

# COLDFACTS



DECEMBER 2024

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER ROLE

Farewell to Lea  
Welcome to Kim

## SAVE THE DATE!

2025 Conference



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

As Christmas approaches, I want to wish you all a well deserved, relaxing holiday season with family and friends.

Our Queenstown conference in August was a great success, filled with engaging speakers and memorable moments. A highlight of the event was the gala dinner, where we were thoroughly entertained by motor racing legend Greg Murphy—an experience to remember!

### ELECTRICITY PRICES

It has been a challenging year on the cost of electricity front. The elevated power prices from the start of the year to August proved too much for some businesses, with three sizeable businesses deciding to shut down operations citing higher electricity prices as a factor in that decision. Electricity prices are a significant cost in our cold store operations. Let's hope that we get a tail wind of high lake levels and lower gas prices going into next winter.

### RWTA COLLABORATION

To strengthen ties with our sister organisation, the RWTA in Australia, the New Zealand Cold Storage Association had the pleasure of sending Lea and me to their conference. As a generous gesture of goodwill, the RWTA covered our conference registration, which we deeply appreciated. Our visit was a fantastic opportunity to enhance the connection between our two associations. We were honoured to be invited to attend their executive board meeting on the first morning of the conference. It was incredibly insightful for Lea and me to see how they structure their association and organise their events, giving us valuable ideas and inspiration.

### OUR NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICER

At the end of October our executive officer Lea Boodee handed in her resignation after serving in that role for just over two and a half years. I would like to thank Lea for her service to the Association. We are excited to introduce our new executive officer, Kim Mundell. Kim has a record of developing positive relationships with members, stakeholders and funding partners. Kim's assertive yet friendly approach along with her wealth of knowledge and experience is already making a positive impact in our board room meetings. The board looks forward to working closely with Kim.

### OUR CONFERENCE

Conference planning is officially underway! We had our first executive committee meeting since Kim joined the team, last week, and things are off to a great start. Next year's conference will be held in Napier from 24-26 August, so be sure to mark those dates in your diary!

I'd like to extend my thanks to the executive board and our sponsors for their incredible support throughout the year. I'm also grateful to the executive for their valuable input and dedication, working as a strong team and pulling together toward a common goal of making the cold storage industry stronger.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



**DION ABRAHAMS**

President  
NZ Cold Storage  
Association



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Hi everyone

I am delighted to be starting with NZCSA as your new executive officer. A big thank you to Dion and the executive team for the warm welcome, and to Lea Boodee for her support during the handover.

### ABOUT ME

My background is in business management, marketing, and conferences and for the past 15 years, I've worked with a wide range of associations in technology, health, nutrition, waste management, and packaging. Prior to that, I was in the media industry, in sales, marketing and publishing roles, for magazines and newspapers.

I am excited about the opportunity to learn about cold storage because it is an important part of my own business. My husband and I import high-end pet wear from USA/ Europe. Last year we expanded into pet food and opened a bricks-and-mortar retail store in Mangawhai, Northland. Our top selling product is frozen raw food for pets and our shop receives deliveries of frozen goods most days, so we know from direct experience how important the integrity of cold storage is to a smooth-running supply chain!

I am looking forward to meeting you all and learning what is important to you. I realise I have a steep learning curve ahead of me, so please share anything you think would be helpful for me to know.

As I write this, I am on a flight to Napier to inspect the venue for our conference in August 2025. Make sure you save the date! Sunday 24 to Tuesday 26 August 2025. We have plans for some new additions and a few fun surprises. You won't want to miss this year's conference!

I will publish the sponsorship options next month. If you wish to be notified as soon as I have this completed please email me.

In January we will send out member renewal letters and I would like to thank you in advance for your continued involvement with the association. Your support enables us to develop more member services.

My goal in 2025 is to deliver to you—our valued members, sponsors, and supporters—an association service that supports you and helps grow your business.

### LET'S CONNECT!

If there is something we do that you want us to do differently – please tell me. If there is something we don't do, that you think we should start doing – please tell me that too. I want to hear your opinions about what we can do better.

You are welcome to contact me anytime. My details are below.

I look forward to meeting you.



**KIM MUNDELL**  
Executive Officer

[Email me](#)

[Phone me 021 655 917](#)

[Book an online meeting with me](#)

[Connect with me on LinkedIn](#)



# NZCSA 2025 CONFERENCE



SAVE THE DATE

**24–26 AUGUST 2025**

NAPIER CONVENTION CENTRE



REGISTRATIONS OPEN APRIL 2025