have kindly agreed to contribute their presentations as online recorded sessions to enable our members to access the webinars at a time which suits them.

Amongst others, our Webinar topics will include Professor Hugh Grantham who presented at our first conference, and Jennifer Leahy, AKO Aotearoa who will help us to understand the effect that traumatic experiences can have on people’s lives and behaviour, and provide tools and teaching strategies to manage the impact of trauma on learners. Our aim is to provide PDD for both the technical and teaching aspects for First Aid.

## FA assessment not possible during lockdown

During lockdown (Alert Level 3 & 4) assessment is suspended due to the requirement of demonstration of techniques to meet the FA Guidelines. Many AECTP members accessed the wage subsidy for their staff, however disruption for members and learners alike, remains palpable and recovery is still ongoing. We reach out to Auckland during this outbreak.

## Skills Org—Alert Levels information

Skills Org information is released periodically, for example:  
<https://skills.org.nz/blog/first-aid-training-moves-with-the-alert-levels/>

## The First Aid Unit Standards Review

The Skills Organisation has advised us that the Aotearoa First Aid Unit Standard is still currently being reviewed by NZQA.

Until further confirmation is received, the sector continues to focus on and deliver the 6400 series as before. This unit standard has “stood the test of time” and meets a majority of learner needs.

Meanwhile, the “First Aid as a life skill” remains in place and Skills Org FA CMR is available online, or via their website.

6400 continues to provide a good unit standard suitable for all learners whether they are at work, at home, at sport or on the road.

Skills Org have worked hard to provide logical pathways for First Aid training providers to meet the Requirements within the First Aid context.

## COVID-19

The Board is happy to hear members in areas other than Auckland are working hard to catch up the backlog of FA training postponed due to COVID-19. Learners are reporting relief that they can use the Skills Org decision to extend the Revalidation expiry periods to address the Alert levels; and communications are helpful and timely.

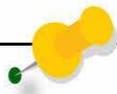
## COVID-19 Financial Support

The governments range of financial support packages for businesses who experience impacts with COVID-19 Alert Levels can seek financial support. These can be found on the COVID-19 website. Our members survey indicated some ongoing financial concerns from a number of our member providers. We encourage you to contact a Board member if we can be of any assistance or if you need support throughout this recovery period. <https://covid19.govt.nz>

## In this issue

- 2020—Webinars on website from late Sept
- COVID-19
- COVID-19 Financial Support
- FA assessment not possible during lockdown
- Skills Org—Alert Levels information
- The First Aid Unit Standards Review
- Letter from the Chair
- Welcome to Laura Sessions
- AECTP Member Benefits
- AECTP 2020 Dates
- NZ Resuscitation Council
- AECTP Board Business—2020
- COVID-19—Points of Interest from St John
- Face Coverings/masks at tertiary education
- IST Developments
- Share Your Stories
- Why is Basic Life Support now called Essential Life Support?
- World Restart a Heart Day, 16 Oct 2020
- NZ Resuscitation Council Adrenaline Rush
- AECTP Contact details/Board members
- AECTP website updates May-August 2020
- Member Survey July 2020
- AECTP Members Survey Outcomes

**\*\*\*The Board is committed to our members through to the post COVID-19 world, so let us know if you need help\*\*\***



# Letter From The Chair

Greetings everyone

As we rapidly march towards the last quarter of 2020 we can reflect on the many challenges to the World as well as the First Aid Sector. AECTP will continue to provide members with updates on the latest relevant information from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and SKILLS.

It was with regret that we accepted Kathy Wright's resignation during the first lockdown period this year. Kathy contributed a great deal of knowledge and hard work as the Chair of your Board, and as an Independent Member during this difficult time.

We would welcome and look forward to other members contacting the Executive Officer at [info@aectpnz.org](mailto:info@aectpnz.org) to register their interest in becoming a Board Member.

Sadly due to Covid-19 safety concerns we have had to cancel the 2020 AECTP Conference. Behind the scenes however, your Board has been actively working towards developing a range of interesting Webinars and other training opportunities to help your staff to complete Professional Development.

Our AGM will still be held in November. Full details will be released to members closer to the 42 days notification requirements. I encourage all Member Organisations to be involved in this.

Thank you to all our members who completed our recent survey. Your input helps to show the board what your current and future needs are from AECTP. The suggestions on how we can help to make that a reality are valued.

Kind regards

Janet Jamieson

## Welcome to Laura Sessions - new Red Cross Board representative

The Board welcomes Laura Sessions, Head of First Aid, NZ Red Cross, who replaces outgoing Board member, Graham Wrigley.

