



Trustee vacancies

Whakahonoa Te Taitokerau (ki te Taiao)

Whenua ora, wai ora, tangata ora. In three generations Te Tai Tokerau is a flourishing tapestry of abundant and resilient ecosystems: healthy lands, healthy waters, healthy people.

Who we are

Reconnecting Northland is an independent, systems-change organisation established in 2017. We work as a connectivity catalyst across Te Tai Tokerau, supporting community-led ecological restoration and regenerative economic development at landscape scale. Tātai whenua, tātai tangata, tātai oranga: connected environments, people and wellbeing.

We deliver our kaupapa through four integrated strategies:

- Connectivity Partnership: aligning government, philanthropic, and impact investment capital to support community-led environmental initiatives at scale.
- Te Kete Hononga: our backbone coordination, training, and governance-support platform, delivered through place-based Kairaranga (metaphorical weavers) who work alongside communities.
- Tapere (District Model): landscape-scale ecological connectivity through coordinated restoration across catchments and ecosystems.
- Nature-Based Enterprise: regenerative revenue streams for communities, including biodiversity and nature credit projects, that align with the ecosystems they rely upon.

What we have built

- Nine years of operation as a Te Tai Tokerau based charitable trust, with a small team of staff supported by a Board of Trustees.
- Active work across approximately 100,000 hectares of native forest, waterways, wetlands, and coastal ecosystems in partnership with iwi, hapū, and community collectives. Around 70% of the communities we partner with are Māori.
- Ongoing, established relationships with government agencies, philanthropic funders, and impact-investment partners.
- Independence from both government and specific community entities, positioning us to broker partnerships and steward blended finance at regional scale.

The Board wishes to expand and strengthen its governance contribution and seeks expressions of interest for three priority roles.

Treasurer / Chair of Audit and Risk

A Trustee with a background in finance, accounting or audit, to help strengthen the Board's financial oversight. This might be a chartered accountant, an experienced finance leader, someone from the not-for-profit sector, or another background that brings sound financial judgement. Familiarity with charitable trust reporting is welcome but not essential. The Trustee in this role would help lead audit and risk conversations at the Board table and offer financial guidance as the organisation grows.

Nature Finance / Impact Investment Trustee

A Trustee with knowledge or experience in impact investment, sustainable finance, or nature-based markets. This might include people working in impact investing, biodiversity and carbon markets, corporate sustainability, philanthropic capital, or blended finance. Networks in any of these fields are helpful. The Trustee in this role would help us think through how to grow our nature-based enterprise work and how to engage with the emerging nature-markets landscape in Aotearoa.

Major Gifts / Institutional Fundraising Trustee

A Trustee with experience or networks in fundraising, philanthropy, or grant-making. This might include people who have raised capital for a charitable programme, worked in a family foundation or Crown funding role, built corporate community-investment relationships, or led major-gifts campaigns. The Trustee in this role would help us build and broaden the mix of funding partners supporting our mahi.

Attributes we value across all roles

- Alignment with our kaupapa and a Te Tiriti informed partnership approach
- High personal integrity
- Time available to engage substantively with Board papers and meetings
- A collaborative disposition and willingness to work respectfully alongside diverse partners
- A clean conflict-of-interest profile relative to Reconnecting Northland's activities

How the Board operates

The Board meets a minimum of four times per year, with additional, infrequent meetings during periods of active programme development as required to support operational matters. Trustees are appointed under the Trust Deed for four-year terms (with provision for a second term). The role is voluntary; expenses are reimbursed per the Trust Deed.

What we offer

- Meaningful mahi contributing to Te Tai Tokerau's ecological restoration and community wellbeing

- A collegial, values-aligned Board and a small, high-performing operational team
- The opportunity to shape a growing organisation at a pivotal moment
- Access to a nationally significant, kaupapa Māori partnered restoration model

How to apply

Expressions of interest should be sent to liz@reconnectingnorthland.org.nz and should include:

- A brief CV or LinkedIn profile
- A short statement (max 500 words) on how your experience aligns with one or more of the roles above
- Any interests you have declared or would need to declare under conflict-of-interest protocols

Applications close 21 August 2026.

For a confidential conversation, please contact Liz Oliver, Chair, at liz@reconnectingnorthland.org.nz.

Website: www.reconnectingnorthland.org.nz

Reconnecting Northland is a Te Tiriti informed organisation. We welcome expressions of interest from candidates of all backgrounds, and particularly from wāhine and from Māori.