

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Kuia Trust
2025 TRUSTEE ELECTION
Information Sheet



Background Information

This information sheet outlines information which may be of interest to you as a candidate in the 2025 election of Trustees for Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Kuia Trust (TRoNK). It has been prepared as a guide to assist candidates and others interested in election issues with general information. Candidates or other persons requiring more detailed information should contact the Returning Officer.

TRoNK is the Post Settlement Governance Entity (PSGE) created in 2009 to receive and manage the assets arising from the Treaty of Waitangi Settlement. TRoNK is governed by up to seven Trustees. The current elected Trustees are Tania Alesana, Wayne Hemi, Kim Hippolite, Rebecca Mason, Carolynn Tipene, Huataki Whareaitu and Elaine Wilson.

Governance Structure

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Kuia Trust
(TRoNK)

Kaikaiāwaro
Charitable Trust

Te Hoiere Asset
Holding Company

Responsibilities

The main responsibilities of the Trustees include:

- Setting the strategic direction of the Trust
- Regular reporting to stakeholders, ensuring that all reporting, including financial reporting, is accurate and not misleading
- Ensuring that the objectives of the Trust, as outlined in the Deed of Trust, are achieved
- Ensuring that the Trust complies with all relevant legislation and contractual commitments
- Attending Board meetings
- Contributing to Board meetings in an informed and constructive manner
- Developing and authorising Trust policies
- Managing risks effectively
- Supporting the decisions of the Board

Rotation of Trustees and Term of Office

The Trust Deed requires that the TRoNK Trustees are to be elected on a rotational basis, with the elected Trustees holding office for a three year term. This year Kim Hippolite and Wayne Hemi complete their terms of office and must retire by rotation after the AGM. The retiring trustees can stand for re-election if they choose.

Residency Requirements

The TRoNK Trust Deed requires at least five of the seven Trustees to reside within Te Taihū (the area within the boundaries of the Marlborough and Tasman District Councils and the Nelson City Council). Currently one of the existing Trustees reside outside Te Taihū.

For this election, at least one of the successful candidates must reside within Te Taihū.

Returning Officer

The role of the Returning Officer (RO) is to conduct the election in accordance with the requirements of the Trust Deed, as well as in accordance with standard election management practices.

The Trust has reappointed Anthony Morton from electionz.com as the Returning Officer for this election.

electionz.com is an election management company based in Christchurch. electionz.com has considerable experience conducting elections in New Zealand including numerous polls and elections for Iwi based organisations. electionz.com has provided RO services to TRoNK since 2009.

Subject to the statutory regulations the RO has complete and final control over how the election process is carried out. The RO is engaged by the Trust, but does not take direction from the Trust.

The RO is responsible for all staff, systems, resources, policies, procedures and actions to ensure that the democratic process is carried out with utmost integrity, security and fairness for all parties.

Queries regarding the actions or performance of the RO for TRoNK should be directed to Eugene Whakahoehoe phone 0800 642 845.

Board Meetings and Remuneration

Meeting Frequency & Time Commitments

Quarterly board hui will be held usually on a Friday or Saturday. Thorough preparation before the hui is a requirement.

Trustees are expected to commit to monthly hui that inform key strategic decisions. Trustees will attend quarterly board hui and may have additional mandated responsibilities representing Ngāti Kuia on external boards and committees.

Board Quorum and Voting

To meet the quorum requirements of the Trust Deed, at least 50% of Trustees must be present in person or by telephone or internet for any meeting to discuss ordinary resolutions.

Voting is by way of majority vote.

Meeting Packs

Before each meeting members receive a meeting pack electronically and are required to read the reports, consider the associated recommendations and participate in the discussions during the meeting.

Remuneration

Current Fees		
	Elected Member Fees (may change as required)	Board Elected Chair
Yearly honorarium (paid monthly)	\$29,500	\$58,500

The Rūnanga meets all travel and accommodation costs.