Laura has extensive experience in the Education sector. She co-founded and successfully grew an international education business (American Universities International Programs Limited) from 2003 to 2015 which offered short-term study abroad programmes to more than 10,000 American students in NZ, Australia, Fiji and Antarctica. Laura has held senior consultancy roles in international education and was previously the Deputy Director of the Southeast Asia Centre of Asia-Pacific Excellence at Victoria University of Wellington. Prior to that she was the Science and Technology Manager at Hutt City Council, where she was responsible for expanding and revamping the Council's science and technology programmes.



Laura is also active in the not-for-profit sector, serving on several national Boards, and is a science writer, researcher and editor. Laura has a PhD in Science Communication and was a Fulbright Research Fellow at the University of Canterbury.

## AECTP Member Benefits

AECTP full and affiliate/individual memberships are to those who provide or support quality training in the pre-hospital care sector. Benefits include:

- representation into Peak Body meetings and other national training and education forums and meetings and keep up to date with any changes that may occur to NZQA/ITO requirements
- personal development and learning opportunities for both technical and training aspects through conferences and forums and network with like-minded quality providers.

See the full membership benefit list on the website at: [Member Benefits](#)

## AECTP 2020 Dates

Members wishing to attend contact Executive Officer at [info@](mailto:info@).

### 2020 AECTP Board Meetings

- Approximately 2 monthly
- Dates—depend on business needs

### NZQA Peak Body Forums 3 monthly

- Mar, June, Sept, Dec
- MOE— with MOE, NZQA, and TEC

2020 Conference –Cancelled  
due to COVID-19

## NZ Resuscitation Council

2020 COUNCIL released a number of resources, updates and statements since March 2020, including related to COVID, hygiene guidance and teaching as good practice.

A new Essential Life Support and Managing Choking wallet card resource now includes a combined format for Adult, Child and Baby.

Targeted towards the first-aider and parents this resource provides an easy to follow guide and steps for managing choking and collapse as well as the DRS ABC for Essential Life Support, and are available for purchase from the website.

The Council provides updates for our sector, including information about Guidelines which are currently under review.

Contact Teghan Mear  
Communications Officer.

<https://www.nzrc.org.nz/>

## AECTP Board Business

- Planning our tenth year anniversary AECTP's Webinar planning is underway
- Ongoing consultation with SSBs continues
- Skills Org—provide releases for COVID-19
- AECTP Website: [www.aectpnz.org](http://www.aectpnz.org)

Executive Officer: [info@aectpnz.org](mailto:info@aectpnz.org)

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# Guidance, Developments and Outcomes

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## COVID-19—Some points of interest from St John perspective 2020, by Shirley Kerr

- Low volume of responses by ambulance, less traffic on the road, less recreational activities being undertaken, less high risk work being done. This was offset by higher response times due to the need to gear up with PPE and time to get through into environments and be processed at rest homes and hospital entry points.
- Additional crews needed as we stood down a number of staff due to age levels, immune compromised staff, at risk staff, staff returning from overseas, or possible exposure via their partners.
- What was really pleasing that due to the precautions undertaken no St John staff contracted COVID in the course of their duties.
- A lot of focus and precautions were put in place in case it went wider.
- A number of staff in First Aid training were active during the lockdown and redeployment occurred wherever possible, our training staff really stepped up in support of Team NZ during the time of crisis as they do time and again.

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## Use of face coverings or masks at tertiary education facilities - Ministry of Education –bulletin–Tertiary Providers

While wearing face covering or masks in other situations (eg when on a tertiary campus) is not mandatory, the Ministry recommends that students bring face coverings or masks with them when attending on-site activities, and make use of these where appropriate, particularly where physical distancing may be difficult; for example in a confined space with other students or staff, such as in workshops, lifts, transportation organised by the tertiary provider, etc.

Tertiary education providers may wish to issue students and staff with guidance setting out their expectations for how face coverings and masks should be used when attending on-site activities. This guidance should also reiterate that face coverings or masks are legally mandated when using public transport at Level 2 (from midnight Sunday 30 August).

It is important to highlight that used face coverings or masks are potentially something that could infect others if the wearer was to have COVID-19, so these should be treated carefully. If it's a disposable mask, put it in a rubbish bin with a lid, or in a plastic bag and then into a rubbish bin. People should not leave used masks lying around.

Further information on masks and face coverings can be found on the [COVID19.govt website](https://www.covid19.govt.nz/).

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## IST Update

The IST subsidiary Chairs met face-to-face in late July. NZIST Council Chair, Murray Strong, introduced Stephen Town, NZIST's new inaugural Chief Executive.

