

Expressions of Interest – Bay of Connections Leadership Group Independent Chairperson

Expressions of interest are being sought for an Independent Chairperson of the Bay of Connections Leadership Group.

Bay of Connections (BOC) is an economic development catalyst for the wider Bay of Plenty region. Its role is to connect the dots and advance tactical projects across the Bay of Plenty, with the goal of delivering regional, transformational and long-term benefits. Its targeted approach involves working alongside local areas, helping ensure alignment where it makes sense, minimising the potential for duplication and providing thought leadership where required.

The Independent Chairperson steers the Leadership Group, whose role is to provide advice on priority focus areas and guidance on actions and strategy. The Independent Chairperson is remunerated for their contribution of approximately 24 days per year.

Bay of Connections provides the framework for Regional Economic Development for the wider Bay of Plenty region. It is small and agile, allowing for quick, relevant responses to a dynamic operational environment, and is empowered to ensure decisions and implementation can happen quickly. Key activities include:

- Focus on BOC strategic priorities, ensuring these are evidenced based and aligned/support sub-regional economic development activities.
- A three-yearly strategy workshop with the Leadership Group and all Mayors/CE's to discuss regional priority issues for sustainable economic development.
- Provide strategic advice and support to the BOC Operations Team (and BOPRC as required), insight into emergent trends and implications for the BOP's sustainable economic development; provide direction, advice and points of escalation on complex decisions as appropriate.
- Actively lead change in thinking to support better cross-region decision making on matters of sustainable regional economic development.

The Leadership Group comprises the following membership:

- Independent Chairperson
- Three to five regional business leaders

Independent Chairperson profile:

Trust, credibility and impact are critical to the success of the Bay of Connections. Candidates for the Independent Chair role will demonstrate relevant experience and possess specific attributes and skills:

- Extensive leadership experience in a business environment
- Enthusiasm for sustainable economic development for the Bay of Plenty Region
- An understanding of the wider interests of the publicly-accountable local and central government stakeholders
- Good at building relationships, onboarding and rallying people and teams
- A solid understanding of governance

- Effective communicator, able to listen and communicate in ways that build rapport
- Be passionate about growing the wider Bay of Plenty and have a truly regional perspective
- Thought leader, able to kick through barriers and provide thoughtful solutions to problems
- Good understanding of Māori economic development within the region
- A high standard of personal integrity
- The ability to work collaboratively and cooperatively within a team and with stakeholders.

For expressions of interest please email a CV and cover letter to Namouta Poutasi, General Manager Strategy & Science, Bay of Plenty Regional Council – Toi Moana at namouta.poutasi@boprc.govt.nz

For any questions or enquiries contact Dean Howie, Programme Manager - Regional Economic Development, Bay of Connections on 027 208 5839 or dean@bayofconnections.com.

Expressions of interests are open until **5pm Friday 11 September 2020**.