



## **VNZI Future Director Internship**

**2024/2025**

### **JOB DESCRIPTION:**

#### **NATURE & SCOPE OF VEGETABLES NEW ZEALAND INC:**

Vegetables New Zealand Inc (VNZI) is a sector organisation for New Zealand's commercial fruit and vegetable growers. Affiliated with HortNZ are horticulture's product groups and district associations. VNZI is levy funded by the commercial growers and focuses on the following core areas: biosecurity, food safety, the environment, people capability, grower support and representing growers to Government. VNZI prime communications focus is telling the grower story to the wider public and politicians.

VNZI Board currently has seven directors: all are grower selected appointments.

The skill set of the VNZI Board is a mix of knowledge and experience in the following areas: growing, biosecurity, the environment, people capability, central and regional government interaction, communication, finance, legal, strategy, diversity, and governance.

The VNZI Board meets six times a year in Wellington and around New Zealand's growing areas and holds in-between meetings via zoom.

#### **FUTURE DIRECTOR:**

This is a development opportunity for a future leader to join the VNZI Board and gain experience in governance, leadership, and strategy. This will build on the future leader's current horticulture experience and prepare the successful applicant for governance roles in the horticulture sector.

*The Future Director will also be mentored by an Industry Leader and undertake governance training.*

This is a non-voting role however the Board seeks full participation in meetings and will welcome constructive contributions from the Future Director in the workings of the Board.

#### **COMPETENCIES:**

1. Active involvement in a horticultural enterprise giving an understanding of the issues and challenges that horticulture and growers face.
2. Strategic thinker with the motivation to learn and develop the skills necessary for a career in governance. The VNZI board upholds the Institute of Directors four pillars of governance and this will be the platform that underpins the role – determining organisational purpose; ensuring an effective organisational culture; holding to management to account and effective compliance.

#### **POSITION ATTRIBUTES:**

1. Empathy for the interests of vegetable growers and their aspirations
2. Analytical abilities with a pragmatic approach
3. The ability to communicate with logic and be persuasive in debate, respectful and concise

4. Able to argue effectively for his/her views, but also accommodate the need for Board consensus
5. Enquiring type of character who probes the facts and challenges assumptions
6. The willingness to develop his/her skills
7. Comfortable and willing to develop establishing industry wide relationships
8. Be able to display sound judgement and common sense
9. Conflicts of interests are able to be managed
10. Can identify sensitive information and maintain confidentiality at all times
11. The ability to manage his/her existing workload and deadlines
12. A strong sense of ethics and what is right
13. A belief in the activities that VNZI is tasked with
14. A desire to make a difference.

Applicants must have the support of their employer (if not self-employed) before applying for this opportunity and will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement.

This is a one-year appointment paying a per diem rate of \$350.00 per day (plus travel and reasonable expenses). The appointment will be made by the VNZI Board following advertisement of the position and a selection process.

VNZI welcomes all individuals from any background to apply for this role.

Please send your CV and a cover letter to: [andrew.bristol@freshvegetables.co.nz](mailto:andrew.bristol@freshvegetables.co.nz)

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