

**Background Information**

**for**

**Potential Trustees**

**of the**

**Ākina Foundation**

Leadership to ensure...

**A sustainable, prosperous and inclusive  
world by growing the emerging New  
Zealand social enterprise sector**

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# Kōrero o Mua/Background

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The Ākina Foundation is growing social enterprise across New Zealand.

Our mission is to grow the emerging New Zealand social enterprise sector by:

- Activating talent, raising awareness and building capability for social enterprise
- Supporting social enterprises to grow and increase their impact, and
- Developing new market and investment opportunities for social enterprise.

Our vision is for a sustainable, prosperous and inclusive world.

Our name, Ākina, is a Māori word meaning a call for bold action. It also conveys a spirit of watchful and active encouragement, helping others to identify pathways through their challenges.

We believe social entrepreneurs and social enterprise represents a powerful opportunity to build a new economy that regenerates the environment and creates social foundations for people to thrive.

The people who work for Ākina are in service to those who strive to realise a sustainable, prosperous and inclusive world.

In support of social enterprise, we call for bold action, we lead by example, and we commit to our values: being honest, ambitious, determined, ingenious, collaborative, and humble.

## Our history

In 2008, the Tindall and Todd Foundations established the Hikurangi Foundation to support practical action on climate change and the environment. We funded and supported a wide range of grassroots and community-led innovation across New Zealand.

Over time, we started to see that social enterprise could provide a powerful and proven vehicle for driving transformation and change. Hikurangi's mission evolved to focus on five impact areas (transport; housing; consumption & waste; land and ecosystems; energy), and we built an incubation model that supported a range of social enterprises and social entrepreneurs throughout the country.

In early 2014, the government announced funding to expand our incubation and development services for high potential social enterprise across New Zealand, and set out a position statement on social enterprise for the country.

In May 2014, we broadened our mission and adopted a new name for our foundation, Ākina, to help us describe the next chapter in our story.

At present Ākina has:

- Four Trustees
- A team of 26 (approximately 19 FTEs) based in Wellington, Auckland, Christchurch, Gisborne, Tauranga, and Dunedin
- An engaged network of companies and individuals who provide skilled volunteering and professional pro-bono support to both Ākina and the organisations we support.

The current Board has extensive experience and networks across the business, management, social enterprise and community and voluntary sectors. We are now seeking two more exceptional individuals with a passion for social enterprise to add to its strengths.

Please visit our website at [www.akina.org.nz](http://www.akina.org.nz) for more information.

# Pūmanawa Tūranga/Position Description

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<b>Position Title:</b>	Trustee
<b>Responsible for:</b>	Governance on the Board of the Ākina Foundation
<b>Location:</b>	Flexible within Aotearoa/New Zealand
<b>Hours:</b>	<p>It is expected that Trustees will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Attend a minimum of two-thirds of meetings of the Board annually, as well as committees of which they are a member, having prepared in advance. Commitment is a half-day per month. Apart from Board meetings, attendance by teleconference is usually possible.</li><li>– Send apologies and comments in advance of meetings they will miss.</li><li>– Undertake a fair and reasonable share of Foundation work that falls to Trustees.</li><li>– Where possible, take up opportunities to develop skills relevant to their work with the Foundation.</li></ul>
<b>Term:</b>	Trustees are appointed for a term of two years but are eligible for re-appointment for a further term of two years and then an unlimited number of subsequent terms of one year. For the avoidance of doubt, a Trustee may be appointed for a particular project and therefore for a particular period relating to that project, provided that the period does not exceed two years. (Under review)
<b>Salary:</b>	Trustees are currently unpaid. The costs of attendance at meetings and related Foundation work are reimbursed.

# Ngā Āhuatanga me ngā Haepapa Matua/Main Roles & Responsibilities

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Trustees have many opportunities to contribute, in addition to the core roles outlined below:

## **Governance:**

- Govern the Foundation in accordance with the Charity Deed
- Contribute to strategy and policy development
- Attend a yearly Board retreat, held near the beginning of the year, to plan the strategic direction of Ākina for the year
- Attend Board meetings, at which most of the above work is carried out. There are usually five Board meetings per year, held over a half day in Wellington - but in other centres at least once per year.

**Participation** in sub-committees focusing on specific areas of work:

- Finance
- People/HR.

The Finance Committee meets five or six times a year, typically in the week prior to the full Board meeting. The People Committee meets three times a year, with the option for further meetings if required. The committees' activities maintain momentum between Board meetings and may not change the Foundation's strategy without Board approval.

## **Advice**

- Contribute expertise and networks to the Foundation's work, where relevant.

# Te Tino Tangata/Person Specification

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The Board seeks to collectively represent a broad range of attributes, skills, knowledge and experience. In addition to the not-negotiable requirements of availability and a sense of humour, potential trustees will ideally have at least one of the following attributes:

- Solid experience in governance and leadership roles, particularly working within and between the private, public and NGO sectors
- Strong strategic thinking and scenario assessment abilities
- Financial, strategic and political acumen
- Experience with and awareness of social enterprise, social finance, pressing social and environmental issues, and enabling complex social change
- Wide networks within the Aotearoa New Zealand
- Experience in the community and voluntary sectors
- Experience in the corporate and professional sectors
- Experience in the philanthropic and investment sectors
- Committed to the Foundation's mission, values, and objectives
- Awareness of Treaty of Waitangi issues.

The Board is committed to being both diverse and inclusive, and aims to comprise a mix of experience, perspectives, gender, age and ethnicity.

Specifically, the Ākina Board is seeking Trustees with experience and expertise in the following areas:

- Engaging with senior decision makers in the government, business, community and philanthropic sectors
- Funds development and network building
- Structuring and diversification of revenue generation
- Organisational development and human resource management
- Financial strategy and social investment
- Impact measurement and reporting.

# **Māramatanga Pukatono/Application Information**

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Please apply with a CV and a supporting statement outlining the motivation for your interest and how you think you could add value to the work of the Ākina Foundation.

Applications can be emailed to:

The Trustees of the Ākina Foundation  
Ākina Foundation  
PO Box 25335, Featherston Street  
Wellington 6146

**Deadline for applications: 30 April 2018**