

NZPI

DISTINGUISHED

SERVICE AWARD

Andrea Harris

AWARDED ON 08 November 2023

Andrea Harris is a distinguished leader with an exceptional track record of over 29 years of experience in policy and consenting. Andrea has made significant contributions to the image and practice of planning, and to the betterment of Te Kōkiringa Taumata NZ Planning Institute (NZPI) and is highly respected for her technical abilities and as a dedicated mentor to emerging planners.

Since 2007, Andrea has served as a committee member and Chair in the Central North Island Branch Committee. She was one of the first Chairs to be on the Planning Advisory Committee and remained an active member until she was elected to the board in 2018. Andrea also serves as Membership Convenor for NZPI, is part of the NZPI Awards judging panel and is current co-chair of the Resource Management Advisory Group. During her tenure as board member, she has appeared before the select committee on behalf of the Institute as part of the resource management reform, and constantly advocates for members.

Having spent almost 20 years with WSP, in her current role as Technical Principal – Planning, Andrea is committed to keeping our planners abreast of the latest changes in legislation and elevating technical practice. She presents regularly on planning matters, providing an internal forum for inquiry and learning.

This commitment to learning extends beyond WSP. Andrea has been heavily involved in District Plan reviews in Palmerston North, Manawatu and Rangitikei, where she provides technical expertise and mentoring to Council planners. She is also an active presenter at Massey University and a member of the University Resource and Environmental Planning Consultative Committee. In this role, she contributes to the content and direction of the current degree and works to ensure that the degrees offered by the university remain relevant and professionally focused.

Andrea cares deeply about planners and what planners do. Her persistent advocacy on behalf of members and to advancing the role of planners and the practice of planning show her dedication to the profession, to the field of planning, and to the mission of NZPI. Her contributions to NZPI and the broader planning community make her a thoroughly deserving recipient of this Distinguished Service Award.