The NZIST's transition pathway was discussed and the significant job ahead was acknowledged, including to 'transform the network, bringing together on-job, on-campus, and online vocational education and training through a unified, sustainable network of regionally accessible provision'. In April 2020, for the first time nationally, this resulted in all 16 Institutes of technology and Polytechnics moving from a competitive model to a collaborative model. The aim is to develop a unified vocational training system which keeps pace with the changing needs within industry.

Based in Ōtautahi Christchurch, the IST Establishment Unit, has staff and board members around Aotearoa New Zealand. The final operating model design will be completed within months, and aims to place learners at the centre of all planning.

Prompted by a serious skill shortage in a number of industry groups, Education Minister Chris Hipkins aimed to meet the needs of employers better and supports the NZIST to develop 'an operating model that could ensure a seamless transition for learners across the network, operate as a one-stop-shop for employers, and be innovative and adaptive to meet changing workforce needs'. The next NZIST Subsidiary Chairs meeting is likely to be in October.

Further information can be found as follows:

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## Share Your Stories

Our members have told us their stories, issues and challenges experienced throughout the last months. We would like to invite members to record these experiences—both positive as well as the difficulties faced during the covid alert levels. Sharing our stories on the website will help us support each other and provides a record of learnings to be included in our business continuity plans for any future events.

Are you willing to share your stories? We'd love to hear from you in written or recorded form. Please contact [info@aectpnz.org](mailto:info@aectpnz.org) for further information.

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## NZ Resuscitation Council Update

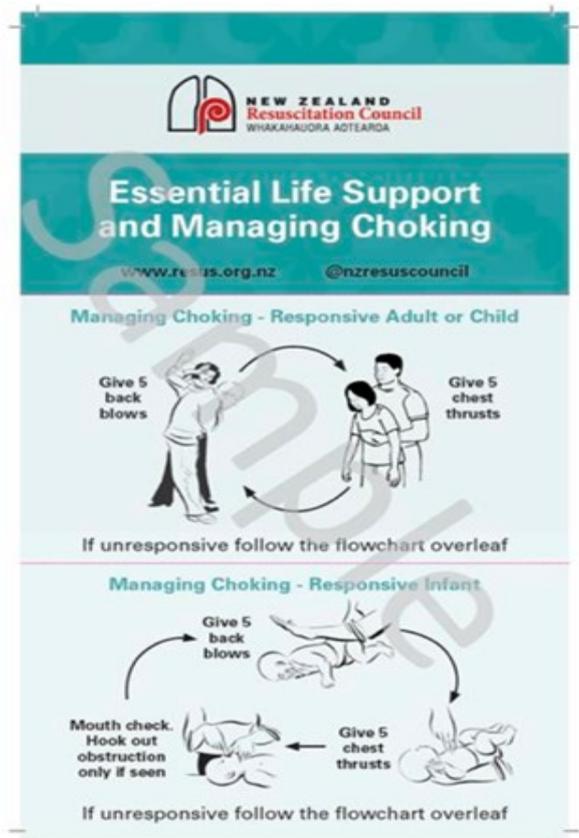
By Teghan Mear, Communications and Engagement Advisor

This year has provided us all with a number of challenges in what has been an unprecedented and ever-changing landscape. The New Zealand Resuscitation Council has released a number of resources and statements since March which are all available on our website. We have also created a hygiene guidance document which will be handy going forward to use in teaching as good practice. You will find reminders on what each alert level means for first aid and resuscitation training on both the New Zealand Resuscitation Council, and the Skills Organisations’ websites.

Our updated wallet cards are now available. Due to popular demand, we have refreshed our wallet cards for Essential Life Support and Managing Choking. We have had requests for an Adult Essential Life Support Wallet Card to accompany our current infant and child card. Instead, we have combined Adult, Child, and Infant advice in one handy resource to keep in your wallet. This resource is targeted towards the first-aider and parents as an easy to follow guide for Essential Life Support and Choking.

The card has the steps for managing choking and collapse as well as the DRS ABCD algorithm.

Sold in packs of 50 or individually: <https://www.nzrc.org.nz/shop/>



## World Restart a Heart Day—16 October 2020



Each year 16 October marks World Restart a Heart Day. For 2020 we will also celebrate 60 years of CPR. We will be working in an ever changing environment to plan what World Restart a Heart Day 2020 will look like. In 2019 the overall social media impact and awareness reached up to 206 million people worldwide and 5.4 million people were trained in CPR. This year we will be focusing on a social media campaign to raise the importance of bystander CPR and promote our goal of having CPR taught in all New Zealand schools. If you would like to be involved in World Restart a Heart Day, please contact [teghan@nzrc.org.nz](mailto:teghan@nzrc.org.nz). See poster pg 5.

