

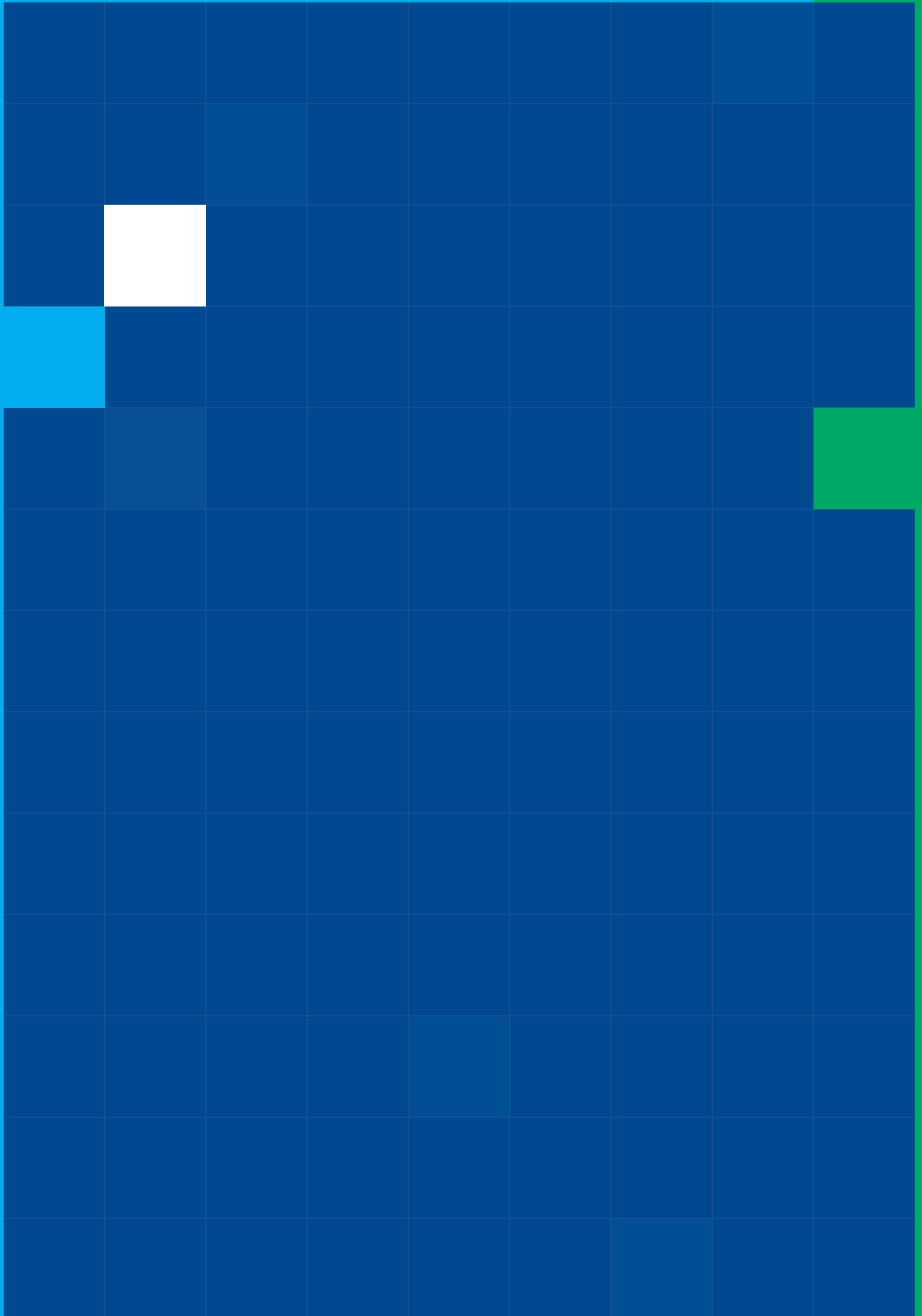
Strategic Plan  
**MOVING FORWARD**

*2005–2010*



OUTDOOR SAFETY

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTAIN SAFETY COUNCIL





## MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Accident Compensation Corporation

Department of Conservation

Education Outdoors New Zealand

Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand

Federation of NZ Youth Organisations

NZ Alpine Club

NZ Deerstalkers Association

NZ Defence Force

NZ Land SAR

NZ Mountain Guides Association

NZ Outdoor Instructors Association

NZ Police

NZ Shooting Federation

NZ Snowsports Council

NZ Sports Industry Association

Occupational Safety and Health

Tourism Industry Association of NZ



**New Zealand Mountain Safety Council** is a community-based organisation, expert in outdoor safety.

**Our volunteer instructors promote safe** participation in recreational, educational and adventure activities.

**Enjoying the outdoors safely**

## CONTENTS

Moving Forward

4

Who we are

6

Our key goals

8

Our philosophy

9

Our structure

11

Benefits

12

Strategic issues


14

Strategic directions

15

# moving forward

## FROM THE CHAIR



This strategic plan marks the beginning of the fifth decade of the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council's existence. While the broad philosophy of the Council with its emphasis on encouraging individual responsibility, promoting use of standards for safe practices, reliance on local networks of volunteers working for the public good continues to be valid, the strategic plan presents a range of changes encapsulated in the motto '*Moving Forward*'. Some of the elements of this change are already underway but they will need to be capitalised upon during the term of the plan.

They include:

- broadening our funding base. We continue to be grateful for the support from our main funder, the Lotteries Grants Board, but increasingly funding is being obtained from other sources such as New Zealand Police (for firearms training) and a range of community trusts.
- strengthening existing partnerships and developing new ones with organisations such as SFRITO and education providers. These have been and will continue to be instrumental in contributing to instructor training.
- benefiting from a new organisational structure at head office. We now have clear distinction between operational and administrative functions and we need to capitalise on the fresh and energetic approach of the many new staff including a new executive director.
- complying with new requirements of government legislation. The most obvious example of this is the recent amendment to the Health and Safety in Employment Act. This and other requirements will ensure that appropriate practices are followed in all our operations.

