



**LEADERSHIP
NEW ZEALAND**
Pumanawa Kaiarahi O Aotearoa

About us



Who we are

Founded in 2003 by a collective of prominent New Zealand leaders, the Leadership New Zealand Trust exists to enrich New Zealand and to foster a culture of leadership in our nation. It aims to ensure that New Zealand leaders understand and are equipped for the challenges of leadership throughout the community.

The organisation is governed and supported by prominent and passionate leaders from all sectors of New Zealand society.



Our Trustees



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Chair, Leadership NZ; Company Director



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Strategy, Partnerships, Stakeholder
Engagement and Social Change;
Leadership NZ Alumna 2007



Teresa Tepania-Ashton

Chief Executive Officer, Maori
Women's Development Inc;
Leadership NZ Alumna 2006



“ Ultimately, we are building a diverse network of talented leaders from across every part of the New Zealand community, with a deep understanding of our history, our values and our current challenges and a mutual respect for each other. They understand the opportunities facing New Zealand, care about our nation and are prepared to give back; this can only build a better society. ”

- Jo Brosnahan | Founder, Leadership NZ



Advisory Trustees



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Chair, Advisory Trustees;
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Our Patron

- Lady Reeves



What we do

Leadership New Zealand is a not-for-profit incorporated charity with the mission of developing and nurturing the future generations of our nation's leaders.

The focus is on bringing leaders from every generation and every sector of New Zealand together to connect them through conversation; and to challenge them with making a difference.

This is done through leadership development programmes, community service programmes and thought leadership events. Leaders on the Programme are chosen from the diversity of the New Zealand community and are challenged to take themselves to their learning edge, to increase their own self-awareness and resilience and to learn and share from each other as they develop their societal-awareness.

They then step forward as leaders in their organisations and communities.

Leadership New Zealand has a proud legacy of excellence and innovation in educating on the basis of a diversity of thought and perspective. It sees diversity as a key enabler to achieving ever higher levels of engagement, creativity and innovation.

Leadership New Zealand is constantly stimulating the thought leadership conversations that become catalysts for change – personal change, organisational change, community change, societal change, environmental change.



“ *Bringing social and community leaders together with business leaders creates better outcomes and more balanced leaders across all society. It provides better overall leaders.* ”

- **Jonathan Ling**

| *Previous CEO Fletcher Building; Programme and Event Sponsor (from article in Leaders magazine, a Leadership NZ publication)*



“ *Leadership NZ allows us all to explore the value for leadership all levels. Not just in the formal sense, but the informal leadership which is just as integral to success.* ”

- **Penny Hulse**

| *Waitakere Ward Councillor, Auckland Council; Trustee, Leadership NZ; Leadership NZ Alumna 2008 (reflection, five years on)*



Our Programme

We develop and connect leaders through our Leadership Programme

This Programme involves a series of retreats, seminars, debates and more held every four to six weeks over ten months. Participants are carefully selected as 30+, mid-senior leaders from a diverse range of sectors and organisations across New Zealand.

The participants are exposed to various leadership styles through conversations with some of New Zealand's top leaders from all spheres. It is not just about learning leadership from those who do it best, it is about challenging your own perspective on how to approach and lead the world around you.

The Programme is unique in developing personal leadership skills and awareness while addressing key issues that New Zealand faces. A comprehensive understanding of these issues is built through conversation with high quality guest speakers and learning from and sharing with fellow participants – this develops an ability to value and harness diversity to build stronger and more resilient communities.

Participants find the experience transformational and gain unexpected learning even as they go on to take their places in New Zealand and globally to create a better world.



“ The Programme has provided me with an unbelievable opportunity to view first hand the people and industry that make up the heart of New Zealand's success. I have a new respect for the diversity within this country and a better understanding of my own leadership role in New Zealand's future. The Leadership NZ Programme is an absolute gem! ”

- Quentin McCarthy

*General Manager, Downer NZ;
Leadership NZ Alumnus 2013*



“ Stellar leaders and people who engaged emotionally, intellectually, professionally, spiritually. I think the effects will be a long time coming. I definitely feel more confident in standing in my own unique style of leadership. ”

- Dr Selina Tusitala-Marsh

*Poet; Senior Lecturer and Post-Graduate
Advisor, University of Auckland; Leadership
NZ Alumna 2010*



Thought Leadership Events

We host thought leadership events to enable people from across our network and the wider public to engage in courageous and provocative conversations about important leadership issues for New Zealand.

Subject matter experts and prominent New Zealand leaders share their knowledge and engage with the audience, sparking new ideas and innovation as minds from different backgrounds converge and focus their energy on a salient issue or theme.

One of our flagship events is the Reeves Lecture. Beginning in 2012, the Reeves Lectures commemorate Sir Paul Reeves, an outstanding leader and visionary and are designed to provide commentary on New Zealand's progress as a nation. They are a drawcard for thinking New Zealanders wanting to engage in shaping a positive future. Leadership New Zealand organises the Lecture in partnership with AUT and RNZ.

