SURF LIFE SAVING

POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION DESCRIPTION: BOARD DIRECTOR

Organisation: Surf Life Saving (New Zealand and Northern Region)
Application Closing Date: Sunday, 27 September 2026

THE CONTEXT

At its 2023 AGM, Surf Life Saving Northern Region (SLSNR) voted to consolidate into Surf Life Saving New Zealand (SLSNZ). The terms of the consolidation have created a requirement for SLSNR to continue as a going concern, with a governance Board.

To deliver on these outcomes, and to ensure adequate Northern Region participation in SLSNZ governance during the transition process, a director representing Northern Region will be co-opted to the Surf Life Saving New Zealand Board. The role will require the successful candidate to also form part of the SLSNR Board whose role it is to oversee the governance of SLSNR as a subsidiary organisation.

THE ORGANISATION

Surf Life Saving is an iconic and trusted New Zealand institution and brand. As a charity we are the lead provider of coastal aquatic rescue and education services across New Zealand's Coastlines. Through the services of our many volunteer surf lifesaving clubs Surf Life Saving provides lifesaving services and rescues, search and rescue, beach safety, community education, sport and recreation activities, high performance sport alongside the provision of professional services to member clubs.

Today the organisation is moving forward under a united new structure which sees SLSNZ as the National Organisation overseeing all club, and regional operations nationwide.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Surf Life Saving is seeking enthusiastic directors with strong governance experience, a deep knowledge of Surf Life Saving in the Northern Region and an ongoing connectedness to its membership, a commitment to all obligations, and a passion for water safety and coastal drowning prevention.

This year the process will be giving particular attention to the transition process of the consolidation, applicants with proven competencies in change management will be preferred.

THE RIGHT CANDIDATE

Applicants should have:

- Experience in Surf Life Saving activities within the Northern Region and a willingness to advocate for its clubs.
- The ability and intelligence to make sensible business decisions and recommendations.
- Talent for contributing to the creation and protection of long term organisational values.
- Financial literacy.
- The ability see the wider picture and think strategically.
- An understanding of not-for-profit and member organisations.
- High ethical standards and a commitment to any relevant Board Charter or Code of Conduct.
- A comprehensive understanding of the role of a Board Director.

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TIME COMMITMENT

The SLSNZ Board generally meets seven times annually with additional time commitments to sub-committees and the SLSNR Board. In addition, there are quarterly delegates meetings, some committee work and functions.

DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

We particularly encourage applications from women, tangata whenua, a broad range of ethnicities, younger members of the community, individuals with a disability and the LGBTIQ community.

INFORMATION REQUIRED BEFORE YOU APPLY

Please complete the application form attached and include a CV outlining your experience along with a covering letter

For Further Information

Contact Name: Zac Franich – General Manager SLSNR

Contact email: zac.franich@surflifesaving.org.nz

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