Nominations

Key Dates

- Nominations open on **Monday 8 September 2025**.
- Nominations close at **5pm Wednesday 1 October 2025**.
- A public notice calling for nominations will appear in the Nelson Mail and Marlborough Weekender newspapers from Saturday 6 September 2025.

Increased Expectation and Expertise Contribution

Whānau expect each trustee to possess attributes and competencies to be successful in the trustee role. Trustees are expected to uphold the highest standards of integrity, strategic leadership, informed decision-making, business acumen, and effective communication. Trustees should demonstrate essential attributes of integrity, resilience, and teamwork, and possess competencies in strategic leadership, critical thinking, and stakeholder engagement.

Nomination Forms

Each nomination must be made on an official nomination form. Nomination forms can be requested from the Returning Officer by:

Free Phone: 0800 666 029 (during normal office hours)

Email: iro@electionz.com

Nomination forms can also be requested via the Trust office – Ph 0800 642 845.

Candidate Eligibility

Under section 5.4 of the Trust Deed an individual shall be eligible to be a Trustee if:

- a) *he or she is a registered adult member who is resident in New Zealand*
- b) *he or she is not ineligible under clause 5.5 (refer below).*
- c) *he or she is not an employee of the Rūnanga or a Rūnanga entity*
- d) *he or she is not an employee, Trustee or director of another iwi post-settlement governance entity within Te Taihū or another iwi organisation within Te Taihū*
- e) *he or she is domiciled in Te Taihū if standing for a resident Trustee position.*

Clauses 5.5 and 5.6 of the Trust Deed state:

5.5 A person is ineligible to be a Trustee if the person:

- (a) *Does not meet all the criteria in clause 5.4 except that persons not standing for the office of resident Trustee need not satisfy clause 5.4 (e);*
- (b) *Is bankrupt and or has within the last five years been adjudged bankrupt;*
- (c) *Is or has ever been convicted of an offence involving dishonesty as defined in section 2(1) of the Crimes Act 1961, or an offence under section 373(4) of the Companies Act 1993 (unless that person is an eligible individual for the purposes of the Criminal Records (Clean Slate) Act 2004);*
- (d) *Is or has ever been disqualified from being a director of a company registered under the Companies Act 1955 or the Companies Act 1993;*

- (e) *Is or has ever been removed as a Trustee of a trust by order of a Court on the grounds of breach of trust, lack of competence or failure to carry out the duties of a Trustee satisfactorily;*
- (f) *Becomes subject to a compulsory treatment order under the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992; or*
- (g) *Becomes subject to a property order made under section 30 or section 31 of the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988; or*

5.6 An employee of the Rūnanga or of a Rūnanga Entity may be nominated for election as a Trustee, but if elected must forthwith resign his or her position as an employee, of an Rūnanga Entity as the case may be.

Lodgement of Nomination Forms

Nominations close at 5pm Wednesday 1 October 2025.

- Any nominations received after **5pm Wednesday 1 October 2025** will be invalid and will not be processed.
- Nomination forms should be emailed to the Returning Officer in the first instance. Because the postal system is prone to unexpected delays the RO recommends that candidates do NOT use this method to deliver their completed nomination forms.
- Nominators do not need to complete the same form. If submitting separate forms ensure the candidate's name is clearly listed in the Candidate Name section on each form.
- Once lodged, nomination forms are checked to ensure that the candidate and nominators are adult registered members of TRoNK with the required residential status.

Each candidate is encouraged to submit a profile statement and a recent photo with the completed nomination form (see next column for further details on the format of candidate profile statements and photos)

The lodgment of nomination forms should not be left to the last minute. Should a nomination be lodged late on the day nominations close, and be incorrectly completed or refer to an ineligible nominator, there may be insufficient time to correct the situation and the nomination could be invalidated.

The Returning Officer will email or give phone confirmation of an accepted nomination to each candidate as soon as the nomination form is verified. Please contact the election helpline if you have not received confirmation of your nomination within 24 hours of lodgement.