Speakers to date include Tame Iti who presented From the Raindrop to the River to the Sea, Rt. Hon. Helen Clark who reflected on the Promise and Challenge of 2015, Dr Mary Quin speaking on Dairy, Digital and Drones – Innovations Creating our Future, Professor Richard Faull who Imagined Tomorrow's World and Dame Anne Salmond, New Zealand's foremost historian and anthropologist, who gave the inaugural Lecture on the dramatic changes in New Zealand's thinking that are required to shape our future.

Over the past four years we have worked with our partners AUT Business and Curative to create Dinner with a Difference. Each year we have embraced our annual theme (Disruptive, Creative, Fearless, Mindful) to create a unique leadership experience. It is an interactive night of inspiration, interrupted thinking, provocation and intergenerational dialogue that motivates action. The event is always different, but the experience encompasses the Leadership NZ values of diversity, active leadership, connection, conversation and leadership that makes a difference.

Our speakers, performers and collaborators have included Dr Elizabeth Kapu'uwaitani Lindsey, Dr Chellie Spiller (Alumna 2010), Stephen Archer, Dr Anne Messervy, Hillary Palmer (Alumna 2016), Wade Jackson, Dr Tracy Berno, Murray Hickman (Alumnus 2013), Crescendo Trust, Olivia Taouma, Mark Scott (Improv Bandits), Colab, Frank Stationery, Dr Selina Tusitala Marsh (Alumna 2010), Rod Drury, Albert Wendt, Roots & Meghan Geliza Jackson, Adriana Avendano Christie, Welby Ings, Elisabeth Vaneveld, Phoenix Performing Arts, Afra Abdeen, Tex Edwards, Sir Bob Harvey (Advisory Trustee), Alanna Krause, Barnaby Marshall, John McCarthy, and Ngaroimata Reid (Alumna 2007).



“ The real leadership lessons in life are in conversation. And they occur when one's beliefs are tested, not by a group of like-minded peers, but by others with quite different backgrounds and world views. Leadership NZ plays a vital role in the fabric of New Zealand society and can, perhaps uniquely, claim to be a place where emerging and senior leaders from across our diverse community can all have profound and life changing experiences. ”

- Peter Kerridge

Director, Kerridge & Partners;
Advisory Trustee, Leadership NZ



Community Engagement

Having a vision and inspiring people is only part of the leadership equation. The rest is putting our country's leadership capacity into action.

Community Engagement is about leaders taking action by applying their skills and ability to organisations in the wider community that need them.

They do this either via their own networks or via Leadership New Zealand's various Community Engagement activities including:

SkillsBank Leadership New Zealand's leadership in action in the community. We respond to a variety of requests from not-for-profit organisations for pro bono support and match the skills of our alumni to the request so these organisations can benefit from them.

Our alumni do real work for these organisations, helping them towards their own vision and transferring relevant skills and knowledge into the organisation so that the impact continues beyond their involvement. SkillsBank provides alumni with an opportunity to stretch themselves with real-world experience that is otherwise unavailable to them.

Partnering with **Festival for the Future**, an event that is about celebrating what's possible, supporting the next generation to spark and grow world-changing ideas for a better New Zealand.



“ You must give unconditional respect to the people and communities you support in order to get a job done or to create a social solution. ”

- Sir Stephen Tindall

*Founder, The Tindall Foundation and The Warehouse
(from article in Leaders magazine, a Leadership NZ publication)*



“ The greater the cross-pollination of leadership skills and understanding the more likely we are to have a positive impact on society. ”

- Sir Ray Avery

Sir Ray Avery, founder, Medicine Mondiale; inventor and social entrepreneur (from article in Leaders magazine, a Leadership NZ publication)



Our History

In 2002 Jo Brosnahan penned a paper which outlined her thinking on the state of leadership in our country.

She saw a lack of leadership culture in New Zealand and a need for greater appreciation that leadership is “the essential ingredient in successful organisations and communities.” This became the catalyst for what was to become Leadership New Zealand.

Leadership New Zealand’s Programme began in 2005 and was based on the model of Leadership Victoria - Australia’s preeminent leadership institute and a global frontrunner and innovator in leadership development. We took this cutting edge model and made it our own, creating a distinctly New Zealand approach and flavour to deliver the best results for our leaders and their communities.

In the years since, we have gone from strength to strength. We now have over 350 graduates of the Programme, many in prominent leadership roles, and many of whom are engaged in community leadership initiatives through SkillsBank and independently while also growing their leadership role in other areas of their lives.



“ Leadership NZ has had significant influence on my personal leadership journey since my initial experience on the programme in 2008, which is why I have continued to stay closely involved.

My vision and values are absolutely aligned with that of Leadership NZ. In my view, leadership really is a decision - a mindset (not a title or position), and people can lead, positively influence, serve, call others to action and create change from anywhere. Enhancing ethical and authentic leadership is at the centre of my life and the core purpose driving all of the work I choose to do. With Leadership NZ, I have experienced the power of connecting through leadership conversation. I believe that the great opportunity in front of us is to generate an ethos of leadership across society that is truly connected, intergenerational, diverse and culturally inclusive, collaborative, dynamic and transformational. ”

-Sina Wendt-Moore

CEO Leadership NZ
Leadership NZ Alumna 2008



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