dbrinsden@gmail.com

021 400 998

**Darrin Brinsden**

**Governance Statement**

An experienced governance professional with over 10 years’ *for purpose* experience in education, disability and trade. A proven ability to hold financial accountability, build revenue, and oversee culture & strategy transformation in existing & start-up settings.

**Key Skills**

* Evolving financial and commercial acumen, the best approach with the appropriate parties
* Evolving outcomes and key results focus on operational and delivery approaches
* Evolving board level strategy formulation leading to managed risk and renewed success
* Evolving policy development competence relating to cyber-security, technology, innovation, information, artificial intelligence, finance and vulnerable people
* Maturing culture building and maintaining relationships, with a focus on the personal outcome
* Maturing brand identity, digital engagement and underlying technology approaches leading to improved outcomes
* Maturing global perspectives understanding based on lived experience and interest
* Developing Te ao Māori and tikanga understanding, including learning Te Reo.

**Governance Experience**

Executive Committee Member

New Zealand Middle East Business Council

2019 - 2022 | Auckland, New Zealand

At the New Zealand Middle East Business Council, I led the digital portfolio, setting the tone of digital engagement, modernizing member management, and working with partners & the committee to rebuild digital presence.

* Led digital strategy creation and implementation exercise, rebranding online through Websites and LinkedIn, boosting engagement by 300%
* Rebuilt member information and consolidated contacts into a first party CRM from a terminated third-party relationship, reducing risk and maintaining integrity
* Maintained relationships with government agencies, members, and administration providers for newsletter content, reading engagement at 45%, above industry avg.

Treasurer and Trustee

Federation of Rudolf Steiner Waldorf Schools of Aotearoa New Zealand

2016 - 2017 | National, New Zealand

The Federation focus is on furthering Rudolf Steiner Waldorf education in New Zealand and is the parent body of member schools across Aotearoa New Zealand. The remit includes the governance of the Rudolf Steiner Schools Certificate, an equivalent NZQA qualification to NCEA.

At the Federation of Rudolf Steiner Waldorf Schools of Aotearoa New Zealand, I was invited to the trust as Treasurer based on my former governance work at the Rudolf Steiner Schools Trust.

Treasurer and Founding Trustee

Achieve 2B Trust

2014 - 2016 | National, New Zealand

A charitable trust formed in 2014 to provide Intercultural Exchange Programmes for young people with disabilities.

I was invited to the trust as an establishment Trustee with a joint trustee focus on guiding our founder to give the Trust its best possible chance of success.

Committees: N/A

* Financial policy development, including delegation of authority and risk profiles
* Bank account and backend accounting systems creation
* Strategy setting – Tui Raumata - The Tapestry – with trustees and stakeholders
* Member / chair of etc…

Treasurer, Vice Chair

The Rudolf Steiner Schools Trust

2011 - 2016 | Auckland, New Zealand

A charitable trust formed in 1952 focused on proprietorship and holding the special character of Rudolf Steiner education.

I took on this role to give back to the Trust that made my schooling possible. The trust held a NZ$ 16m property portfolio and maintained revenues of ~NZ$ 2m annually.

Committees: Chairing of Finance and Expenditure committee

* Financial turnaround, three years of deficit to three years of surplus. Including, refocusing and rebuilding the accounting framework / reporting regime
* Investigation / decision making on liquidating property holdings, bank selection and renegotiation of Trust mortgages
* Proposing appropriate governance structures based on legislative and policy requirements.

**Education**

Master of Business Administration

University of Otago Business School

2018 - 2021

Te Reo Māori (L1 – L2)

Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, Auckland

2023 - current

**Memberships**

Member

Institute of Directors

2014 - 2017 | Auckland Branch, New Zealand

Fellow, Alumnus, Cohort Interview Panelist

Leadership New Zealand Programme

2014 - current | National, New Zealand

**Career Summary**

Transformation Lead, Strategy Advisory

The Warehouse Group

2019 - 2023 | Auckland, New

* Led a B2B brand creation transformation pilot to test a 6x return hypothesis
* Responsible for growing GM and top-level specialist high performing teams
* Developed ESG, Security, Technology, AI strategy & policy - focus on reduced risk
* Refined technology governance, seeking automation by leveraging data and insights to remove 10,000 hours of waste

Head of Strategic PMO, Senior Adviser

United Nations Relief and Works Agency

2017 - 2018 | Amman, Jordan

* Set, implemented and realised the brand strategy to raise US $325m net new revenue in nine months to meet the needs of 5.2m refugees
* Liaised and reported regularly with Executive Office, governing bodies and funders
* Ideate, leveraged good practice and sentiment, to reduce risk in a volatile environment with an annual spend of US$ 450m
* Used findings from research to inform global changes in Muslim giving pathways

General Manager, Consultant Director

Auckland University Students’ Association, Integrated Neurological Rehab. Foundation

2013 - 2014, 2018 | Auckland, New Zealand

At AUSA & the iNRF, I was contracted by the President / Chair of the Boards to oversee turnarounds in culture, financial liquidity and to implement good operational practices.

Managing Consultant

PIPC, New-Clarity, Rocket

1. – 2016 | New Zealand, Australia

Led strategy, delivery and assurance practices of up to 25 consultants across sectors in Australia and New Zealand with commitments up to NZ$ 10b.

Previous Experience: Programme and project management office capability development professional. Project manager of technology delivery. Computer engineering. 0900 voice overs. Volunteer telephone counsellor.

**References:** Available on request