



**CONSTITUTION OF  
TOURISM INDUSTRY AOTEAROA INCORPORATED**

(Updated 30 September 2024)

# CONSTITUTION OF THE TOURISM INDUSTRY AOTEAROA INCORPORATED

## **Name**

1. The name of the Association is Tourism Industry Aotearoa Incorporated (hereinafter called the "**Association**").

## **Registered Office**

2. The registered office of the Association shall be situated at such place in New Zealand as the Board of Directors may, from time to time, determine.

## **Objects**

3. The Association is established:
  - (a) to serve as the voice of the tourism industry;
  - (b) to stimulate and promote tourism to New Zealand;
  - (c) to stimulate and promote tourism within New Zealand;
  - (d) to initiate, encourage and conduct research to benefit the tourism industry;
  - (e) to foster unity among all persons, companies and their sector groups or associations, which seek to meet the needs and expectations of visitors and travellers, or in some other positive way, contribute to a quality visitor experience;
  - (f) to encourage the development of strong regional Tourism Organisations and encourage co-operation between them through membership of the Association;
  - (g) to extend recognition of the wide economic, social and cultural benefits tourism brings to New Zealanders and the increased understanding and goodwill it brings between peoples of all countries;
  - (h) to act as the Tourism Industry advisor to the New Zealand Government on all aspects of tourism and to co-operate and work with all Government agencies to achieve these objectives;
  - (i) to act as the Tourism Industry advisor to Local Authorities and work with them to achieve these objectives;
  - (j) to introduce, foster and co-ordinate development in the tourism industry in New Zealand in a manner which recognises the significance of the country's natural assets and to ensure that such developments pay due regard to the protection and public enjoyment of the environment;
  - (k) to encourage the development and improvement of facilities and services for the benefit of travellers to, within and beyond New Zealand;
  - (l) to encourage and foster education and training to benefit the tourism industry;
  - (m) to recognise and promote the important economic benefits provided to New Zealand by the tourism industry both on a regional and national basis;
  - (n) to form a fund for the purposes of carrying out the objectives of the Association and to receive subscriptions, affiliation fees, grants, etc. from persons or organisations whether members of the Association or not;
  - (o) to support the aspirations and needs of the members of the Association according to the policy of the Association;

- (p) nothing contained in the Rules of the Association shall authorise the Association to act as a travel agency, transport operator or to make accommodation, transport or other reservations;
- (q) to discourage unnecessary duplication of effort and resources by individual sector groups of members or their associations, and to more cost effectively champion the interests of divisional or broader membership groups;
- (r) to allow sector groups of members or their associations to retain control of issues more effectively and efficiently handled and funded at that level and to exercise the powers described in this constitution as belonging to the Association for their own funds.

### **Powers**

4. The Association shall have power to do all such lawful acts and things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above-mentioned objects or any of them or any other objects which the Association may from time to time be authorised to undertake and without in any way limiting the generality of the foregoing powers the Association shall have power:
  - (a) to use the funds of the Association in payment of all reasonable costs and expenses properly incurred in carrying out the objects of the Association including the employment of such officers, agents and servants as shall appear expedient to the Association;
  - (b) to invest monies and assets belonging to the Association and not immediately required for use in such forms of investment as the Board of Directors see fit;
  - (c) to purchase, take on lease, hire or otherwise acquire or hold on any tenure any real or personal property both within and outside New Zealand;
  - (d) to make grants or donations to any person or body undertaking work which in the view of the Board of Directors will further the objects for which the Association is established or assist the Association in furthering such objects;
  - (e) to raise or borrow such sum or sums of money as the Board of Directors may from time to time see fit and with or without security.

