Naomi Kemp

It is hard to believe it has been 3 years! Hello to new members who are voting for the first time and to those of you who have been a part of the AIHS for some time. It has been a pleasure working with AIHS and I look forward to the time when we can be meeting again in the near future.

I am Naomi Kemp and I have the honour of being the current Chair of the Board. Three years ago, I was elected to the board as a young safety professional (YSP). While I've only aged 3 years, I feel I've learned so much more from being in a governance role with the number of royal commissions, inquests, inquiries and the Boland review all focused on various governance aspects. I thank everyone who voted for me back then, and I hope I represented you in the best way I could.

In my 2017 nomination statement, I talked about being a member of the Institute since 2010. How I have always been an active member (mostly in Qld) and how I enjoy meeting with other members and ‘safety people’ to share experiences, ideas, and thoughts. I was the founder of YSP in Queensland, and I have now passed that mantle on since taking on the role of Board Chair. This has given me the time to engage across borders and actively help to promote other branches and networks.

When I first applied for a position on the Board, I had said “having been both a safety practitioner and professional, it is a mission of mine to ensure safety is seen as a true profession”. So, I came onto the board wanting to drive change in any way I could to raise the profile of the Institute and the profession. Since then, I’m proud to have been a key driver of the new Think Forward Strategy and the launch of our new name and brand.

I am committed to continuing to raise our profile and I believe our strategy sets us up for success. Importantly, thinking forward is not only focused on the profession. The strategy sets us on a path to partner with Industry, to work with governments for better policy, and it challenges us to think forward and engage at all levels within our communities to raise the awareness, knowledge, and education of health and safety.

My work passion is to help make workplaces progressive, productive, and protected with effective solutions. I believe if we want to be seen as a true profession, then we need to show our undeniable value proposition to society. I ask you for support so that I can continue with delivering on this strategic agenda. There is so much we can influence and impact.
Board Nomination
Celia Antonovsky (WA based member)

Strategic Priorities

Elevate the profile of the AIHS as the peak professional body for health and safety

Advocate for the profession in public forums including regulators, industry associations, media and corporate events

Foster the link between health and safety education and the changing requirements of the world of work

Introduction

I am a seasoned and passionate health and safety professional. Having spent the last 10 years in operational health and safety leadership roles, I have worked in various high-risk industries including oil and gas, construction, mining, transport, rail and more recently EHS consulting. I am currently employed in the role of Assistant Manager at EY. In my spare time I have dedicated the last 4 years to volunteering with the Australian Institute of Health and Safety (AIHS) WA branch. Coordinating various events such as Great Debates, sessions for Young Safety Professionals, knowledge sharing with allied professions and networking. This year I took over the reins as the WA branch Chair. Additionally, I currently serve as an industry advisor to a Western Australian university to ensure that course content remains relevant and useful for new graduates and organisations alike. I am now ready to increase my commitment to the profession and the AIHS.

I have a background in Psychology with a Masters in Occupational Health and Safety. During my time in the profession I have recognised the following shifts to improve health and safety outcomes:

- An increasing demand for evidence-based practices
• Closer multi-directional links between research and industry
• Increased knowledge and competencies required for health and safety (H&S) professionals
• A higher level of accountability placed on H&S professionals within organisations
• Incorporation of established principles from other disciplines into the health and safety toolkit.

However, I am acutely aware that health and safety work is never finished. Every milestone we achieve brings the next milestone onto the horizon. Through my role as a Director on the AIHS board, I intend to use the opportunity to further progress the profession along our collective journey.

Continuing Involvement With The AIHS

Having already served 4 years in a voluntary role with the SIA and now AIHS, I feel motivated and committed to the organisation's success. As a peak body representing the profession, we know how far we have come, but the journey is not over. Through my role as a director on the board I will pursue greater recognition for the role that the AIHS plays in developing the profession and its members. An H&S professional is no longer a worker off the shop floor, but someone with distinct skills and abilities to analyse, interpret, coach, facilitate and strategically lead business objectives. While we collectively know this, we need to ensure that the valuable contribution we can make to an organisation's success is also understood by people outside the profession.

I am passionate about fostering the skills, experience, and energy within the next generation of H&S professionals. I would like to use this opportunity as a board member to work more closely with the universities around Australia who are producing our future health and safety graduates. I believe that the role of the H&S professional is evolving, and we need to continue to feedback changing requirements to our educational institutions.

Previous Board Experience

Previously, I have undertaken the role of Vice Chair of a Not-For-Profit organisation called TradeUP. The purpose of this organisation is to present all trades as a viable and desirable career option for women. A further objective of the organisation is to empower women and girls by teaching them life skills. During my time on the board we achieved the following:

• Hosted several hand tool workshops for women and girls
• Facilitated a try-a-trade stand at numerous career fairs including Skills West
• Advocated for the needs of female 'tradies' and apprentices in government and educational forums.

