

## Meeting Notes from Tautoko Network Meeting

May 2018

### BRAINSTORM FOR STRONG GOVERNANCE

We were delighted that so many people took up the opportunity to get together for this interactive workshop facilitated by Trish and Julia, awesome members of the DIA team, and supported by Rata Foundation funding.

It was interesting to hear, in the round of introductions, how people had come to be involved with Boards. At Volunteering Canterbury we are often contacted by organisations which are seeking new Board members. Yes, we do advertise for Board members! There is a category which covers this on our recruitment database, [www.volcanmatch.com](http://www.volcanmatch.com). And we know that some organisations have had great results through this type of recruitment. We appreciate that previously recruitment was often from within the 'ranks' of the organisation; if you aren't looking outside your organisation for Board members, now is the time to do it! There are many people who have specific skills (legal, accounting, marketing) who are looking to make a difference - volunteers these days are looking to gift time, yes, but also to gift skills! Boards need a cross-section of skills!

Some bullet points from the evening:

- Governance is the WHAT and WHY; Management is the HOW
- It is the Governance group's responsibility to have policies which should be reviewed annually (policies should include those on: code of conduct, privacy, social media, wellbeing, health & safety, reimbursement of volunteer expenses, financial delegation)
- Participatory: everyone on the Board has a voice
- Board roles: each role needs a role description
- Funding applications: financial reporting to Boards should track where your organisation is at vis a vis funding. NB: *DIA and Rata Foundation will be our guest presenters at the Tautoko Network meeting to be held on Friday 3 August, 8.30am to 9.30am at Christchurch Community House: 'Accountability: Outcome-Based'; note your diary and rsvp [outreach@volcan.org.nz](mailto:outreach@volcan.org.nz)*
- Keep your constitution simple; check with Charities Services if you have questions about your Board's constitution and how to get it up to date; the rules in your organisation's constitution need to be current particularly vis a vis compliance
- Financial literacy: all Board members should have an understanding of the finances, not just the Treasurer. NB: *Community Accounting will be our guest presenter at the Tautoko Network meeting to be held on Friday 5 October, 8.30am to 9.30am at Christchurch Community House: 'Common accounting challenges for not-for-profits'; note your diary and rsvp [outreach@volcan.org.nz](mailto:outreach@volcan.org.nz)*
- Staff wellbeing: Boards, as employers, have a responsibility re health and wellbeing of staff NB: *Workplace Support will be our guest presenter at the Tautoko Network meeting to be held on Friday 6 July, 8.30am to 9.30am at Christchurch Community House: 'Wellbeing: who's responsible for wellbeing in your workplace?'; note your diary and rsvp [outreach@volcan.org.nz](mailto:outreach@volcan.org.nz)*

Outreach and Marketing Manager, Glenda Martin's, personal 'take home' from the evening was a quote from Pearl Zhu:

*"A strategic board has a view of looking ahead, an insight to look deeper, and competency to look beyond."*

*Pearl Zhu - a visionary and thought leader who is continuously making influence via blogs, books, slideshares and online magazines.*

Useful link from the evening:

<https://www.iod.org.nz/Governance-Resources/Publications/Practice-guides/Board-Meetings-Practice-Guide>