### **Membership**

5. (a) Membership of the Association shall be open to any person, company, corporate body, society or association supporting the objects of the Association. The Board of Directors may provide for full members and affiliate members, provided that the Board of Directors may only offer affiliate membership to the members of a society or association which itself is a full member of the Association. Full members shall have all the rights of members contained in these Rules. Affiliate members may not vote on a resolution of members or requisition any meeting of members, but otherwise shall have all the rights of members contained in these Rules. The Board of Directors and Chief Executive may distinguish between full members and affiliate members when setting any fees payable as a condition of participation in an activity of the Association. Where the context permits and subject at all times to this clause 5(a), any reference in these Rules to a "**member**" includes both a full member and an affiliate member and "**membership**" shall be construed accordingly.
- (a) Members shall be divided into sectors. The Board of Directors shall ensure that the Chief Executive has effective management processes in place to deliver against the needs of each sector.
  - (i) The sectors shall be (1) Hotels and Lodges; (2) Holiday Parks, Motels and Other Accommodation; (3) Air Transport; (4) Land Transport; (5) Water Transport and Cruise; (6) Regional Tourism Organisations; (7) Culture and

Heritage; (8) Adventure and Outdoor; (9) Attractions, Conferences and Events; and (10) Tourism Services and Services to Tourism (including Education, Distribution and Retail). The sectors may be amended by a resolution passed by a majority of the members present and entitled to vote at a meeting of members.

- (ii) Each member shall be allocated to one sector by the Board of Directors after considering any information provided by the member. A member may participate in activities designed for more than one sector but full members may only vote in their allocated sector.
- (c) Every application for membership shall be made in writing on the Association form prescribed for that purpose and shall be approved or rejected by the Board of Directors without any reason being given to the applicant.
- (d)
  - (i) Any person who has performed outstanding and valuable services to the Association may be elected a Life Member at an annual meeting and shall thereafter be entitled to all rights and privileges of membership without payment of annual fees or any special payment for such Life Membership.
  - (ii) No person shall be elected a Life Member unless first proposed for election by two active members entitled to exercise the privileges of membership and the proposal as a Life Member has been approved by the Board of Directors and notice of the intention to propose such member for election to Life Membership has been circulated to members of the Association at least ten (10) days before the Annual General Meeting and the resolution of such election is carried by a majority of three-fourths of those present and voting at the Annual General Meeting when the same is proposed.
- (e) A register of members shall be kept by the Chief Executive at the office of the Association.

### **Members' Representatives**

- 6.
  - (a) Every corporate member shall on becoming a member, nominate a representative in writing who shall have full powers to act for and on behalf of such corporate member. No such representative shall represent more than one (1) corporate member. Such nominee need not be a member of the Association.
  - (b) On written notice to the Chief Executive given by the corporate member, such representative may be changed from time to time or may be substituted for any particular meeting, excepting only meetings of the Board of Directors to which election shall be personal and pertain to the individual so elected.

### **Subscriptions**

- 7. The Board of Directors may set subscription fees which must be paid by members. In setting the subscription fees the Board of Directors may:
  - (a) distinguish between full members and affiliate members and also between different groups of full members or affiliate members at its discretion;
  - (b) determine the period for which they are payable;
  - (c) set the due date and any terms for their payment, including providing for payment by instalments.

## **Cessation of Membership**

8. (a) A member may resign at any time by giving notice in writing to the Chief Executive but such resignation shall not be effective until all financial obligations have been met and no part of any current subscription shall be refunded.
- (b) If any member shall not abide by the Rules of the Association or shall not comply with any resolution, agreement or contract that may be passed, adopted or entered in to by the Association, the Board of Directors by resolution may request in writing such member to resign and in the event of such member refusing or neglecting to resign, within ten (10) days of the delivery of such notice such member may be expelled by a majority vote of the Board of Directors present and voting. Such member shall have a right to appeal against such expulsion to a Special General Meeting of members called for such purpose; a bare majority vote of the members then present and voting shall be binding on such member and on the Association. Notice of any appeal shall be given by the member to the Chief Executive within fourteen (14) days of the posting to the address of the member held by the Association a copy of the resolution of the Board of Directors.
- (c) If any part of the subscription fee payable by any member remains unpaid more than sixty (60) days after its due date, the Board of Directors may strike off that member whereupon that member shall immediately cease to be a member of the Association. All arrears due from that member before the date of striking off shall remain recoverable by the Association notwithstanding such striking off provided that, if they are paid in full, the Board of Directors may, at its absolute discretion, reinstate that person as a member.

