

Questions for Tangata Tiriti Trustee Nominees - 2022

Name: Jacqui Haultain

What is your position on the new proposals/recommendations that the Trustee Board shared with members on 16 May?

I believe that the old constitution has significant issues which need to be fixed. The old constitution contradicts itself and does need to be update to include new legislation which we need to update our constitution with. With needing to make these changes, we effectively as an organisation have a “blank slate” where we can decide what we want to look like, what’s important to us and how we can operate and then enshrine that in a new structure.

I would have liked to have seen some more consultation with membership, even a high level review of what status we want to have taken as an organisation (trust vs. incorporated society) and some more around the who and why and how we want to operate and created frameworks to engage with membership. That doesn’t mean that we might not have ended up with the same recommendations being presented, but I feel like it would have been a more robust process and voices would be able to be heard rather than being told this is what is happening and setting tight timeframes for us to now understand and try to decide if this is what we want and is right for us and potentially getting things wrong and causing us grief with a trust deed which contradicts itself again.

Unfortunately, by the time that one of the nominees is elected to the trust board, the trust deed will be already accepted or rejected and so my efforts to make any difference to this will be as a rep and trying to get my region to understand it, propose changes and discuss this nationally at the upcoming hui and with the trustees. The trust deed does need some work and this is not something that will be easy to update in the future.

Do you support the current board recommendations for Ki te pae tawhiti? If there are any you don’t support, please provide a brief summary of your preferred alternative solution to the current challenges that Playcentre Aotearoa faces.

Again, I would like to understand the reasoning behind these, which would help with the decision-making process. Do I think that there are alternatives? Yes. Are they are best for us? Again, I can’t argue either way as I don’t have all the facts, especially around the risks that the board have mentioned several times. The detail is key for me to be able to suggest much.

Some alternatives that I can think of might include that we install a national system to monitor our health and safety at centres (i.e. we could do our hazard checks on a programme on the tablet which the national office can then get in real time) rather than have a kaimahi to ensure compliance, it would be nice to have an option to opt in to having a kaimahi for those who need the support then putting one in every centre. A lot of the kaimahi workload could also be covered off by training and empowering our CAs to have proper frameworks to support and gauge where centres are at and then using that information about a group of centres to build targeted PLD and build learning communities between centres.

There’s also changes coming up to the Charities Act to ease requirements on smaller charities and for the larger charities increase reporting and transparency to the public, so has this been considered in the decision to centralise funds and assets, which will mean that we will be

responsible to declare and explain all our cash, assets or other assets we have accumulated and then assess what the impact may be to grants and other funding opportunities we might have.

Again, unfortunately, I will only have a say through our centre coming up with a vote yes or no on this, it will already be decided upon and will have no say in the recommendations or the final trust deed that they will be releasing in July.

What is one thing you would change about the current proposal, Ki te pae tawhiti, and why?

I think it would be to give more time and ensure that this process is done right. The ability to change the trust deed given the current draft that is released will be nearly impossible, and there are some key things that is in the trust deed which can never be changed (even in 50 years time) like the purpose of our organisation, our values and philosophy, which seems odd as we do have to continue to adapt and adjust as the world around us changes.

So in saying that, it is really important for us to engage and try to have as many of these conversations now, talk to your reps and make sure that they carry your voice to the national hui and amend that trust deed to be the best that it can be, and then you get your say as a centre in July and do vote – whether that is a Yes or No. If I am elected to the trust board, I will carry that mandate that you give, either way – whether that is a yes or no vote. I am in a centre and so can offer a perspective from a centre point of view and how the decisions made by the board will affect our day-to-day life (for better or worse).

Please feel free to get in touch with me if you want to chat more about anything throughout this process (whether I am elected to the board or not).