The Aotearoa Circle

Mā te Kaitiakitanga ko te Tōnuitanga Prosperity Through Guardianship

Leadership Group 2022

Co-Chairs



Jenny Cameron | Co-Chair

Chief Transformation Officer for Fit For a Better World at Ministry for Primary Industries

Jenny Cameron is the Chief Transformation Officer for Fit For a Better World at Ministry for Primary Industries. Jenny's focus is on driving the Food & Fibre sector roadmap for accelerating the productivity, sustainability and inclusivity potential of the primary sector to 2030. Prior to joining MPI, Jenny was the General Manager for Responsible Dairy at DairyNZ, overseeing a portfolio of work covering climate, water, biosecurity, animal welfare and workforce issues. Ms Cameron has also held roles as the inaugural Chief Executive of the Electricity Retailers' Association of New Zealand, and the Director of External Relations for the Brewers' Association of Australia and NZ. She spent ten years with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in various trade and legal positions, including a posting to Japan.

Jenny gained an LLB/BA (Psych) from Victoria University of Wellington, holds a current practising certificate and membership of the NZ Institute of Directors. Shaped by experiences as a family lawyer in Palmerston North, Ms Cameron is motivated to understand the social drivers behind the big policy challenges, and how business, community and government can collaborate to bring better solutions to the table.



Craig Ellison | Co-Chair

Kaihautū (Chief Executive) (Ngāi Tahu - Ōtākou, Puketeraki, Taumutu, Ngāi Tahuriri, Hokonui)

Craig began his role as CE of Ngāi Tahu Holdings in December, following 17 months as the Chief Operating Officer. He has extensive experience in governance across a wide range of sectors. He is Chair of Wellington Zoo, and a director on Sanford..

Past roles show a long involvement in the Fisheries and Seafood sector including running the marketing, finance and quota management for his family company, Ōtākou Fisheries. He was the past Chair of Ngāi Tahu Seafood, Poutama Trust, Moana Pacific, Prepared Foods, the NZ Seafood Standards Council, Executive Chair of Seafood New Zealand, as well as serving on the Executive of the Fishing Industry Association, and numerous stakeholder organisations.

He has previously served on the Board of Airways New Zealand, NIWA, the Trade Liberalisation Network, Sealord, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise. and Co-chaired the PECC Fisheries Task Force (with Chinese Taipei).

Craig was a member of the Food and Fibre Partnership and Leadership groups.



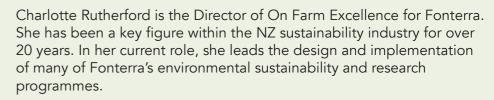
Charlotte Rutherford

GM On-Farm Operation, Fonterra

responsibility for the Food Pilot.

Dr Abby Thompson

Chief Executive, Food HQ



Abby grew up on a farm in Manawatu, studied Food Technology at Massey and then went on to do a PhD in food chemistry. She

spent six years in the UK working in nutrition (both in academia and

industry), running clinical studies investigating how our genetics can affect the way our bodies respond to food. Prior to joining FoodHQ in

2018 Abby led teams at Riddet Institute and then Massey University,

managing industry-facing R&D projects in food and nutrition and with

Externally, Charlotte represents Fonterra on numerous national bodies, strongly advocating and guiding the development of environmental policy in New Zealand as a member of the Land and Water Forum and the Steering Group for He Waka Eke Noa – The Primary Sector Climate Action Partnership. Charlotte works with farmers and in the interests of farmers to achieve the most sustainable outcomes for them and for all New Zealanders. She is regularly called upon to represent the wider agricultural industry in roles that cross a multitude of sustainability initiatives.

It takes significant personal commitment and integrity to be prepared to inspire change in an audience that can default to very conservative traditional positions, but Charlotte makes sure that her vision of change is brought about through instilling positive and aspirational goals.



Craig Pattison

GM Strategy Federated Farmers

Craig is providing advisory services for the "Fit For A Better World Roadmap" – which considers how to accelerate the productivity, sustainability and inclusiveness of the primary sector, in order to deliver more value for all New Zealanders.

