

DOC BOARD APPOINTMENT

The Minister of Conservation invites expressions of interest from persons wishing to be considered for appointment to the Guardians of Lake Wānaka.

He angitūtanga: The opportunity

The Guardians are a key statutory board whose role is to protect the interests of Lake Wānaka. The Lake Wanaka Preservation Act 1973 was enacted in response to widespread public concern regarding hydro-electric development in the Upper Clutha that threatened to change the natural level, shoreline outflow and ecosystem of Lake Wānaka. The Guardians act as a direct link between the public and the Minister of Conservation. Today the Guardians play crucial guidance and advocacy role in freshwater ecosystem and water quality management regarding Lake Wānaka. They engage with individuals, business & developers, community groups, catchment groups, Local and Regional Councils and other Government agencies to prevent or mitigate impacts on the lake levels or outflow, preserve the lake levels shorelines and ecosystem in its near-natural state and to maintain and improve all aspects of the quality of the lake water, including impacts caused by developments in the lake's catchment.

An appointment to the Guardians is typically for a five-year term. This is a mid-term appointment, once appointed, new Guardians will be eligible to re-apply. The Guardians meet two to four times a year. Meeting fees and travel expenses are payable.

Matters the Guardians role often engage with:

- Biosecurity for avoiding or addressing non-indigenous pest species such as *Lagarosiphon* (Lakeweed) control
- Resource Consent applications for structures on the lake, on the lakebed or shoreline
- Contamination risks, such as urban and rural stormwater runoff or discharge
- Written and/or verbal submissions to District and/or Regional Councils and other Government agencies regarding Resource Consent applications and/or proposals for development that may negatively influence Lake Wanaka
- Biodiversity/conservation of native flora and fauna

He kōrero mōu: About you

The Guardians are seeking interest for up to three board positions. Persons interested in becoming a Lake Guardian should be (required):

1. Knowledgeable about the Lakes and freshwater.
2. Familiar with the social and legislative issues associated with the management of lakes
3. Understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and ability to incorporate te reo and tikanga into your work.

The Guardians are looking to include members with diverse backgrounds and experience. These may include - but are not limited to - one or more of following:

1. Environmental planning and resource management
2. Previous Governance/Board or Committee Experience
3. Digital literacy and interpretation of technical information, data analysis to produce quality submissions and reports.
4. Aquatic science/research experience
5. Indigenous species restoration

Don't meet all of the suggested criteria or feel you may be a great candidate for other reasons? We would still love to hear from you – take the time in your registration to explain why your background/experience will be valuable to the Guardians and to Lake Wānaka.

Tono Mai: Apply Now!

Use the following link to register your interest. The application form requires you to fill out information about yourself and include detail about your background/experience. You'll also need to explain why you wish to be a Guardian.