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22<sup>th</sup> July 2010

To: The School principal and Teacher in charge of climbing wall (where one exists)

As a result of some climbing wall incidents involving both schools and the commercial sector and the subsequent incident investigation by the Department of Labour (DOL), a hazard management bulletin has been issued by the Department entitled 'Fall from Indoor Rock Climbing Wall' (Feb 2010).

This bulletin and initiatives taken by Skills Active Aotearoa<sup>i</sup>, the New Zealand Outdoor Instructors Association (NZOIA) and the Department of Labour have led to an opportunity for those involved with climbing walls to meet at one of the following venues on the specified dates:

Wellington    1-4pm    11<sup>th</sup> August    St John's in the City, Willis Street

Christchurch    1-4pm    12<sup>th</sup> August    YMCA, 12 Hereford Street

Through a collaborative exercise the Department has formulated a checklist for operators and collated a list of those in New Zealand with climbing walls. Skills Active, NZOIA and the DOL want to hear from operators, including schools, that operate climbing walls and the scheduled meetings are an opportunity for engagement.

The meeting schedule is accessible from the Education Outdoors New Zealand (EONZ) Notice Board, at [www.eonz.org.nz](http://www.eonz.org.nz). Here you will also find a copy of the DOL hazard management bulletin.

NZOIA is managing the arrangements for the meetings and some follow up, including a communication for those unable to attend, therefore the CEO would appreciate a response regarding your ability to attend. Contact [ce@nzoia.org.nz](mailto:ce@nzoia.org.nz).

All schools will be able to access subsequent information through the EONZ website as it is made available. This will include the agreed operational procedures for fixed and mobile climbing walls.

EONZ is the national association for EOTC and outdoor education in schools and welcomes communication from you. Please check the website for contact and membership details.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Liz Thevenard', is positioned above the typed name.

Liz Thevenard  
EONZ Chairperson

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<sup>i</sup> the industry training organisation and thus the standard setting body for all learner assessment matters relating to climbing walls