Introducing the interim Establishment Board for Construction & Infrastructure





Elena Trout – Chair

Elena is a professional civil engineer, a Past President and a Fellow of Engineering New Zealand. She holds a Masters of Civil Engineering degree and is a Chartered Fellow of the Institute of Directors. Elena has been a member of the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority (EECA) board since February 2013 and was appointed Chair in September 2019. She has held a number of executive positions in the transport, infrastructure and energy sectors. She is currently a director of Harrison Grierson, Marsden Maritime Holdings Ltd. Contact Energy, Ngapuhi Assets Holding Co Ltd and Callaghan Innovation. Elena is also an external advisory member of the joint New Zealand Defence and Ministry of Defence Capability Governance Board.

Bill Newson

Bill is the National Secretary of New Zealand's largest private sector union E tū which represents workers employed in the Construction & Infrastructure sectors. Bill has longstanding senior governance experience as a Board member of the Industry Training Organisation, Competenz, and was a founder and trustee of ATNZ (Apprenticeship Training NZ). Bill is a current Board member of CHASNZ (Construction Health & Safety NZ), a member of the Construction Accord Steering Group (ASG) and Mates of Construction, a Trust that intervenes in the issue of mental health in the construction industry. Bill has a strong network of industry stakeholders and is well placed to support the establishment process.

Graham Burke

Graham has worked in the construction industry for more than 35 years. He is the current Chairperson of the New Zealand Construction Industry Council (NZCIC), President of New Zealand Specialist Trade Contractors Federation (STCF), member of the Construction Accord Steering Group and a Board member of Construction Health & Safety (CHAZNZ). Graham has spent many years working in industry bodies and has broad experience leading at an industry level and interacting with Government. He has strong links with construction industry associations and Industry Training Organisations (ITOs) as well as Government officials. Graham is an accomplished leader in private business and not-for-profit organisations and has a passion for working with businesses to improve the construction sector. Graham was a member of the WDC (CIWDC) Working Group since it was established late 2019.









Jan O'Neill

Jan is the Executive General Manager of People & Culture at Downer New Zealand. With over 30 years' experience, Jan has worked at the most senior level in large complex New Zealand organisations. Jan's areas of speciality include executive leadership, HR strategy, organisational development, culture development, and change management. Jan has a strong understanding of the education system, in particular vocational education. Under Jan's leadership at Downer NZ, highly successful programmes for Māori school leavers and programmes to provide pre-employment training and entry into the infrastructure industry have been developed, along with strong partnerships with both Te Puni Kōkiri and the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) to deliver employment and training programmes. Jan was a member of the WDC (CIWDC) Working Group since it was established late 2019.

Jeremy Sole

Jeremy is Chief Executive of The Electrical Training Company (Etco). Etco is the largest group apprenticeship scheme in New Zealand. Jeremy has an MBA from University of Auckland, an Institute of Directors (IoD) Certificate in Company Direction, a Graduate Diploma in Business (Employment Relations), and recently completed the Strategic Leadership Programme at the Institute of Strategic Leadership. Skills Jeremy brings to the iEB include a strong sense of the role of Governance, a passion for education that makes a positive contribution to an individual's ability to be successful in life, extensive experience in advocacy at all levels of Government, public relations, and strong experience in the development and successful execution of strategy.

John R. Chapman

Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Whakatōhea

John has over two decades of experience as a board member in a variety of roles that have included work readiness, transition to work, property and asset management, trade training and pastoral care boards, with a focus on youth leadership and development, especially amongst Māori and Pasifika communities. He is a current board member for Māori and Pasifika Trades Training: Auckland, HHR Trust Aotearoa and is a director for KAEA. KAEA is an Auckland based team of high performing Māori and Pasifika practitioners delivering trades training pathways and pastoral care in a way that enhances the mana of those they support. John held a previous role as a GM-education and training for a Private Training Establishment - VisionWest Community Trust and has held many other executive and senior management positions in these fields.

Toby Beaglehole

Toby is the Chief Executive of BCITO. Toby is an experienced leader who has held a range of senior management roles. He was previously Chief Executive of Connexis and New Zealand Oil Services Ltd. Prior to this, Toby held senior leadership roles at NZ Post, Babcock and Brown Infrastructure, Meridian Energy and Ernst & Young. He is Treasurer of the Business Leaders' Health & Safety forum. Toby has been involved with the Construction and Infrastructure WDC (CIWDC) Working Group since it was established late 2019. Toby is a strong believer in making New Zealand safer and more productive.