## **Board of Directors**

9. (a) The Association shall elect a Board of Directors which may exercise all or any of the powers, authorities, functions and discretions of the Association save those as are herein expressly reserved to the Association in General Meeting or Special General Meeting.
- (b) The Board of Directors shall comprise the following directors:
  - (i) One director representing each sector provided for in Rule 5(b)(i), who must be a member or representative of a member of that sector appointed under Rule 6, and elected by resolution of the members of that sector;
  - (ii) Two directors, who may be from any sector and who shall be elected by resolution of all full members;
  - (iii) In addition, the directors elected under Rules 9(b)(i) and 9(b)(ii) ("elected directors") may by resolution:
    - A appoint one Tourism New Zealand board member or senior manager who has been nominated by Tourism New Zealand to be a director; and
    - B appoint up to one (1) member (or their representative) to be co-opted director, and
    - C appoint a Māori representative for such term not exceeding three years as may be determined by the elected directors
  - (iv) All elected directors shall hold office from the next Annual General Meeting following their election and shall be elected by a ballot by post or electronic means (which may include email) of the members entitled to vote on their election closing at least (7) days before the Annual General Meeting from which they are intended to take office.

- (c) The Board of Directors may by secret ballot or agreement, elect a Chairperson, up to two Deputy Chairpersons and appoint and remove members of committee(s) and trustees of the Tourism Industry New Zealand Trust (subject to the terms of the Trust Deed establishing that Trust) .
- (d) Each director shall be entitled to one vote on any motion before the Board of Directors.
- (e) Directors elected in accordance with clause 9(b)(iv) will hold office for a term commencing on the date of the AGM immediately following their election and ending on the date immediately prior to the AGM that occurs on or about the third anniversary of their appointment ('Third Anniversary'). Such directors must retire with effect from the Third Anniversary, unless those directors have been re-elected (in accordance with clause 9(b)(iv)) at the election of directors that immediately precedes the Third Anniversary.
- (f) The Board of Directors may carry on the business of the Association notwithstanding any vacancy in the directors and the Board of Directors may fill any casual vacancy in the directors elected via Rule 9(b)(i) by appointing a full member or the representative of a full member from the sector for which the vacancy occurs, and any vacancy in the directors elected via Rule 9(b)(ii) by appointing any full member or the representative of any full member. Any director appointed by the Board of Directors pursuant to this Rule shall have full voting rights and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
- (g) If a vacancy occurs in the office of Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson or if any such officer is unable to perform the duties of the office for any reason, the Board of Directors may at any time by secret ballot:
  - (i) elect as an alternative Chairperson:
    - A a person from among their number; or
    - B a person, who is not from their number and who may or may not be a member or member representative, to be an additional director and to act as Chairperson; or
  - (ii) elect as an alternative Deputy Chairperson, a person from their number, to hold that office until the next Annual General Meeting or such earlier time as the Board of Directors shall determine in the secret ballot. For the avoidance of doubt, any Chairperson appointed under Rule 9(c)(ii) or Rule 9(g)(i)B, who ceases to be Chairperson or is unable to perform the duties of the Chairperson and is replaced as Chairperson under this Rule 9(g), shall immediately cease to be a director.
- (h) The Board of Directors may exercise its powers, authorities and functions through committees of directors or committees of members with the appropriate knowledge and skills, which committees must act within their terms of reference and shall remain accountable to the Board of Directors.
- (i) Any director may resign at any time by giving notice in writing to the Chief Executive.
- (j) Any director being absent for three consecutive meetings shall, unless otherwise resolved by the majority of the Board at the third consecutive meeting in respect of which that director is absent, automatically cease to be a Board director.

### **Chairperson**

10. (a) The Board appoints its Chairperson. The Board of Directors have the options of electing someone from among their number or appointing someone from outside of the Board - an 'independent Chairperson'.

