



Te Whānau Tupu Ngātahi o Aotearoa

Perehitana Takirua | Co-President nomination form

The successful nominee will need to complete a form for 'fit and proper person' and 'conflicts of interest' statutory declarations, which are required from governing members of a private training establishment (PTE) under the Education and Training Act 2020 ("the Act")

Policy (Pre-requisites-Remits from NZPF Conference 1993):

- All Playcentre Aotearoa Officers and nominees (elected and/or appointed) to have completed Treaty of Waitangi workshops and participate in ongoing training in Treaty and Bi-Cultural related issues.
- Representatives reflect their commitment to Playcentre by choosing Playcentre as the main early childhood education for their children

Name:	Michelle Hutton
Playcentre:	Ex-member of Blockhouse Bay Playcentre
Rōpū Māori:	
Governance Region:	Auckland



EDUCATION AND SKILLS THAT WOULD ADD VALUE TO THE TRUSTEE BOARD

What have you bi-culturally contributed to your Playcentre | Rōpū Māori?

Being on the Trustee Board for the last three years has deepened my understanding and experience of bi-cultural partnership. The Board as a whole have consistently worked to build and maintain respectful relationships, and in my personal practice I have embraced the principles of Āta.

Through my Playcentre education journey to Course 4, I studied Te Ao Māori including Tikanga Māori, Te Reo and Te Tiriti o Waitangi. I have also facilitated many workshops/modules in both the old and new Adult Education programmes including Course 3 Te Tiriti o Waitangi and B401, B402, B403 & B404 on many occasions, as well as participating in professional development opportunities as they arise. Prior to joining the Board, being able to experience the two-house model at many national meetings and as a negotiator at AGM 2018 further enhanced my understanding of Playcentre's partnership journey.

I have also been very fortunate to have been embraced by whānau Māori in several different contexts outside of Playcentre. These experiences and the studies I have undertaken have enriched my life and expanded my understanding and awareness. I bring this into my roles at Playcentre through sharing the knowledge I have with others, using Te Reo Māori regularly, and embracing our partnership journey. I am dedicated to continuing my bi-cultural journey through further conversation, professional development, and reflection, and through this supporting Playcentre alongside our partners in Te Whare Tikanga Māori.

What will you contribute to Te Whānau Tupu Ngātahi o Aotearoa?

My life has been steeped in Playcentre kaupapa, with three generations of my whanau being involved in Playcentre almost continuously since I was an infant through to the present day. Playcentre is my passion, and I am absolutely committed to ensuring we continue to thrive into the future. Playcentre is on an incredible journey of change, and I am looking forward to continuing to play a key role in supporting this mahi. Over the past three years on the Board I have had a myriad of opportunities for learning and growth on both personal and professional levels. I have a sound understanding of the challenges and triumphs the organisation has faced and our pathway towards the future. I have experience in working closely with both internal and external teams and agencies to support the work of Playcentre.

My personal leadership philosophy is centred around collaboration, meeting others where they are, and finding commonalities on which to build successful partnerships. I have excellent written and verbal communication skills. I enjoy working with groups of people who have a variety of perspectives and experiences and bringing them together to facilitate effective decision making.

I was a Playcentre child, joining Playcentre at 6 months of age in Hastings. As a parent I started my Playcentre journey in the Space programme with Fynn (now 10 years old), following which we joined South City Playcentre in Hastings. In 2014 we moved to Tāmaki Makaurau and Felix (now nearly 7 years old) joined our whānau. We were welcomed at Blockhouse Bay Playcentre and were very involved members until Felix graduated at the end of 2019. I have been active in all levels of governance throughout my time in Playcentre, beginning with attending my first conference/AGM in 2014. I have attended every Tāngata Tiriti Hui since their inception in 2016, and all national meetings since 2017. I was also on the Auckland Playcentres Association governance board including roles as Vice President and President (from 2017 until amalgamation in June 2019).

As Perehitana Takirua/Co-President, I hope to continue to be an effective advocate for all Playcentres and members. I appreciate the opportunity to walk alongside our partners in Te Whare Tikanga Māori as we navigate this journey together. It would be an honour and a privilege to serve our tamariki and whānau as Perehitana Takirua/Co-President.

What will you contribute to the Trustee Board?

I bring to the role of Perehitana Takirua/Co-President strengths in communication, the ability to breakdown complex information into manageable chunks, maintaining a view of the bigger picture when faced with multidimensional situations, building understanding through conversation, and solution-focused thinking. I have also had experience in organisational change management, and have been utilising these skills to assist Playcentre.

During my time as a Trustee, I have further developed my understanding of both governance and management and the distinction between the two. I have excellent working relationships with other members of the Trustee Board and senior management team. As a member of the Board I have worked closely with the General Manager and supported them in operationalising Playcentre's vision. I have respectfully participated in robust discussions when necessary and worked collaboratively to achieve the best outcome for Playcentre.

Over the last three years I have participated in several professional development opportunities specifically related to not-for-profit/for-purpose governance, and have actively built a network of contacts and advisors within this space.

Provide a brief non-Playcentre work, volunteer, education and life history prior to and/or during Playcentre

I have a Bachelor of Technology (majoring in Food Technology) and prior to becoming a parent I worked for a large multi-national food company for 10 years in a variety of roles, from technical to management. During this time I gained skills in working with people from a wide range of backgrounds/cultures, organisational change management and leadership in a variety of platforms, stakeholder engagement, working cooperatively within and leading multi-disciplinary teams, project management, financial management, prioritisation and time management skills (both for myself and for teams I was managing).

I was also active in promoting STEM in schools (both primary and secondary) through NZIFST, as an ambassador for FutureInTech, and mentored students in a range of industry-related projects. I loved this work of inspiring the next generation and awakening them to the myriad of possibilities for themselves.

I am currently working part-time as a specialist dyslexia tutor, working one-on-one with students to support their success. This work is hugely rewarding, and I am immensely grateful for the skills and experience gained during my time at Playcentre which I have been able to utilise with great success. I am continually inspired by the young people I support and the challenges they work towards overcoming on a daily basis.

Time Commitment – please comment on your ability to meet the time commitment for the Trustee Board Member role:

Having now been on the Trustee Board for three years, and Co-President for the last five months I have a full understanding of the commitments required, and can confidently confirm that I have the capacity available to dedicate to the Perehitana Takirua/Co-President role. I have the full support of my whānau and a robust self-care plan in place to ensure my sustainability in this role.

REFERENCES

Name of referee	Tiso Ross
Telephone	
Email	

If you have questions you wish to be directed to the nominee, please send them to Co-presidents@playcentre.org.nz to be forwarded on.