During my term I was awarded a scholarship to attend training for the Role of The Not-For-Profit Board Chair with the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD). This training conveyed to me the importance and responsibilities bestowed upon board members. After serving my three-year term, I chose to discontinue my role with TradeUP to focus my free time exclusively with the AIHS WA branch.

Representation From The West
We are observing increased industry activity in Western Australia. We know there is a growing number of H&S professionals serving the many high-risk industries including oil and gas, mining, defence work, manufacturing, construction. Many of these individuals have not yet joined the AIHS. I see this as an opportunity to increase members value for money and ensure that as an industry body we are reflecting the voice of our constituents. To this end, I will be advocating for innovative ways to attract new members. This will benefit the financial health of the AIHS in the short term, but also boosts the strength of the entire profession in the long term.

Call To Action

I consider myself to be a diverse and empowered H&S professional. I would be honoured to be given the role of representing the interests of my peers as a director on the AIHS board. As a director I will commit to the following:

1. Represent the interests of members from the oil and gas, construction, mining, marine and transport industries.
2. Bring a psychology, human factors, and commercial perspective to the table.
3. Focus on attracting new members and retaining existing members within the AIHS.
4. Encourage the transfer of ideas between H&S and allied professions including law, exercise science, occupational medicine, environmental science, marketing, and management.
5. Promote and advance corporate and regulatory recognition of the value H&S professionals bring to the workplace.

VOTE FOR CELIA ANTONOVSKY!
Liam O’Connor

I’ve held national and group manager HSEQ positions, working across a range of industries within both ASX-listed and privately held Australian companies. These industries have included mining, oil and gas, civil construction, defence, engineering, agricultural and utility sectors. I am a certified Exemplar Global lead auditor, qualified injury management coordinator and an accredited incident lead investigator in 8Steps, Essential Factors, Five Why’s, HFACS, ICAM, TapRoot; and currently undertaking certification in medicolegal death investigation.

Tragically, I am a self-professed legal nerd with post-graduate qualifications in law, business, OHS and international business law. In 2018 I graduated in Japanese Law from Kyoto’s Ritsumeikan University School of Law and have previously completed the AIID Company Directors Course. I am currently completing both an MBA (Finance) and LLM (International Law). I was previously awarded the ‘National Diversity and Inclusion’ award from the Safety Institute of Australia and shortlisted for Australian Mining’s ‘Emerging Leader of the Year’, Endeavour’s ‘Safety Solution of the Year’ and the ‘Prime Minister’s Veterans’ Awards’. In addition, I am an associate member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and assist in dispute resolution under both the Work Health and Safety and Fair Work Acts.

I sit as the Deputy Chair for both the WA Branch of the Australian Institute of Health and Safety and the Industrial Rope Access Trade Association’s ‘International Health and Safety Committee’. In 2020, I was appointed by the City of Joondalup Mayor and Councillors to the ‘Strategic Community Reference Group’, and by senior executives of Fortescue Metals Group to their ‘Working at Heights Committee’.

Over the previous nine years, I have held appointments as chair, vice chair, director and board member within varying not-for-profit disability service providers and industry committees. After my father was left permanently mentally and physically disabled by a workplace accident in 2005, I strongly believe in assisting disability service providers in the tireless support they provide the community.

I’m extremely passionate in matters involving WHS, mental health, environmental protection and employment programs for Indigenous Australians and Australian Defence Force Veterans. I’ve previously lectured during events held by the Safety Institute of Australia, Rio Tinto Iron Ore, Fortescue Metals Group and Edith Cowan University. I’ve been featured in the ‘WarriorU’ and the ‘Australian Health and Safety’ podcast series and have contributed articles to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (‘UNCITRAL’), ‘The International Journal of Arbitration,
Mediation and Dispute Management, 'International Institute of Risk and Safety Management' and the 'OHS Professional'.

**My Goals to Further Advance the AIHS**
My nomination for the AIHS Board is focused on five key deliverables:

**Advancing the AIHS Nationally**
Incorporating representation from the FIFO industries and Western Australia back into the AIHS boardroom. In my current role, I work across Australasia alongside senior executives and board members from Australia’s largest construction, mining, energy and resource companies and contractors.

**Developing Future WHS Leaders**
Reinvigorating mentoring programs for student members of the Institute so that the next generation of leaders can be developed through the AIHS General Professional Certification pathway.

**Engagement of Members with Specialist Knowledge**
Using our AIHS Branches to engage our membership who have specialist skills that can contribute to sharing their knowledge through a range of avenues to other members.

**Financial Governance**
Ensuring the Institute continues to navigate its way through the current economic climate whilst ensuring our members continue to receive a range of benefits from their membership.

**Re-Aligning the Focus Back onto ‘Frontline’ Safety**
With the recent changes to the safety legal landscape, the Institute must re-align its key message that 'true' safety comes from training in-the-field and not with documents from behind a desk.

I am always up for a chat with other AIHS members so feel free to get in touch with any questions.

Kind Regards,

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