

5 December 2011

Dear Swimming Community

I am pleased to report that the independent review of Swimming NZ is underway. The first meeting of the working group tasked with the review was held on 29 November. As you will be aware this review arose following disagreement within the membership of Swimming NZ on the appropriate governance and delivery of the sport.

The membership of SNZ at its October AGM subsequently agreed unanimously to the appointment of an eight member working group to conduct an independent review. This group will formulate recommendations separately and independently of SPARC. (As a member of a four person Steering Group, SPARC's role is to assist with process only).

Swimming is a sport of critical importance to New Zealanders. This is a once in a generation opportunity to take an honest and thorough look at what's happening and make recommendations on the best way forward.

To understand the issues and opportunities within swimming, the working group will be consulting widely with the swimming community. An invitation to submit your views will be issued shortly and we will communicate with you as soon as this is released. Please go to the Swimming NZ website if you do not receive information directly.

In addition to inviting written submissions, the working group will also be holding some face-to-face meetings with members of the swimming community as well as holding some open meetings at various locations throughout NZ. This will help us to better understand a broad cross-section of views.

A timeline for the review including these consultation opportunities is being worked on. Once finalised, this will be communicated via the Swimming NZ website.

I appreciate you will be eager to share your views. I welcome this. However, please be mindful that a process for consultation will be put in place, and I ask that you respect this. It will be inappropriate for members of the working group to comment on the review or take soundings outside the formal consultation process.

I am excited by the challenge ahead. I understand that the working group has an obligation to get it right. I look forward to working co-operatively with you over the following few months to ensure this occurs.

Yours sincerely

Chris Moller  
**Chairman**  
**Working Group**