Processes After the Close of Nominations

If more than two candidates are nominated a voting process will be required. A listing of the confirmed candidates and any required election details will be listed on the Trust's website as soon as possible after the nominations have been confirmed. Candidates will be emailed a copy of that notice.

Candidate Profiles

The Trust encourages candidates to provide a profile and photo with their nomination form. In the event an election is required, these are collated by the Returning Officer and forwarded to registered members with the voting papers.

Candidate Profile Statements

- **Must not** exceed 250 words in total
The word limit will be strictly enforced
- Special formatting (macrons, bold, italics, underlining, quote marks etc.) are permitted but should be applied before the profile is submitted. The RO is not responsible for correcting incomplete or incorrect profiles.
- **Must** be confined to information concerning the candidate, and the candidate's policies and intentions if elected
- **May** include a recent (i.e. less than one year old) photograph of the candidate only (i.e. not part of a group)

Photos should preferably be in colour and submitted in an electronic format (scanned as a jpg attachment on email), but hard copy photos will be accepted and will be scanned at 300 dpi by the Chief Returning Officer. Photos should show a clear view of the candidate's head and shoulders. Sunglasses, hats or other items likely to obstruct that view should not be worn. (N.B. hard copies of photos will not be returned to candidates).

Queries

Any queries regarding candidate profiles or other parts of the election process should be directed to the Returning Officer on 0800 666 029.

Eligibility to Vote

In the event an election is required, voting papers will be sent to all adult registered members of the Trust who have current contact details. To register or update contact details applicants can: ring or email the Trust office – Ph 0800 642 845 or tari@ngatikua.iwi.nz.

Campaigning and Vote Processing

Campaigning

In the event an election is required, campaigning can be undertaken on the following basis:

- Campaigning can commence at any time;
- If a candidate chooses to undertake advertising as part of their campaigning, those advertising costs are the responsibility of the candidate. There is no monetary limit for campaigning costs;
- Advertising material cannot include any TRoNK logos or branding or links to TRoNK social media resources;
- No election material can contain any untrue statement defamatory of any candidate or TRoNK administration.
- No election material may contain an imitation voting paper which has the names of the candidates with any direction or indication as to the candidate an elector should vote for, or in any way contain such direction or indication likely to influence the voter;
- Voting papers are not permitted to be collected from members by candidates or persons on their behalf. Each member is required to post or deliver his or her own voting paper to the Returning Officer (or exercise their own vote electronically if they choose that voting method).

Any acts committed by candidates that constitute criminal offences will be referred to the Police.

Electoral Rolls

The Electoral Roll (being the list of descendant members) is not available to candidates for electioneering purposes.

Vote Processing and Election Results

If an election is required, voting papers will be posted to adult registered members on Wednesday 16 October 2024. Postal and internet voting will close at 5pm on Wednesday 6 November 2024. A freepost envelope will be included with each voting paper for those that want to vote by post. Ballot box voting at the AGM, to be held on Saturday 9 November 2024 at Te Hora Marae, Te Hora Pa Road, Canvastown, Marlborough commencing at 10.30am will also be available. Should any significant event prevent the hui from taking place at Te Hora Marae, the Trustees advise that the alternate venue will be the Nelson Office. Returned voting papers and internet votes will be processed by *electionz.com* at its premises at 3/3 Pukaki Road, Christchurch.

A preliminary election result will be available as soon as all special voting papers have been checked. It is hoped that will be completed in time for the result to be announced at the TRoNK AGM on Saturday 9 November 2024. The final result will be released as soon as possible after any special votes have been checked and verified. It is expected that will be Tuesday 12 November 2024. The final result will be made available to the candidates and then listed on the Trust's website immediately after release.

Scrutineers

There is no provision in the TRoNK Trust Deed rules for candidates to appoint scrutineers.