Craig's background is one of strategy, governance, relationship management, and business optimisation - both here and abroad. The last years directly within the primary sector – working with global suppliers (and supply chains) to bring many of the leading agricultural products into Aotearoa, or the development of strategy for New Zealand's leading pan-sector organisation (Federated Farmers).- empowering farmers, producers, growers, makers, and crafters to deliver 'yield and value, on field'





David Chin CEO, LIC

David joined LIC in 2006 and has held several leadership roles over that time including GM Operations and Service and Chief Transformation Officer. David is a passionate advocate for herd improvement and the New Zealand dairy industry. Before arriving at LIC, David was Brand and Communications Manager at Kiwibank and Deputy Director/Business Manager at City Gallery Wellington. He's also worked in various marketing and consulting roles at New Zealand Post.

David has completed Leadership and management courses at Stanford University, Melbourne University's Mt Eliza Business School and NZ Institute of Directors, he also holds a Bachelor of Commerce (First Class Hons), University of Otago.



Dr Fiona Carswell

Acting CEO, Chief Scientist, Manaaki Whenua

Based in Lincoln, NZ, Fiona's role at Manaaki Whenua enables researchers to achieve excellent science and on-the-ground results for some of NZ's most pressing environmental problems. She is a past leader of Manaaki Whenua's Enhancing Biodiversity Portfolio, and for 10 years she ran the 'Emissions-Biodiversity Exchange for the 21st Century' programme (EBEX21), a natural regeneration programme for landowners wanting to grow new forests for carbon sequestration and biodiversity gain.

Her personal research is in carbon accumulation during indigenous forest regeneration and potential trade-offs with biodiversity gain. She has a PhD in Environmental Plant Physiology from the University of Edinburgh and a master's degree in Botany from the University of Auckland.



Geoff Smith

Chief Operations and Sustainability Officer, Scales Corporation

Geoff has extensive experience across a variety of agribusinesses and joined Scales from Zespri where he was head of New Zealand supply. As well as operational and supply chain experience, Geoff's prior roles focussed on agribusiness strategy and investment. Geoff has both an Honours degree and Doctorate from Lincoln University and has completed the Level 1 CFA qualification.



John Morgan CEO, NIWA

John has extensive senior executive and governance experience in public and private sector organisations covering a range of markets and activities including business, science, education and sport. His science sector roles have included Chief Executive of AgriQuality Ltd, Executive Director of Orica New Zealand Ltd, Chairman of New Zealand Pharmaceuticals Ltd and he is currently Chairman of Science New Zealand. John is passionate about the role science can play in transforming New Zealand's economy, environment, society and global reputation.



Kate Beddoe

Chief Risk Officer, Silver Fern Farms

Kate Beddoe is the Chief Risk Officer joining Silver Fern Farms in October 2020.

Prior to joining Silver Fern Farms Kate has held a number of leadership roles including Chief Risk & Sustainability Officer for Vector Ltd for eight years, Vice President Risk & Sustainability for the AMCOR global business and Strategic Risk Manager at Toyota Australia. Kate's original training was as a lawyer and she practiced law for some years before moving into corporate roles.

Kate brings her unique perspective from working in a range of industries which include professional services, agriculture, manufacturing and utilities, both nationally and internationally. Kate is a faculty member of the Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership, Business & Sustainability Executive Leadership Program (Melbourne).



Kerensa Johnston

Chief Executive, Wakatū Incorporation

Kerensa is a lawyer who has worked as a solicitor in the private sector, as a Barrister, and as a legal academic at the Faculty of Law, University of Auckland, where she specialised in Māori legal development, public law, land law and international law. Kerensa joined Wakatū as our General Counsel in December 2012, and was appointed Chief Executive in 2016. Kerensa is the Chair of Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, the Māori Centre of Research Excellence and the Chair of Ngāti Tama ki te Tau Ihu Charitable Trust. She is a member of the International Association of Corporate Counsel, Corporate Lawyers' New Zealand and Te Hunga Roia. Her iwi are Ngāti Tama, Ngāruahine and Ngāti Whāwhakia.



Mark Leslie

Chief Executive, Pāmu

Mark has 25 years of experience in the Agricultural Industry including roles in operations, logistics, technology and product development, and quality assurance. Prior to joining Silver Fern Farms Mr Leslie spent nearly two decades at Fonterra including as head of the operations and supply chain component of the brands business in New Zealand and, previously had responsibility for the operation of the 94 ingredients plants across Fonterra's 27 sites along with the associated milk collection activities.

Mark has also held several Board and Ministerial Advisory roles and chaired the Fonterra and Silver Fern Farms joint venture company Kotahi (which provides freight logistics solutions to a number of key New Zealand exporters and importers) for six years and the Pastoral Greenhouse Gas Research Consortium. He holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Hons) and a Masters of Business Administration (with Distinction), both from Massey University.



