Board Nominees (in alphabetical order of first name):

Name: Aleisha Wilkinson
Kindergarten: Hobsonville Point / Current Co-opted Board Member

I was fortunate to be part of the Hobsonville Point Kindergarten community for 4.5 years and was delighted to join the Kaitiaki Kindergartens Board as a co-opted member last year. The opportunity to work alongside the Board has strengthened my appreciation for the important role good governance plays in supporting high-quality, inclusive early childhood education. I am seeking election to continue contributing strong, well-governed early childhood education for our tamariki, whānau, and kindergarten communities across Kaitiaki Kindergartens.

Professionally, I work in quality assurance within a national breast screening programme, where I am committed to promoting whānau hauora, equity, and high standards in the services that support our communities. I bring a collaborative, thoughtful approach and a genuine commitment to serving our kindergarten communities.

Name: Ivor Peksa
Kindergarten: Oaktree/Current Board Member

Kia ora,

I'm Ivor Peksa, and I'm seeking re-election to the Association Board.

My tamariki, Ada and Marcus, had the good fortune to attend Oaktree Kindergarten and have now moved on to school. Through their experience, I've come to deeply appreciate the vital role kindergartens play in the early education and development of our children.

Being part of the kindy community has been incredibly rewarding for our whānau, and I'm committed to helping ensure other families enjoy the same positive, inclusive experience. I've served on the Board for five and a half years, including two and a half as Co-chair. It's been a privilege to work alongside a fantastic team, and I'm profoundly grateful to the support staff, teachers, and fellow Board members for their commitment and mahi.

Professionally, I've run a medium-sized technology business, which we successfully sold to venture capital. I now own a small e-commerce business and support several Kiwi startups. These experiences have taught me the value of strong leadership, collaboration, and clear communication.

Over recent years, I've learned a great deal about the Association, the ECE sector, and child development. I'm keen to continue contributing my governance and business experience to help ensure our kindergartens are safe, inclusive, and provide the best possible learning environment for every child.

Kindy is a unique and cherished institution in Aotearoa. Like many who weren't raised here, I didn't fully understand its importance—until I met the amazing teachers at Oaktree.
Let's spread the word and ensure more children can access this wonderful start to life.

Name: **Kevin Ng**
Kindergarten: Hobsonville Point

As a Kaitiaki parent, I've come to feel strongly about the role high-quality early learning plays in supporting children and families. A great kindergarten gives children a safe, caring and enriching place to grow, while giving parents confidence in the environment they are part of. Having experienced several early learning environments as a parent, I have also seen what a difference an engaged and stable teaching team can make.

In my work, I have over 15 years' experience helping organisations make sound financial and operational decisions, with a focus on planning, performance, pricing and improving how services are delivered. In my current role, I work with multi-site service operations to improve performance and consistency, using financial and non-financial information to guide better decisions.
I would value the opportunity to bring this experience to the Board and help Kaitiaki use its resources wisely and remain financially sustainable, so that teachers are supported to do their best work and children continue to thrive.

Name: Kimberly Chalmers
Kindergarten: Waimauku Kindergarten / Current Board Member

Ko Tu Ao Wharepapa te maunga.
Ko Motuweka te awa.
No Tapawera ahau.
Ko Chalmers toku whanau.
Ko Kimberly toku ingoa.

I have served on the Kaitiaki Kindergartens Board for 3 ½ years, in 2025 as Co-Chair. I am seeking re-election to the Kaitiaki Kindergartens Board.

As a mum to two young children (one of whom attends a Kaitiaki Kindergarten) I am determined to make this world a place where tamariki thrive. I believe that all tamariki should be given the opportunity to learn in an environment that nurtures their creativity and provides a safe space to explore. Given the opportunity I would be honoured to continue serving the Kaitiaki Kindergartens community on the Board.

With 20 years experience in the for purpose sector working in health, social service and education and a background in quality management I understand the regulatory environment of ECE and bring expertise in risk management, privacy, child protection, policy, complaints, evaluation, and health and safety. I have experience in governance and have worked alongside a number of Boards.

I have an interest in the socio-political environment and the creative arts, have completed the Oxfam Trailwalker, climbed Mt Taranaki, and enjoy mountain biking and spending time outdoors in and around beautiful Muriwai with my family.

Name: Nastassja (Starsh) Donnelly
Kindergarten: Stanmore Bay

About me

Kia ora, I'm Nastassja (Starsh) Donnelly. First and foremost, I'm a proud parent of two children, aged three and five, one of whom attends Stanmore Bay Kindergarten. My family has called the Hibiscus Coast home for seven years, and I feel incredibly fortunate to be raising my children in such a welcoming and connected community.

Alongside parenthood, I work full time as a senior leader in Corporate Banking. Over more than 10 years, I have developed practical experience in strategy, project delivery, business management and risk management that I would bring to the Board in support of Kaitiaki Kindergartens' purpose.

What motivates me

I am deeply passionate about kindergartens because they give tamariki a strong foundation while bringing whānau together. Every child deserves access to high-quality early childhood education grounded in care, inclusion and a commitment to nurturing their full potential.

Accessible, not-for-profit kindergartens strengthen entire communities by giving tamariki places to learn and belong, helping whānau build lasting connections and ensuring families feel supported. I would be proud to help Kaitiaki Kindergartens sustain these trusted community spaces and the rich educational experiences provided by its dedicated teaching teams.

Professional Experience

My professional experience has taught me to consider evidence carefully, ask constructive questions and balance strategic, financial and risk considerations when making decisions. I value diverse perspectives, welcome challenge and aim to contribute with humility, sound judgement and a willingness to keep learning from others.

- Strategic oversight, informed decision-making and prioritisation across competing organisational needs
- Responsible financial stewardship, including multi-year budgeting, forecasting, reconciliation and sustainable planning
- Risk oversight, management and assurance across complex stakeholder groups
- Stakeholder engagement, constructive challenge and balanced respectful conflict resolution
- Calm, collaborative leadership through complex delivery, competing priorities and organisational change

- Commercial oversight of contracts and suppliers, with a focus on accountability, value and the responsible use of resources

I would welcome the opportunity to join the Kaitiaki Kindergartens Board, bringing together my professional strengths, lived experience as a kindergarten parent and deep commitment to early childhood education. I hope to contribute practical, thoughtful governance while advocating for equitable, holistic and inclusive education for all tamariki.