

FLUORIDE ACTION NETWORK (N Z)

www.fannz.org.nz

NEWSLETTER NO. 3 31st MARCH 2004

FAN(NZ) TO BE INCORPORATED

At the AGM held on 29 February the new committee resolved to incorporate FAN(NZ). The primary purpose is to ensure financial protection of the members, and particularly the committee, from any possible financial liability. The Constitution requires amendment to comply with the Incorporated Societies Act. A copy of the proposed revised Constitution can be viewed on the web site at www.fannz.org.nz/adobe/constitution.pdf.

Incorporation also requires consent of the majority of members.

The Constitutional change requires a Special General Meeting. In line with existing rules, this will be an "electronic" meeting. The date is 15 May 2004. The motion to be put is that the Constitution be amended as notified on the organisation web site.

For these changes, a proxy is attached to the membership renewal form. Any person wishing to cast a vote "in person" may email it to info@fannz.org.nz.

A consent notice is also attached.

For those who have not yet renewed their membership for 2004 please complete these and forward with your renewal. For those who have renewed their membership, please mail, fax, or email your consent with your name and address to info@fannz.org.nz.

Please ensure these are forwarded to reach the Secretary by 8 May.

The new committee

National Co-ordinator – Mark Atkin

Treasurer – Mark Atkin

Secretary/Membership Secretary – Mary Byrne

Publicity Officer – Caren McConnell

Research Officer - Keith Sharrock

Committee members –

Frank Rowson, Imelda Hitchcock, Don Church, Steven Darnold, Val Sandford

We discussed a number of strategies over the AGM weekend for the coming year. Obviously we will not make them public at this stage.

IMPORTANT

Please advise the Secretary of your consent to FAN(NZ) becoming an Incorporated Society (see page 3).

Wairoa under attack again !

In October 2002 the Wairoa District Council voted on its community's behalf to fluoridate the town's water supply. There were a few submissions opposing this at the hearing of submissions, but most were encouraging fluoridation and the Hawke's Bay District Health Board sent a contingent of twenty to speak.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Mayor, Les Probert, thanked the attendees and advised that the submissions would be discussed by councillors, and no decision made hurriedly, perhaps taking days if not weeks. That afternoon, in less than one hour during which all submissions weren't even looked at, the Council had discussed and voted to fluoridate the water supply. There were two councillors not in attendance, and another councillor had only been sworn in at the beginning of the meeting and wouldn't have had time to read the submissions. (She voted for fluoridation)

Thanks to the efforts of Sylvia Cole, the Council eventually reversed its decision, and Wairoa was not fluoridated.

The Hawkes Bay DHB is at it again however, supported by one of the most blatantly biased editorials we have seen—not to mention factually incorrect ! (in Hawkes Bay Today, Saturday 13 March)

So the battle is on again !

In the same vein, the Chair of the Hutt Valley DHB recently approached the Lower Hutt Mayor to fluoridate Petone—which voted 2:1 against in a 1999 survey. We understand he got the short shrift !

\$300,000 of taxpayers' money for fluoridation propaganda

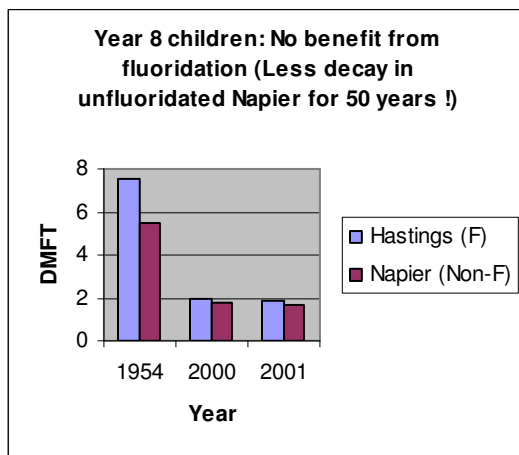
The Hutt Valley District Health Board has been signed up to a 3 year contract to co-ordinate and promote fluoridation on behalf of the Ministry of Health. The “services” include disseminating propaganda to counter the truth as put about by the likes of FAN(NZ).

AND THE BOARD DIDN'T KNOW THE CEO WAS COMMITTING THEM TO IT !