- (b) At a meeting held at least 5 months prior to the end of a Chairperson's term, the Board shall seek expressions of interest from Directors in the Chairperson's role (including the current Chairperson should they be eligible for a further term) and discuss the merits of appointing an independent Chairperson. If the Board does not wish to pursue the option of an independent Chairperson, the Board of Directors shall, by a majority in a secret ballot, elect a Chairperson from among their number at a subsequent meeting. If a majority of the Board support the option of an independent Chairperson, a Board sub-committee shall be formed to identify and assess candidates and recommend an appointment, to be ratified at a subsequent meeting of the Board. A new Chairperson takes up the position at the expiry of the current Chairperson's term, or earlier by agreement. If there is no decision on a new Chairperson before the expiry of a Chairperson's term, an acting Chairperson can be named.
- (c) An independent Chairperson will be an additional Director; they may or may not be a member or member representative; and they can be appointed for a term of up to 3 years. A Chairperson elected from the Board can be appointed for the remainder of their term as a Director, or an agreed shorter period. The Board may by resolution agree to remunerate a Chairperson.
- (d) A Chairperson serves subject to the Board's ongoing endorsement. At any meeting, any Director can request a secret ballot to affirm there is majority support for the Chairperson to retain the position.
- (e) The maximum continuous period for any Chairperson is 6 years.

#### **Appointment & Duties of Officers**

- 11. (a) Except in the case of the Auditor, the Board of Directors shall appoint a Chief Executive and make other appointments of such other officers, servants and agents as it sees fit and on such terms and under such conditions as it may from time to time consider necessary for the effective carrying out of the objects of the Association. The Board of Directors shall define in writing the duties of each such officer, agent or servant.
- (b) No member shall receive or obtain any pecuniary gain, except as a salaried officer from the property or operations of the Association. Any such income paid shall be reasonable and relative to that which would be paid in an arm's length transaction (being the open market value).

#### **Auditor**

- 12. The Auditor of the accounts of the Association shall be a member of the Chartered Accountants of Australia and New Zealand and shall be appointed at each Annual General Meeting of the Association. The Auditor shall retire annually from office but shall be eligible for re-election. The Auditor shall examine the books and accounts of the Association and shall verify and certify the Annual Balance Sheet and Accounts of the Association.

#### **Meetings**

- 13. (a) The Annual General Meeting of members shall be held not later than October 31 in each year at such place and time as the Board of Directors shall determine, after taking into account the wishes of members as expressed at a prior Annual General Meeting.
- (b) The Board of Directors may at any time, and shall upon requisition in writing signed by at least twenty (20) members of the Association and delivered to the Registered Office of the Association, convene a Special General Meeting which, in the case of a meeting requisitioned by members, shall be held not later than sixty (60) days after receipt of such requisition. Any such requisition shall give sufficient description of the business required to be brought before the Special General Meeting and such description shall be included in the notice to members of the meeting.

- (c) The Board of Directors shall meet at least three (3) times in each financial year and in addition whenever the Chairperson or the Board of Directors shall determine.
- (d) The contemporaneous linking of the Directors by telephone shall constitute a meeting of the Board of Directors, provided the following conditions are met:
  - (i) **Hearing:** Each of the Directors taking part in the meeting by telephone must be able to hear each of the other Directors taking part during the whole of the meeting;
  - (ii) **Acknowledge Presence:** At the commencement and conclusion of such meeting each Director must acknowledge his or her presence;
  - (iii) **Withdrawal:** A Director may not withdraw from such a meeting unless that Director has previously obtained the express consent of the Chairperson of the meeting to do so;
  - (iv) **Quorum:** A Director linked by telephone for the purposes of the meeting shall be conclusively presumed to form part of the quorum of such meeting throughout the meeting unless that Director obtains the express consent of the Chairperson to withdraw from such a meeting.
- (e) A resolution in writing signed by all the Directors shall be as valid and effectual as if it has been passed at a meeting of the Directors duly convened and constituted. Any such resolution may consist of several like documents each signed by one or more Directors.

#### **The Chief Executive**

- 14. The Chief Executive shall normally act as Secretary and shall cause proper minutes to be kept of all meetings of the Association which will be open to inspection by any member of the Association at the Association's Registered Office.

