

Governance Reform Proposal: Initial Appointments Panel

The proposal to implement the independent governance review recommendations represents a significant change to NZR's governance. To support the transition, an initial appointments panel would be established.

This panel would support the completion of the NZR Board selection processes in 2024 and 2025.

The initial appointments panel will carry out the functions of the Appointments Panel and carry out the role of the Stakeholder Council to review the Skills and Competencies Framework and the Needs and Priorities Statement proposed by the NZR Board.

Julia Raue (Chair)

Julia is a professional Independent Director and currently sits on the Boards of The Warehouse Group, Southern Cross Medical Insurance, Southern Cross Healthcare, Southern Cross Travel Insurance, Jade Software, Move Logistics, and Global Women. Julia chairs a number of Nominations and People Committees, and has led the recruitment of many Independent Director, CEO and Executive team roles.

Julia became a member of the NZR Appointments & Remuneration Committee in 2021, moving to Chair of that Committee for 2022 and 2023.

Prior to her governance career Julia was the Chief Information Officer at Air New Zealand. She was awarded the NZ CIO of the Year award in 2009, along with a number of local and global technology and airline awards.

Julia is a Chartered Member of the New Zealand Institute of Directors and a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Rob Fisher

Rob was a practicing lawyer for forty years at Simpson Grierson, including ten years as Chair. In 2009 he was appointed as General Counsel to the Auckland Transition Agency, overseeing integration of local and regional councils to form Auckland City. Former directorships include Genesis Energy, Sport New Zealand and Deputy Chair of the Middlemore Foundation.

Rob had a parallel career in rugby administration, including Chair of Auckland Rugby Union. He oversaw the transition of the Union from a committee of 27 to a Board of nine including appointees. He was an NZR Councillor and became a member of the inaugural Board, retiring in 2002. He served as a delegate to the International Rugby Board and was its inaugural voted Vice Chairman from 1996 to 2002. Rob was previously NZR Chair (1997-1999) and has chaired the NZR Appeal Council since 1996.

During a long career in business and rugby Rob has been involved in the process of appointing many people to board and senior executive positions.

Peter Kean

Peter spent almost 30 years with Lion, beginning as a Sales Executive, then progressing through several roles, including South Island Regional Director and National Director of Sales, before becoming Managing Director of Lion Beer, Spirits & Wine New Zealand. He was Managing Director of Lion Dairy & Drinks based in Melbourne before returning to home to become Group International Director for Lion Corporate.

Peter completed the 'Shaping Strategy' programme at Mt Eliza Business School (Melbourne) and has completed the 'Programme for Management Development' and the 'Making Corporate Boards More Effective' programme at Harvard University.

Peter is currently a Director of Freightways and Trojan Holdings, Chair of The Highlanders, Chair of Scapegrace Gin Company and The Lion Foundation. He was previously on the Board of the New Zealand Business Round Table.

Peter has extensive rugby governance experience, including three years on The Highlanders Board as the New Zealand Rugby representative and six years as a New Zealand Rugby Board member.

Whaimutu Dewes

A strong advocate of the revitalisation of te reo Māori, Whaimutu Dewes (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Rangitahi) has as a guiding principle one of the strictures of his elders to realise the aspirations of the people for the generations that follow.

With a background in law and commerce, Whaimutu, a Chartered Fellow of the IOD, has a long career in governance. Current roles include Chair of Ngāti Porou Forests Group, deputy chair of Transpower NZ, co-chair of High Value Nutrition (NSC) and board member of Taumata Māori (Adjunct to Sport NZ Ihi Aotearoa).

Previous governance roles include Chair of Ngāti Porou Seafoods, Aotearoa Fisheries and the Sealord Group, and board member of Contact Energy, Ngāti Porou Holding Company, Housing New Zealand, Television New Zealand and the Advisory Boards to the Treasury, the Department of Corrections and to AMP(NZ).

Whaimutu was a member of the Independent Panel for the review of NZR's Constitution and Governance Structure and Processes.

Caren Rangi

Caren started her career as a chartered accountant and auditor with the Office of the Auditor-General. She chose a career in governance to contribute a grassroots Pasifika and Cook Islands perspective to Board decision-making and governance practices in New Zealand.

Current governance roles include Chair of NGO Pacific Homecare and Deputy Chair, Pacific Co-operation Broadcasting Ltd (Pasifika TV). She is also member of the Boards of Massey University, the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, and Hawke's Bay Regional Economic

Development Agency. Caren recently completed a three year term as Chair of the Arts Council of New Zealand. Caren brings to boards skills and experience in strategy, financial and risk management and building strong board culture.

In 2018, she became an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to governance and the Pacific community. Caren is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, a Member of the Institute of Directors, their Chapter Zero NZ Steering Committee and Pacific Advisory Group.

Professor Dame Farah Palmer

Professor Dame Farah has extensive experience as a director within sport and te ao Māori. She currently sits on the Sport New Zealand Board, and has been a member of the New Zealand Rugby Board since 2016. She is Chair of the New Zealand Māori Rugby Board, and President of the New Zealand Rugby Museum.

For five years, she was part of the Steering Committee for New Zealand Women in Leadership, and is a member of the Global Women Network and Institute of Directors New Zealand.

Professor Dame Farah is Pou Ākonga, Executive Director, Ākonga Māori Success, Office of the DVC Māori at Massey University. Her research and teaching focuses on Māori and gendered issues in sport, leadership and governance.

Dame Farah was a member of the IRB Women's Rugby Strategy Group in 2007 and 2011, and was a former Black Fern, captaining the side to three Rugby World Cup titles.