

# Guardian Nominations: The Aotearoa Circle Trust

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## 1. About The Aotearoa Circle Trust

The Aotearoa Circle Trust (The Circle) is a not-for-profit leadership organisation formed in 2019 to tackle complex climate and nature challenges threatening Aotearoa New Zealand's economic growth and future prosperity.

Co-founder Sir Rob Fenwick stated at the time that, "Time is running out for the treasures of nature that we love, and it is worth using every last breath, all of our collective energy, to save our land and secure our future."

Sir Rob's vision continues to inspire and guide The Circle each day.

As a leadership organisation, The Circle convenes public and private sector partners to address climate change and nature challenges facing our key sectors - from agriculture, energy and seafood to transport, finance, and tourism. Solutions are delivered through practical, cross-sector reports, scenarios and legal opinions that seek to reduce risk, strengthen resilience, and ultimately restore our natural capital.

The Circle's 60-plus partners are the lifeblood of the Trust, providing funding to enable it to deliver on its purpose and vision while also contributing support and involvement in annual workplans.

## 2. The Role of Guardians

The Circle is guided by Guardians (Trust Board) who are responsible for the governance of the Circle, and strengthened by future voices through our Rangatahi Advisory Panel (RAP).

Guardians are respected leaders who understand Aotearoa New Zealand's reliance on natural resources and actively promote the Trust's aims within their spheres of influence.

Guardians meet at least five times per year, (three full-day in-person meetings and two online sessions) and work with the Chief Executive to monitor and further the work being undertaken, aligned to strategy. They are appointed for a term of three (3) years and may be reappointed, with a maximum total term of six (6) years.

The Trustee of The Circle is the Public Trust with Guardians appointed under the Trust Deed, by the current Guardians.

## 3. Nomination Process

Current fully paid Partners may nominate any adult natural person to be a Guardian by completing this form and returning it to the Chief Executive by 5 June 2026.

Current Guardians may appoint one or more new Guardians from the nominees at the next meeting, to be held in June 2026.

Successful and unsuccessful nominees will be advised as soon as practicable after that meeting. Please return completed forms via email to [vicki@theaotearoacircle.nz](mailto:vicki@theaotearoacircle.nz)

## 4. Nominating Partner Organisation

Organisation name

Person Authorised to Nominate on Behalf of Organisation

I nominate the following person as a Guardian of The Aotearoa Circle Trust Board:

Person Nominated Full name

Title (e.g. CE, GM etc)

Contact details (phone number, email address)

Brief description of nominee's interest in the kaupapa of the Trust.

Signature of nominator

Signature of nominee