#### **Notice of Meeting**

- 15. (a) Notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be forwarded through the post or by electronic means (which may include email) to each member at the address last known of such member and shall be posted or dispatched (as the case may be) at least thirty (30) days before the date appointed for holding same.
- (b) In the case of a Special General Meeting the same procedure shall apply.
- (c) Any notice sent by post to any member may be sent by ordinary pre-paid post addressed to the member at the last known address of the member and such notice shall be deemed to have been delivered no later than three (3) days following the day on which it was actually posted. Any notice sent by electronic means shall be deemed to have been delivered on the date it was dispatched.
- (d) Any such notice may be incorporated in any Association Newsletter or other document published by the Association for distribution to every member by displaying such notice therein prominently.
- (e) The accidental omission to give notice to or the non-receipt of any notice by any member or any other person entitled to such notice shall not invalidate the proceedings of any General Meeting to which such notice relates.
- (f) Any such notice of meeting may provide details of how to attend the meeting to which it relates remotely by audio, audio and visual, and/or virtual attendance.

#### **Special Business**

- 16. A full member may require an item of special business to be discussed at the next general meeting of members by delivering an appropriate request in writing and sent by post to the Registered Office of the Association before the notice calling that meeting is distributed to the members. Any such request shall:



- (i) include a sufficient description of the proposed special business and a full description of any resolution for consideration at the meeting; and
- (ii) be in a form ready and complete for despatch with the notice calling the meeting.

Upon receipt of a request complying with this clause, the Board of Directors shall include the item of special business on the agenda of the next general meeting to be held. If a request is received after the notice calling the next general meeting has been dispatched, the relevant item of special business shall be discussed at the immediately following general meeting.

### **Quorum**

17. At least twenty (20) members of the Association present and entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at a General or Special Meeting and four (4) members, one of whom must be the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson, at a meeting of the Board of Directors. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting to commence a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be abandoned. Reference in these Rules to a member being present shall mean and include a corporate member whose representative pursuant to Rule 6 is present.

### **Finance**

18. (a) The Chief Executive shall deposit all money received in the bank of the Association as promptly after receipt thereof as circumstance may permit. The account of the Association at such bank shall be operated upon and cheques and other bills of exchange and instruments endorsed by such signatories and otherwise in such manner as the Board of Directors may from time-to-time determine.
- (b) The financial year of the Association shall be from the 1st day of April until the 31st day of March next succeeding.
- (c) Reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by members of the Association on approved Association business may, with the approval of the Board of Directors be reimbursed on application by the member, which application shall be supported by vouchers.
- (d) (i) Any income, benefit or advantage shall be applied to the charitable purposes of the Association.
- (ii) No member of the Association, or any person associated with a member, shall participate in or materially influence any decision made by the Association in respect of the payment to or on behalf of that member, or associated person, of any income, benefit or advantage whatsoever.
- (iii) Any such income paid shall be reasonable and relative to that which would be paid in an arm's length transaction (being the open market value).
- (iv) The provisions and effect of this clause shall not be removed from this Constitution and shall be included and implied into any document replacing this Constitution.

### **Elections**

19. (a) The Board of Directors shall be elected as specified in Rule 9(b).
- (b) The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson(s) shall be elected as specified in Rule 9(c) or 9(g), as the case may be.
- (c) Nominations for elected directors shall be made in writing on the Association form prescribed for that purpose and shall reach the Chief Executive twenty three (23) days prior to the relevant Annual General Meeting. Each nomination must be signed by a

member and shall include the written consent of the nominee. Where a nomination is for an elected director to represent a sector the sector must be specified in the nomination and the nomination must be made by a full member from that sector.

- (d) Should the number of nominations received by the closing date be equal to or less than the number of positions of for which they are nominated, those nominated shall be declared elected. Should there be no nomination for any vacancy, that vacancy may be filled pursuant to Rule 9(g).
- (e) If there are more nominations than vacancies for any of the foregoing positions there shall be a ballot by post or electronic means (which may include email) complying with Rule 9(b).
- (f) In the event of a tie in the number of votes in any election that election shall be determined by lot.