## NZ Resuscitation Council - Adrenaline Rush

We post regular updates in our Adrenaline Rush Newsletter and also @nzresuscouncil social media platforms, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Follow us for the most up to date information as it happens. There will be a number of updates released in the upcoming months as we continue to review and publish our guidelines for 2020.

**Take care; look after yourselves and others wellbeing; acknowledge your feelings; stay connected**

**AECTP Inc Contact Details:** PO Box 217, Christchurch 8140. Email: [info@aectpnz.org](mailto:info@aectpnz.org). Website: [www.aectpnz.org](http://www.aectpnz.org)

AECTP Board Members 2020		Website Updates
Graham Dennis, Independent	Lesley Kidd, Independent	<b>2020 Webinars:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topics are being added for PDD opportunities via Webinars.</li> </ul> <b>April 2020 AECTP Newsletter</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2020 newsletter has been added to the website</li> </ul>
Yvonne Gray, New Zealand Red Cross	Julian Price, St John	
Janet Jamieson, Independent	Laura Sessions, New Zealand Red Cross	
Shirley Kerr, St John	Vacancy	

## Member Survey July 2020—Summary of Responses

SurveyMonkey was used to contact 23 members in July 2020 to find out where members were at following the restrictions of Covid levels 3 & 4, which had prevented members delivering face-to-face first aid training and assessment.

Thank you to the 10 members (43%) who responded and shared their experiences and thoughts on the future.

A summary of the responses is given below. Email Kerry at [info@aectpnz.org](mailto:info@aectpnz.org) if you would like a copy of the full results.

**Q1** With the resumption of training, have course bookings returned to pre-Covid levels or do you still have concerns about student numbers in the future?

**A1** Better—20% About the same—40% Not sure yet—40%

Several respondents commented on uncertainty about the impact of the removal of the wage subsidy.

**Q2** What websites or other resources did you find most helpful in terms of business and financial support, and staff health and well-being?

**A2** All respondents reported reliance on the primary government websites—MOH, MOE, MSD—as well as NZQA. NZRC and AECTP were also mentioned as sources of information. The wage subsidies and small business loan facilities were noted as significant contributors to business continuity.

**Q3** Do you intend to engage with and support AECTP via membership in the new financial year 2020-2021?

**A3** Yes = 9 No = 1

**Q4** Have any of your staff expressed concerns about returning to work and resuming face-to-face training?

**A4** Yes = 4 No = 6

**Q5** What processes did you follow for checking that staff were safe and well to return to work?

**A5** All respondents reported engaging with staff about returning to work. Protocols for hygiene and safe-distancing were discussed with staff; some respondents followed the MOH guidelines around who should and shouldn't return to work and one reported that staff had Covid tests.

**Q6** What percentage of your staff were able to work from home during levels 3 & 4?

**A6** This question drew the most variation in responses, with some members able to have all staff work from home and others reporting none. Those that worked from home reported staff working on improving training materials and resources, and upskilling themselves through online materials.

**Q7** If you had staff working from home, did you need to invest in new technology or equipment or were these facilities already in place?

**A7** 40% of respondents indicated that staff were already set up to work from home. 30% said additional set up was required and 20% noted that staff needed to take equipment home and get connected.

**Q8** Have you made any changes to your teaching practices or environment to manage safe distancing and hygiene requirements?

**A8** The clear message from respondents was that good hygiene practice was already well-understood by staff and in place as part of their day-to-day teaching programmes. Some changes included smaller class sizes, contact tracing, additional cleaning and extra staff to support hygiene, additional training for learners on infection control, safety/wellness briefings, access to and use of sanitizer at all venues.

**Q9** What concerns have learners or business expressed about health and safety for face-to-face training?

**A9** Respondents reported that learners had a heightened awareness of the need for good hygiene. Initial learner concerns were generally allayed by the good practices followed by the trainers and the health and safety briefings provided.

**Q10** With the cancellation of the 2020 AECTP conference, what days/times would suit you for professional development such as webinars?

**A10** 40% of respondents would like webinars accessible at any time. Responses on webinar topics were a mix of business, technical/professional and teaching as well as updates on the new unit standard and other information from NZQA/Skills. One respondent would like to see the conference back on again in November.

**ALL CITIZENS**  
of the world  
can **SAVE** a life



**16 OCTOBER**  
World Restart a Heart day

1



**CALL 111**

2



**PUSH**

3



**SHOCK**