- taking advantage of technological advances. Significant steps have already been made in the process of communicating information to the public and to our own members using information technology but much remains to be accomplished.
- increasing our visibility to the public. The most significant development in this regard will come through the discussions around the idea of 'branding' that have commenced and should be exploited to the full.
- staging the production of resources. Resources such as manuals, videos and pamphlets have always played an important part in our outdoor safety message. They are increasingly expensive to produce so their production needs to be staged in a rational manner.

Our greatest resource of course is people. Consequently, I would like to end this message by thanking all staff and volunteers for their efforts in the past and to urge continued endeavours towards the aim of improved enjoyment and safety for the public in the outdoors.



**Council Chairman**

**NZMSC was  
formed in 1965**



# who we are

New Zealand Mountain Safety Council was formed in 1965 in response to the increasing number of mountain and bush accidents. Government and non-government bodies formed a working party to address a national mountain safety campaign.

The Council continues to encourage safe participation in outdoor activities by training, education, and publicity.

New Zealand Mountain Safety Council recognises that it must prioritise its resources while acknowledging the volunteer nature of our community.

Our direction is consistent with the following government goals:

- Building safe communities.
- Fostering education and training to enhance and improve the nation's skills.
- Treasuring and nurturing our environment.



**A leading  
authority for  
outdoor safety  
information and  
training**

# mission

## We will:

- enable people to enjoy their recreation safely in the outdoors
- foster positive community support for outdoor safety
- promote the development and maintenance of national outdoor safety standards for land-based activities.

# our key goals

## VISION

New Zealand Mountain Safety Council will be recognised as a leading authority for outdoor safety information and training in New Zealand.

## KEY GOALS

### To undertake research and develop standards for outdoor safety

- Engage in and promote research in outdoor safety.
- Set and promote standards.

### To produce key outdoor safety information

- Provide a variety of outdoor safety resources for both the public and instructors.
- Be known as a leading source of information in outdoor safety.

### To publicise the outdoor safety message

- Promote and encourage safe practices.
- Gain recognition as a leading authority in outdoor safety.

