

Nomination Form

2016/2017 Community Housing Aotearoa (CHA) National Council



I, Bernard J Smith am standing for the CHA National Council.

Member Organisation: Monte Cecilia Housing Trust

Nominated by: Jan Rutledge – Manager- DePaul House

Seconded by: Danielle Berg - Manager-Island Child

I confirm that I am an employee/trustee/director (circle one) of Monte Cecilia Housing Trust which is a Full Member of Community Housing Aotearoa for the fiscal year of 1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017.

Please provide a photo and a short background on yourself

1. Outline of involvement in community housing sector

- Presently employed by Monte Cecilia Housing Trust as CEO for the past 7 months, proactively involved in gowning the capability and housing stock of the Trust. Involved with the Auckland Community Housing & Emergency Housing Networks. Proactively involved in several gov't & non gov't groups looking at housing solutions and collaboration's.
- For the previous 6 years, I was employed by Queensland Gov't in Housing & Homelessness, worked on several collaborations & initiative's, nominated for a Qld State award for one initiative & gained an Qld State award from the Housing Minister for an Australian First Innovative Indigenous initiative for another

2. Short biography (*Maximum of three short paragraphs*)

- I've worked for State, Central & Local governments as well for Not For Profits for over 40yrs mostly in social services, Housing & homeless, Disability, Child Protection & Seniors also spend eight years in pastoral & Chaplain ministries
- I personally have a passion to empower the disempowered, mentor & coach, am a pioneer who puts feet & hands to assisting individuals & families toward breaking negative cycles to enable them to stand tall in their own right
- I have lived in Papua New Guinea, Australia (NSW & Qld) but am kiwi having spent my first years of life in Public Housing in Huntley, Waikato, I'm married with four adult children and five grandchildren.

3. Key Skills (*List up to six areas of expertise you offer which are relevant to a national governance role*)

- I offer managerial competence having managed small teams & up to 200 staff with small budgets & up to 30million
- I have the skill base of building individual and organisational capacity, change management skills, pioneering new services, can deal with the nuts & bolts but just at ease taking the long view and being big picture.
- I offer reliability and predictability, but flexibility, creativity with real integrity
- I'm very accountable, transparent, and believe in consultation and collaboration, we grow strong together not individually in silo's
- Participation in small groups, workshops, one to one or at government level with I'm at ease & comfortable offering relevant input or communicating at the level of the audience
- I have an understanding of the difference between governance and operational, with governance setting the strategy and plans to align with the vision & mission in the best interests of its key stakeholders and monitoring managements execution of approved strategic plans reviewing integrity and ethics of the org along with risk governance, appetite and tolerances.

4. Other governance positions held (*include year held*)

- Local School, Board of Trustees
- Vice Chair, NZ Foster Federation

5. Election statement to members (*no more than two sentences*)

If elected I'm committed to the key accountabilities of CHA, building on its history to be even stronger, healthier and even more relevant to its members and key stakeholders ensuring I'm working in an informed & collegial way.

Although Auckland based I recognise that I'm elected to represent members across the country whose needs and issues are not to dissimilar to those being experienced here. With social service skills learnt in three countries over 40 years I strongly believe not one box fits all, but together we can make a difference.