



Celebrants' Association of New Zealand Inc.
Te Kāhui Ārahi Ritenga o Aotearoa

2019 CANZ Executive Nominations

Kesh Gilmour



Nominee: Kesh Gilmour

Mover: Bernadette Buckley

Secunder: Pinky Agnew

Nominee Supporting Statement:

I am a positive, people person with high levels of integrity and professionalism. I am a trained and experienced celebrant who is passionate about inspiring people and making a difference. I am genuine and non-judgmental and believe my relationship management, big picture thinking, collaborative approach and passion for Celebrancy will enable me to add value and contribute at the National level. I have many transferable skills from my human resources, leadership, marketing, and training background. I am currently part of the executive team for Rotary KauKau and have always been a regular volunteer across a number of charities. Thank you.

Kesh Gilmour

Mover and Secunder Supporting Statements:

Kesh is a very professional Celebrant who has completed Celebrant training. She has a wide range of skills developed through her roles in marketing and Human Resources and enhanced through her celebrancy work. As a person Kesh is enthusiastic and cheerful, thoughtful and sensitive to others' needs. I believe she would make a great addition to the CANZ National Executive team.

Bernadette Buckley.

Kesh brings commitment and energy to everything she does. She will make an excellent contribution to CANZ at a national level.

Pinky Agnew



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Rachel Clarke



Nominee: Rachel Clarke

Mover: Winnie Duggan

Secunder: Julie Stewart

Nominee Supporting Statement:

I registered as a marriage celebrant having completed 'Celebrant Studies' in 2016. Co-creating personalised ceremonies is a privilege and delight and I look forward to my journey and growth as a professional celebrant. A diverse skill set developed through work in nursing practice, education and health coordination; and two years as a CANZ committee member has put me in good stead for nomination. My passion for strong, connected human relationships, open communication and professional development will add value to the executive team as they work to evolve CANZ as a professional body on behalf of all its members.

Rachel Clarke

Mover and Secunder Supporting Statements:

Rachel has been on the Wellington Branch committee for the past two years and has been full of energy for all things CANZ. She has stepped up to the Secretary role and done this very capably, been a full part of the team, has run some workshops for the Branch which were really well received, and offered social events at her home. She has been an excellent support to me on the committee and has a Professional approach to her role. I could totally imagine her bringing energy, passion and attention to detail to the Executive team.

Winnie Duggan

Rachel is enthusiastic, passionate and committed to celebrancy. She's actively involved on the Wellington regional committee. She's a caring, creative and hardworking individual. I would call Rachel collegial: a team player. She's an excellent communicator...she is never afraid to ask the hard questions. Rachel also speaks te reo Māori. Rachel is an advocate for VCANZ and the professionalisation of our national organisation. She is very supportive of CANZ current vision and strategies. She brings experience having worked in senior management and establishing founding groups and managing budgets. I believe the skills, attributes and life experiences that Rachel brings, will add value to the national executive. Therefore, I have no hesitation in recommending Rachel for a position on CANZ National Executive.

Julie Stewart



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Paula McGill



Nominee: Paula McGill

Mover: Joy Ramsay

Seconder: Lynne Greer

Nominee Supporting Statement:

I am seeking a third term on the National Executive for the following reasons: 1. I have been involved for the past 2 years on developing and implementing the VCANZ programme and with its launch last September I would like to see the first year of implementation and review completed. My background has also been in roles requiring a strategic focus and with the transition to our new structure with an EO and a national office team this will enable the executive to be more strategic in its function and I would appreciate and enjoy being able to assist in this role.

Paula McGill

Mover and Seconder Supporting Statements:

Paula has already proven her worth and contribution to CANZ through her work with the introduction of VCANZ. She is professional, caring, thorough and dedicated to the CANZ membership.

Joy Ramsay

Paula is extremely focused on what she does and presents whatever she is doing in an extremely professional manner. All her work is extensively reviewed and having worked with her on VCANZ, know her to be a wonderful team player and leader. I highly recommend Paula for more time on National Executive.

Lynne Greer



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Jann Hook



Nominee: Jann Hook

Mover: Carol Gunn

Seconder: Helen Rutledge

Nominee Supporting Statement:

I became a celebrant in 2009 and have been a member of CANZ for over a decade, this will be my sixth consecutive term on the National Executive. My role as National Education Events Coordinator is something, I am very passionate about. Another role I am equally as passionate about is my involvement in VCANZ, I am a strong advocate for this both locally and nationally. As an Independent and Civil Union Celebrant I take a huge amount of pride and pleasure in conducting weddings, funerals, naming ceremonies and other important milestones in people's lives. I am the co-founder of the Farewell Trust, bringing the palliative care of residents back home to the community assisting patients to make the most of life and to ensure they die comfortably, with dignity and in the place of their choice throughout the Marlborough Sounds.