### To deliver training by skilled instructors

- Educate people to develop their knowledge, attitudes, and values in outdoor safety.
- Train people to develop their outdoor skills.



**We encourage  
responsible behaviour  
in outdoor safety**

# our philosophy

## PHILOSOPHY

### Individual responsibility

Each person must take a major part of the responsibility for their safety in the outdoors. This is why it is vital that people have access to information and training.

### Industry standards

At the same time, organisations and their educators, leaders, and guides must act responsibly. This requires standards, qualifications, and codes of practice, which Mountain Safety Council has helped to develop.

### Local networks

Local networks are the best way to develop knowledge and skills, and disseminate them through the community. Mountain Safety Council has based its branch structure on this concept. Volunteers share their expertise with their community.

### 'A public good'

The New Zealand Lottery Grants Board recognises the community nature of our service. It has funded us for more than 30 years as 'a public good'. Thousands of volunteers have supported our mission and we continue to seek volunteers. Safety in the outdoors is an essential community service.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

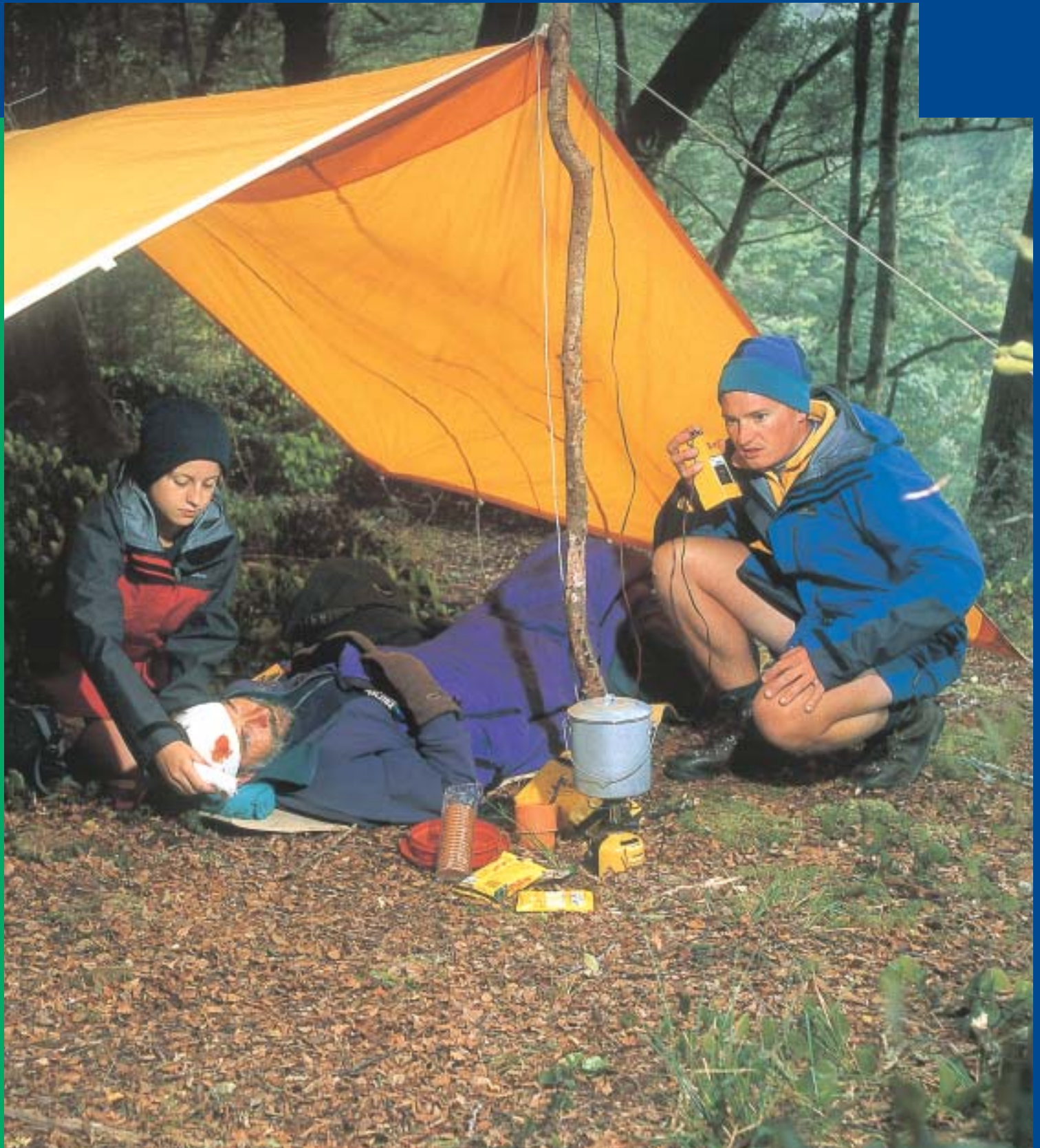
*We encourage responsible behaviour in the outdoors.*