Dr Paul Johnstone

GM, Sustainable Production, Plant and Food Research

Dr Paul Johnstone joins the Agriculture Sector Adaptation leadership group with proven experience connecting and integrating teams to tackle a wide variety of complex food production challenges. In his current role at Plant & Food Research Paul leads a portfolio of 150 researchers who are passionate about making a difference to food production here and abroad through science discovery and application. Key areas of focus include tomorrow's high productivity food systems that are designed to have a lighter touch and are resilient to future changes. Paul has had 16 years' experience working in the research ecosystem in Aotearoa, including leading and contributing to large collaborative cross-organisation initiatives focused on issues like climate impacts, mitigation and adaption. He also has 5 years' experience in supporting R&D for the horticulture industry in California.



Rachel Depree

Executive Officer, Sustainability, Zespri

Rachel joined Zespri in October 2018 to establish and lead the global sustainability function. Tasked with pan-industry leadership, this includes setting strategy, establishing enduring work programmes and building the capability of the business and industry to achieve an ambitious set of targets in areas of nutrition, packaging, water, climate change and workforce.

Rachel is focused on how to create the conditions for long-term change both within the industry and beyong, sharing her sustinability expertise and enabling others to gain confidence to step up and lead. She is a seasoned sustainability professional, with experience in senior business, industry and government roles in New Zealand and most recently in Europe over the past fifteen years



Siobhan O'Connor

Engagement Manager, FENWICK

As a child, the West Coast of Te Waipounamu guided Siobhan to raging rivers, spirited forests, and a lively Pacific ocean. Her journey since has naturally centred on the inclusive regeneration of people and the planet, and work to-date includes with Manatū Mō Te Taiao Ministry for the Environment, NIWA, public sector EdTech innovation, GirlBoss Edge Primary Industries Mentoring, World Ocean Day Global Youth Council, the Predator Free Movement, and FENWICK.

Driven by passion and curiosity, she now seeks out key levers of change with an unwavering focus on intergenerational impact and equity.



Tim Myers
CEO. Norwood

Tim is the current Chief Executive of Norwood, the largest farm equipment distributor and machinery servicing business in New Zealand. Norwood is head-quartered in Palmerston North but has a nation-wide network of wholly owned agriculture focused dealerships. Norwood employs over 500 people nationally, and 100 people locally in the Manawatu. Tim is heavily involved in the local community. Tim sits on the Accelerate 25 Lead Team, is a member of the local Chamber of Commerce Advisory Board, and Tim is the current Chairman of the Manawatu Rugby Union Board of Directors. Tim is married and has four children whose ages range from 6 to 17.

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Secretariat | PwC



Annabell Chartres

Partner, Sustainability & Climate Change Leader, PwC New Zealand

As the Sustainability & Climate Change Leader at PwC New Zealand, Annabell is driven by finding innovative business solutions to address sustainability and climate change challenges. She is focused on supporting public and private sector organisations to incorporate a sustainability lens into their business strategies, and consider and respond to the implications of climate change.

Annabell brings more than 20 years' experience in corporate and business strategy development, operating model design and organisational transformation across a range of industries and geographies. She has a deep understanding of the interaction between the corporate, technical and functional units of an organisation, and has extensive experience in supporting clients to solve problems and deliver innovative outcomes during times of significant organisational changes and disruption.

Annabell's focus areas include: sustainability and zero carbon strategy; climate risk disclosure; sustainable supply chain; ESG materiality assessments and ESG due diligence.



Dr Victoria Hatton

Director, Sustainability & Climate Change, PwC New Zealand

A passionate net zero strategist and systems thinker, Victoria has a deep desire to work alongside clients as they navigate their way through the complex climate change conversation and challenges.

Victoria brings over a decade of experience working in climate change adaptation and mitigation, both in New Zealand and internationally. She works with a range of clients including government departments, large and medium sized organisations, local councils, and charities. She has a PhD in geography, using community participation in local planning decision making.

Victoria also specialises in agri-food production and technology, drawing on her involvement working for the New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre and the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation in Rome.

Victoria is passionate about creating a better future through the work she does. She actively challenges others to do the best they can to limit their impact on the climate. Unfortunately the world is warming, and Victoria strives to be able to look her children in the eyes and know she has made a difference to the future world they will grow up in.