

## Early Childhood Council – Executive Nominees – 2019

### Vice President (ONE required)



#### Dr Darius Singh

Darius has over 20 years' experience in executive management, research and education via previous positions as Professor of Technology Management; CTO; member of the NZ Institute of Directors; and Fellow of the NZ Institute of Management.

Darius and his wife, Nikeeta, own and operate the Chrysalis Group, comprising a handful of childcare centres in Tauranga and Auckland.

Darius is passionate about effective governance, best practices in education management, and innovative education paradigms. He has shared much of these learnings of best practices to the ECC Executive and wider membership.

### Secretary (ONE required)



#### Dianna Jenkinson

Kia ora, my name is Di and I am an Early Childhood Qualified and Registered Teacher with over 20 years' experience in the sector. I have been on the ECC board for the last four years and am excited to continue to contribute to the ongoing governance of the ECC. I own two centres and am actively involved in governance, leadership and teaching within my centres. I am passionate about professionals supporting one another to contribute to a shared vision of creating a collaborative community of learners to benefit our children.

### Executive (in surname alphabetical Order) (TWO required)



#### Valuniu Fitu Ah-Young

I am a proud Samoan/NZ born Pasifika educationist with a passion for working with Pasifika children.

Currently Chairperson of the Pasifika Early Learning Advisory Board, responsible for four services in Wellington and Auckland.

I hold a B.Ed. from Massey and an MEdL from AUT.

We have gained a first-hand understanding of what is required to be an owner operator of an ECE service, advocating for a collective and collaborative vision for all New Zealand children, deepening the use of cultural practices to support and strengthen Pasifika learning within the ECE sector.



#### Aimee Hawke

Naumai Haere mai ECC Whanau

My name is Aimee Hawke and I am a passionate Early Childhood Education advocate.

I am the proud owner of three small services in the Hawkes Bay, catering to tamariki from 0 to 6 years.

I have five years board governance experience within the local Hawkes Bay community. I am dedicated to improving our sectors visibility and viability and want to offer my skills and voice to ensure our sector is heard and understood. I hold a Master of Education and a Post Graduate in Educational Psychology.



#### David Gibson

David is the CEO at Creators- operating both Waikato based Early Learning Centres and a nationwide network of Homebased licenses. David has been involved with Creators since its conception. He served on the board of trustees for over six years, before accepting the role of CFO. David brought with him a wealth of experience in the financial field and enjoyed this role for 2 years before being elected into his current CEO role. David is passionate about creating positive, respectful educational experiences from birth that will carry tamariki through their ongoing learning journey.



#### Annabel Sloss

I live in Christchurch with my husband and five teenagers. I own nine centres, all within the Canterbury Region. I am a trained Early Childhood Teacher with a Diploma of Teaching and current registration and experience of the privately-owned and community-owned sectors. I am passionate about ECE and seek to reflect the community each centre is situated in, ensuring high standards of quality are maintained for children and their families/whanau.

I thrive on new challenges, although my journey is still evolving.