

Nominees' Briefs

1. Olive Guy (nominee for Māori Representative)

I am proud to be locally grown, having lived here all my life and having participated in a wide range of community activities. My whanau have been active within the farming and business community of Whangaroa and across the Far North.

I am adept at financial management having worked as a finance professional for over 20 years. I am an expert in accounts and have developed and delivered financial reports across a wide range of ventures. I am a Business Owner and Leader and had recently joined Whangaroa Health Services Trust Board.

I am passionate about giving back to our Community and believe that I possess key skills, knowledge and expertise that would benefit greatly Whangaroa Health Services Trust.

2. Emma Hepi (nominee for Māori Representative)

“It takes a Village to raise a Child”...proverb unknown
It takes a Community to Support a Village...

1. I am a committed community supporter. It gives me a sense of purpose and indeed fulfilment- to share my skills, to help to make a difference, to contribute meaningfully.
2. I support the Whangaroa Health Service Trust for their kaupapa- past and present. Vision...Better health for every person living in Whangaroa. Purpose...To support community and whānau with health needs to live fulfilling lives. Values...Tino rangatiratanga...People first, respect and care for families.
3. My working background is with ADHB, 36 years as Clerk Administrator, Emergency Department Auckland City Hospital. Trained as Health and Safety Clerical Representative, for The Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 and from 1993 to the new Health and Safety at Work Act 2015- Commitment, competence, communication and control are basically skills I have found apply to all organisations .
I am a founding member of Te Herenga Waka Marae Orewa, which is based in Silverdale. I became a Justice of the Peace for Aotearoa, New Zealand in 2001.
I have served 10 years on TeTii(Waitangi)B3 Trustee Board-2015 to 2026
I have served 5 years on Nga Uri o Maikuku Raua ko Huatakaroa Charitable Trust Board- 2020 to 2026

3. Bree Davis (nominee for General Representative)

I am a senior Māori leader with extensive experience across iwi development, community well-being and tertiary education. In my current role as Chief Executive Officer of Te Rūnanga o Whangaroa, I provide strategic and operational leadership to grow the organisation and deliver on its strategic plan, with full accountability for performance, risk and regulatory compliance. I work confidently with government entities, key stakeholders and iwi beneficiaries, and I lead with a clear focus on strengthening outcomes for whānau, hapū and iwi.

My leadership style is value-led and highly collaborative. I prioritise clear communication, critical analysis and critical thinking to find practical pathways through complex challenges.

I have held senior academic leadership roles and maintain a commitment to lifelong learning. I am an active contributor in governance and kaupapa Māori spaces that keep me grounded in community priorities. I am committed to being an enabler – opening doors, aligning people and resources and creating conditions for whānau to flourish.

4. Ali Gale (nominee for General Representative)

Background in Social Sciences (Honours degree) and tertiary education management.

- Strong commitment to equity, fairness, and supporting diverse communities.
- Postgraduate study in Disaster Risk Management and Development with emphasis on community resilience.
- Experience improving processes and supporting operational teams in complex environments.
- Completed project management certification to strengthen planning, stakeholder engagement and coordination skills.
- Beginner level te reo Māori proficiency.
- Previous experience as Group Secretary for Far North Search and Rescue.
- Clear, reliable communicator with strong organisational and analytical skills.
- Early career experience in addiction sector, providing insight to challenges faced by vulnerable clients.
- Collaborative problem-solver and decision-maker.

5. Paul Mitchell (nominee for General Representative)

I have recently retired along with my wife Karleena to our Whangaroa property of 40 years. I grew up in Geraldine and Hokitika and my wife is from Singapore. I trained as a cancer specialist in Auckland and London, then practiced in Melbourne. I have held senior advisory roles with the Australian and Victoria governments, have chaired the joint NZ/Australia lung cancer research organisation for 6 years and have sat on the peak NZ research funding committee for over 5 years. More recently, I partnered with the Victorian Government to establish a continuing practice improvement model based on patient outcome data.

6. Julia Stewart (nominee for General Representative)

I have exceptional self-management, strong leadership, and relationship-building skills, am excellent at juggling multiple tasks and working under pressure. I am a professional who is concise, articulate and able to generate confidence and manage relationships with others at all levels. I pride myself on being confident and future-focused, with the ability to promote a positive team spirit and foster individual strengths with broad knowledge and experience across a variety of industries.

As a long-standing trustee on the board of Kia Aroha College, I am a very committed and passionate person on the Kaupapa of this college. My children, who are adults now, attended this school. My strengths were supporting developing change within this college which allowed me to provide consistency and support through project management whilst we were changing from an intermediate to a full campus in a bilingual setting.

What I can bring to Whangaroa Health Services Trust is my ability to understand the difference between governance and management. I have been committed to the health and wellbeing of our whānau in the Whangaroa area for a very long time and acknowledge the kaupapa of Kauri Lodge and support we can give to any residents or those wishing or needing our support.

7. Jessica Williams (nominee for General Representative)

I am a proud Kāeo local educator and community member dedicated to improving outcomes for whānau across Whangaroa. With over 20 years in education and a strong background in governance, I currently serve as Chair of the Whangaroa Health Services Trust and previously held the role of Presiding Member of the Whangaroa College Board. I hold a Bachelor of Education, a Graduate Diploma in Māori Development (policy) and a Masters in Change and Organisational Resiliency. I am passionate about hauora, kaupapa Māori, and sustainable community development and bring strategic leadership, integrity, and a deep commitment to strengthening health services for future generations.

8. Stephen Wright (nominee for General Representative)

- Retired IT specialist now living in Kaeo.
- Some Health industry experience from work with UK National Health Service and various US Health and Life Sciences organisations.
- Experience with Board structures and governance processes – especially with a view to focus on delivering prioritised outcomes by efficient use of resources.
- Was an active PA user with a strong interest in ongoing preventative health. Active member and supporter of local 405 fitness group.
- Willing to support and advocate for the local community as a trustee if elected.