*We promote safe practices in the outdoors.*

*We consult, collaborate, and develop partnerships with other organisations.*

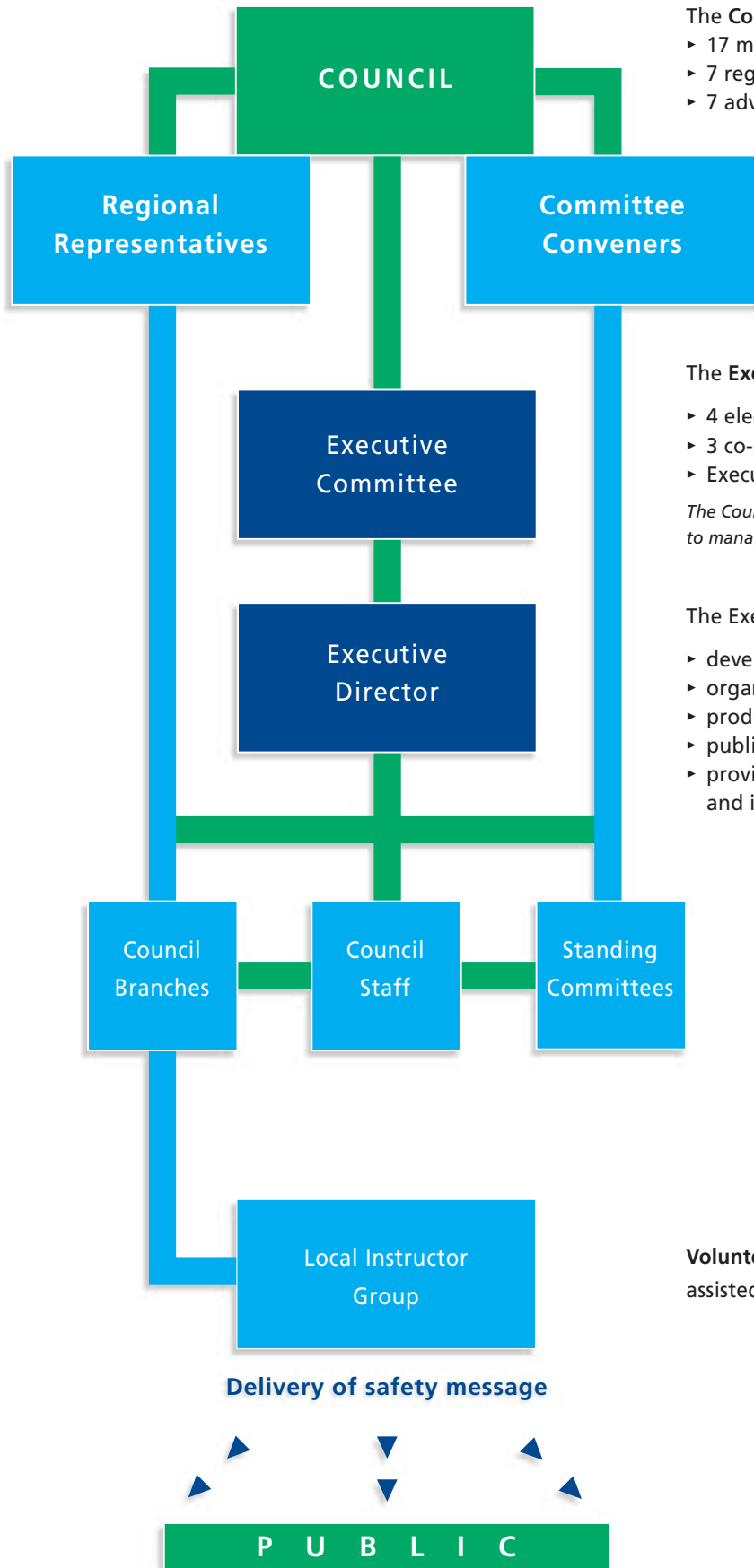
*We are a diverse organisation.*

*We are a community service organisation.*



**A catalyst and  
facilitator  
in achieving  
common  
standards**

# our structure



The **Council** consists of the representatives of:

- ▶ 17 member organisations
- ▶ 7 regional committee representatives
- ▶ 7 advisory committees conveners

The **Executive Committee** consists of:

- ▶ 4 elected members
- ▶ 3 co-opted members
- ▶ Executive Director

*The Council appoints the Executive Director to manage the organisation.*

The Executive Director appoints **staff** who:

- ▶ develop training programmes
- ▶ organise seminars
- ▶ produce manuals
- ▶ publicise outdoor safety
- ▶ provide administrative support and information

**Volunteers** work in local communities, assisted by part-time administrators.

# benefits

New Zealand Mountain Safety Council is a catalyst and facilitator in setting common standards of training and education.