### **Voting**

- 20. (a) Voting at all meetings of members of the Association shall be by, (1) show of hands or voice; and/or (2) any method permitted by the Chairperson of the meeting; and/or (3) proxy voting in accordance with Schedule 1 of these Rules, unless the Chairperson of the meeting or any three (3) members present and entitled to vote on the resolution require a secret ballot. .
- (b) Notwithstanding Rule 20(a), any issue to be determined by resolution of members shall be determined by ballot by post or electronic means (which may include email) where required by these Rules or determined by the Board of Directors. Any ballot shall include a closing date which shall be determined by the Board of Directors and consistent with these Rules (where applicable). All voting papers for any ballot must be sent to members by post or electronic means (which may include email) no less than ten (10) days before the closing date for that ballot.
- (c) On a resolution to be determined by show of hands or voice, or any other method under Rule 20(a) except for a secret ballot, each member present and entitled to vote on that resolution shall have one vote. On a secret ballot each member present and entitled to vote on the resolution shall have one vote for each \$100 (excluding GST) of subscription fee payable by that member for the financial year of the Association during which the vote is determined. If no subscription fee has been determined for that financial year, each member entitled to vote on that resolution shall have one vote for each \$100 (excluding GST) of subscription fee paid or payable by that member for the financial year of the Association immediately preceding the financial year during which the vote is determined. In the case of any other ballot each member entitled to vote on the resolution shall have the same number of votes as if that member were present and the matter had been determined by secret ballot.
- (d) Voting at a meeting of the Board of Directors or any committee appointed by the Board of Directors shall be on the basis of one vote per director or member of that committee.
- (e) Any director absent from a meeting of the Board of Directors or from the meeting of a Committee that they have been appointed to by the Board of Directors, may appoint any other director to exercise their vote as proxy. The appointment of a proxy must be provided in writing to an attending director, with a copy of the notice of appointment delivered to the Chief Executive prior to the meeting.'

### **Common Seal**

- 21. (a) The Common Seal of the Association shall be under the control of the Board of Directors and shall be retained in the custody of the Chief Executive. It shall not be affixed to any documents except by resolution of a General Meeting of members or of the Board of Directors and shall be affixed in the presence of any two (2) of the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive;

- (b) Any document not requiring to be executed under seal may be executed by any member of the Board of Directors together with the Chief Executive.

### **Interpretation of Rules**

22. In case any matter at any time arises not provided for in the Rules or any doubt arises as to the interpretation of these Rules, the same shall be determined by the Board of Directors whose decision shall be final.

### **Alteration of Rules**

23. No alteration or addition to or rescission of these Rules shall be made except by a resolution passed by a majority of the members present and entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of which notice shall have been given in the manner provided in Rule 15. No additional, alteration or rescission of the Constitution affecting the charitable objects and powers of the Association, personal benefit clause 18(d), or the Dissolution clause, shall be made without the approval of Inland Revenue..

### **Indemnity**

24. Every director and servant of the Association shall be indemnified by the Association and it shall be the duty of the Board of Directors out of the funds of the Association to indemnify any such director or servant of the Association against any liability incurred in defending any proceedings arising out of the position with the Association, whether civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in favour of the director or servant or an acquittal is entered and the claim of any such director or servant of the Association for the amount of the indemnity given by this clause, either at law or in equity, shall have priority as between members over all other claims.

### **Dissolution**

24. The Association may be wound up voluntarily. If upon the winding up of the Association there remains after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred to some other charitable organisation or body having similar objects to those of the Association, or if the members of the Association do not in General Meeting determine that the property shall be given or transferred towards any such organisation or body, then the property of the Association shall be given or transferred towards some other charitable purpose within New Zealand as the deemed members of the Association in General Meeting may determine.

### **In Writing**

25. In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires, any references to "**written**" or "**in writing**" includes any means of visible representation including email.

### **Attendance at meetings**

26. For the purpose of these Rules, a person who attends a meeting physically, by proxy appointed in accordance with Schedule 1 of these Rules, remotely, by audio, audio and visual, and/or virtual attendance will be deemed to be "present" at the meeting.

### **Schedule 1: Proxies**

- (1) A member may exercise the right to vote at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting in person or by proxy.
- (2) A proxy for a member is entitled to attend and be heard at a meeting of members as if the proxy were the member.
- (3) A member must appoint a proxy by notice in writing signed by or, in the case of an electronic notice, sent by, the member, to the registered office, or such other address (including email) as contemplated by the notice of meeting to which that notice relates.

- (4) The relevant notice of meeting may specify the required form of proxy appointment and any specified cut-off time for proxy appointments to be received by the Association.