



Trustee Nomination - Joan-Ella Ngata

With over fifteen years of leadership in social services, I bring robust experience in governance, team management, and stakeholder engagement across a wide range of Māori and community organisations. My expertise includes overseeing complex service delivery, navigating challenging situations, and leading practice development grounded in both legislation and best-practice standards.

Key Experiences

Leadership & Governance: Led operational and strategic management of multidisciplinary teams within Māori and national organisations (Ngati Porou Oranga, Stand Tū Māia, Barnardos, Te Aka Ora Trust), ensuring delivery of services to whānau, mokopuna and community.

Policy, Legislation, & Compliance: Proven ability to interpret and implement policies and quality frameworks, ensuring services remain aligned with legislative obligations and best-practice expectations.

Stakeholder Relationship Building: Developed and sustained ongoing collaborative relationships with whānau, iwi, government agencies (Oranga Tamariki, Police, Courts), and service providers, ensuring effective engagement and advocacy.

Community Governance: Extensive experience as a trustee, director, and committee member for kaupapa Māori and community organisations, including the Māori Women's Welfare League, Te Aka Ora Trust, and local funding committees (COGS).

Financial & Contractual Oversight: Managed budgets, contracts, and service delivery targets to meet organisational and community goals.

Professional Supervision & Workforce Development: Provided professional supervision and staff development, empowering kaimahi and supporting best-practice approaches for social workers working with our whānau.

Analytical & Organisational Skills: Strong background in needs analysis, business intelligence, and data-informed decision-making to identify and respond to whānau trends and issues.

Academic & Training Credentials: Holds a Bachelor of Social Work, Postgraduate Diploma in Bicultural Professional Supervision, and National Diploma in Adult Teaching and Learning.

Personal Statement

I am committed to fostering the tikanga, wellbeing, and aspirations of whānau and iwi, supporting collective decision-making in the best interests of our people and our whenua. My approach is strengths-based, solution-focused, and grounded in both governance integrity and aroha for our community.