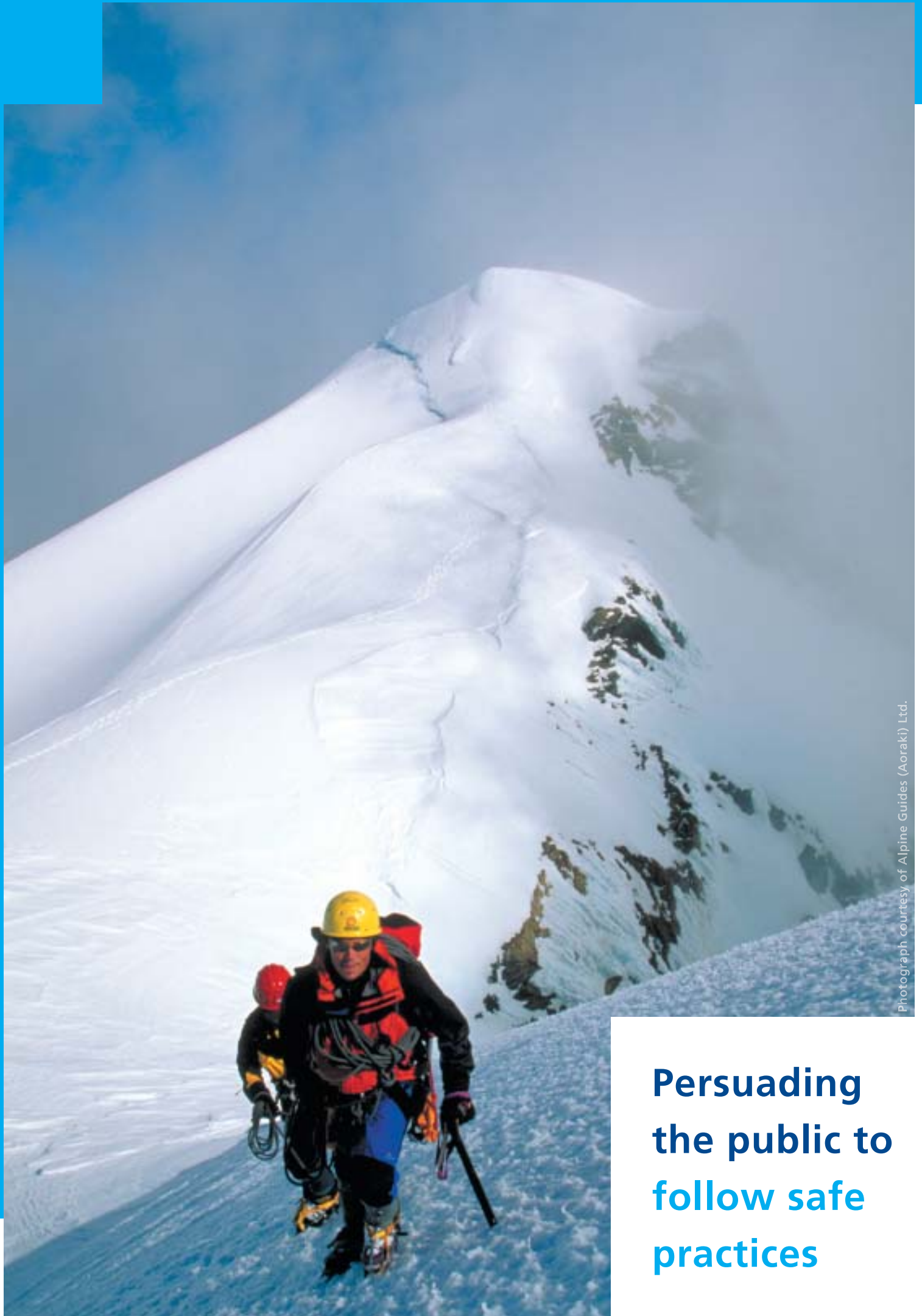


## WHO ARE INVOLVED?

Our activities involve people who:

- use the outdoors for recreation, including people from New Zealand and overseas
- provide services, commercially and voluntarily
- work in the outdoors, including mountain guides, snow control coordinators, and outdoor instructors
- use the outdoors for education and personal development
- belong to organisations involved in outdoor recreational activities that contribute to the shared vision of outdoor safety.

The combined authority of the Council's stakeholders is powerful in persuading the public to follow safe practices.



Photograph courtesy of Alpine Guides (Aoraki) Ltd.

**Persuading  
the public to  
follow safe  
practices**

# strategic issues



The strategic planning process aims to make the Council responsive to stakeholders' needs. Consultation sharpens our focus on critical issues.

## Expanding a range of outdoor activities

New Zealand's range of outdoor activities has expanded dramatically from the traditional activities of tramping, climbing, skiing, and hunting to heli-skiing to bungee jumping. This raises the issue of the level to which we should be involved with different activities.

## Valuing volunteers

Changes in working patterns affect the outdoor activities sector. Because people target their time carefully, the Council must give a clear purpose to volunteers for their time. We must communicate strongly why volunteer service is critical, valuable, and valued.

## Adapting to changing needs

The Council focuses on information, training, and advice. We must adapt to community changes, while retaining quality standards in development and training delivery. Funding and technology provide ongoing challenges.