In fact those in the know tried to conceal it from one of the elected Board members and we had to obtain it under the Official Information Act !

And \$1.5 million in bribe money

Not content with that, the Minister has recently announced a 100 percent subsidy to bribe Councils to install fluoridation equipment, with a pool of \$1.5 million.



We recently obtained these latest dental health figures for Napier and Hastings from the Hawkes Bay DHB (see Wairoa story). As expected they show that fluoridated Hastings still has worse tooth decay than unfluoridated Napier, just as it did during the infamous “experiment in the 1950’s. The same trend is evident for Maori and Pacific children—so much for the “social equity” theory.

That makes two 50 year comparisons showing no benefit—in the USA unfluoridated Kingston also has better dental health than fluoridated Newburgh.

Good news from Timaru

The Council resolved to receive and note the Canterbury DHB report, and take no further action.

That is – no fluoridation.

The battle in Southland continues

Three community Boards have rejected fluoridation. Many have failed to consult adequately, and just rubber stamped the Southland DHB’s “approval in principle” based on a presentation only from McKay, the local zealot. McKay got a fair roasting at the Gore public meeting according to our man down South. The Gore Council flew in Dr Mike Godfrey to speak against fluoridation, and received considerable material from FAN(NZ). It is good to see such commitment to airing both sides of the argument—something many councils lack.

The campaign in Rotorua continues

Eric Winslade from the Rotorua group attended the AGM, and told us of the underhanded way the DHB tried to sneak fluoridation in the back door. It was only because of a local newspaper that the old team was alerted. Eleven of them turned up to the next Council meeting. That newspaper has continued to print articles on this issue, unlike some who are clearly in bed with promoters. The FAN(NZ) committee is providing resource support for this campaign.

THE COMMITTEE THANKS ITS MEMBERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN 2003. IT IS THROUGH BOTH MEMBERSHIP SUBS AND DONATIONS, AND OTHER SUPPORT, THAT WE CAN HELP WITH LOCAL CAMPAIGNS AS WELL AS LOBBY AT A NATIONAL LEVEL

Membership Renewal 2004

Please mail to The Treasurer, FAN(NZ) PO Box 9804 Marion Sq. Wellington.

I/WE ENCLOSE:

- \$10 annual subscription.
 Donation of \$ ____ . Tick if receipt req'd:

Total \$ ____ .

Name:

Address:

E-mail:

Telephone:

Fax:

- Group member.** How many individuals does your group represent or have as members?

Note: if your group is not incorporated, you will need to have one member subscribe on the group's behalf.

Are you interested in becoming a local co-ordinator? Y/N Note: the MoH is currently pushing for 100% fluoridation: we are all at risk.

Able to help? (a) Strong commitment ____ (b) Can help ____ (c) Unable to help. ____ (Tick one)

Needed: letter writers, speakers, canvassers, delivering flyers, organising meetings.

CONSENT TO INCORPORATION OF FAN(NZ)

I consent to Fluoride Action Network (NZ) becoming an incorporated society.

I approve the Constitution as notified, including any grammatical or formatting alterations required, so long as they do not materially affect the purpose of any provision.

(Delete if you do not so consent)

Signed: Date:

Name (if not completing membership form above.)

The committee wishes to acknowledge it's thanks to our internet service provider "3 Rings", who generously host our web site free of charge.

Please note that some membership forms have gone missing from the latter part of last year. If the form above has a reminder in it but you have already paid please note this when you send in your consent for incorporation.

Thanks, The Secretary

To date we have focussed on

- Getting the web site running to provide a central link for anyone wanting information or assistance;
- Putting together a comprehensive set of Powerpoint presentations to assist local campaigns
- Produced a flyer (which was sent with the last newsletter—see web site if you are a new member) We have had several requests for this for distribution. 12,000 have been printed so far.

As said, we have a number of strategies to pursue this year, as well as getting ourselves known.

If you have any suggestions please note them on the other side of this sheet.

STOP PRESS !

Gore District Council votes **NO**
to fluoridation -
8:2 against.

The Southland District Council
undertakes to conduct proper
consultation.

If any members have contacts in
Southland, now is the time to get
them mobilised, writing letters
etc.