Mover and Seconder Supporting Statements:

Jann Hook brings a passion for celebrancy, experience, clear thinking and proven skills to the Executive team. She will provide a valuable bridge from the previous structure to the new and future vision for CANZ.

Carol Gunn

Jann has contributed so much in her years on the Executive, especially in the area of National Events, and is willing to continue to do so for a further term. I am more than happy to second her nomination.

Helen Rutledge



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Marg Palmer



Nominee: Marg Palmer

Mover: Suzie Brosnahan

Secunder: Rose Barnes

Nominee Supporting Statement:

During my fourth term on the National Executive Marg I have continued in the role of Finance Officer and also the Education Forum Programme co-ordinator for the New Plymouth 2019 Conference. I am the Branch Liaison for Wellington Branch and an active member of the Top of the South Branch. Since completing the Certificate in Celebrant studies in 2013 I have been performing funeral and wedding ceremonies and am available for all life event celebrations. I have recently attained VCANZ status and I am registered with BDM to undertake Registry Office weddings in the Nelson region. Living in Nelson for 12 years I have a diverse network in the community. I like to maximise every opportunity to enjoy the region's outdoors when there is a gap in my schedule. My extensive career in Banking utilises my passion in inspiring and developing others and I enjoy sharing these skills freely with new and developing Celebrants across the country. I bring sound financial experience, business acumen, leadership and organisational skills to the Executive team.

Marg Palmer

Mover and Secunder Supporting Statements:

Marg has always been very helpful to new members in the Area. She explains and encourages everyone and makes them feel welcome. She listens when people have an issue and very calmly and concisely puts across the exec's position. And as always with Marg there is some humour in there.

Rose Barnes

Marg Palmer is an extremely efficient and organised person. She has already shown great dedication to CANZ and her role as a Celebrant and I know she is keen to continue in this role for a further term. I salute Marg's dedication but also her passion regarding celebrancy in New Zealand. She is also welcoming and encouraging to new Celebrants and is a great role model with fantastic experience. I believe she has her heart in the right place and acts in the interest of CANZ members. I have every confidence in Marg to do a stellar job and I admire her commitment.

Suzie Brosnahan

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Dianne Troup



Nominee: Dianne Troup

Mover: Helen Rutledge

Secunder: Emma Love

Nominee Supporting Statement:

I have been on the National Executive for three years and President for the past two. In this time there have been several major developments, not least the implementation of VCANZ and the appointment of a paid Executive Officer with the support of a national office. The role of the celebrant has never been more important in a society that is undergoing rapid social change and manifesting increasingly poor mental health statistics. The impact of this on celebrants who are constantly at the coalface of these changes cannot be understated. I am looking forward to transitioning completely to the new structure which will enable the National Executive to concentrate more fully on ascertaining member needs and establishing ways and means to attend to and support them.

Dianne Troup

Mover and Secunder Supporting Statements:

Dianne has shown exceptional leadership skills during her term as President. She has led CANZ through a time of change and innovation and has done so with both vision and careful consideration. She listens to members, responds personally and is willing to be flexible when appropriate. She gives an enormous amount of time and energy to the role. I would love to see her complete a further term.

Helen Rutledge

Dianne is currently president. I think she is doing a fantastic job and would like to see her remain in the role.

Emma Love



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Lianne Fraser



Nominee: Lianne Fraser

Mover: Belinda de Lautour

Seconder: Karin de la Rey

Nominee Supporting Statement:

I am Taupō based and became a registered celebrant in 2017, graduating from the Celebrant School of NZ in 2018. Since then I've gained VCANZ and officiated more than 60 ceremonies and absolutely love the privilege of this work. My year on the National Executive has been a wonderful opportunity to give to the organisation and it's a role I hope to continue. I'm married to Alastair, have three adult children, a grandson and one more on the way.

Lianne Fraser

Mover and Seconder Supporting Statements:

I was the seconder last year to have Lianne Fraser nominated to the CANZ National Executive. I know she has enjoyed her time as an appointed delegate, but she has more to give. Lianne has been a freelance writer, event manager, and fundraiser, and has lectured in Public Relations and Communications at Waiariki Institute, Rotorua. She is an accredited member of the Public Relations Institute of New Zealand. Lianne has worked as a Communications Advisor for The Business Studio, now Legend, since 2013. What a wonderful resource to have on your executive. This is extra special as she is from Taupo and it is wonderful to have our area represented. Hence - I highly recommend Lianne as a member on the CANZ National Executive.

Belinda de Lautour

Apart from being a registered celebrant for the past two years as well as being a National Executive member, Lianne is a very competent person in areas needed for this position. She has been in community relations, freelance writer, event manager as well as a lecturer in public relations and communications which resulted in her to become an accredited member of the Public Relations Institute of New Zealand. Her warm and friendly personality completes the attributes needed for this position. I wholeheartedly endorse her nomination.

Karin de la Rey

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