## Legislation and accountability

The Health and Safety in Employment Act promotes safety management. Organisations must have a code of practice, enhancing the Council's contribution as an advisor.

**The range of outdoor activities in NZ  
has increased dramatically**

# strategic directions



The following strategic directions describe Mountain Safety Council's future. They address the key strategic issues and encompass the guiding principles. They focus on the Council moving forward as a successful community-based organisation with recognised outdoor expertise.

1. Mountain Safety Council will become a nationally recognised brand.
2. We will have highly effective training programmes and information.
3. We will lead in the setting of industry standards.
4. We will have highly effective volunteers and staff.
5. We will have a very cohesive organisation.
6. We will have a broad funding base.

**A successful community-based organisation with recognised outdoor expertise**

# Safety in the outdoors is an essential community service



Photographs courtesy of: John Greenwood, John Coote, Helen McDermott, Mike Spray,  
Tarn Pilkington Koromiko Images, Alpine Guides (*Aoraki*) Ltd.



**OUTDOOR SAFETY**

[www.mountainsafety.org.nz](http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz)  
[www.avalanche.net.nz](http://www.avalanche.net.nz)  
[www.incidentreport.org.nz](http://www.incidentreport.org.nz)

Mountain Safety House, 19 Tory Street  
PO Box 6027, Wellington  
Tel 04 385 7162 Fax 04 385 7366  
[info@mountainsafety.org.nz](mailto:info@mountainsafety.org.nz)

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