



CANDIDATE PROFILES

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Portland, Oregon, showing a wide river (the Willamette River) flowing through the center. Several bridges cross the river, including a large arch bridge in the foreground and a suspension bridge further back. The city is densely packed with houses and buildings, with green trees interspersed throughout. The sky is clear and blue.



www.welenergytrust.co.nz

About the WEL Energy Trust

The WEL Energy Trust is a special purpose body, originally formed in 1993 to hold shares in the local electricity network company, now known as WEL Networks Ltd.

The Trust has responsibilities to: manage its investment in WEL Networks Ltd (the Company); ensure WEL Networks Ltd operates as a successful business; have regard to customer interests in industry matters; distribute surplus income at its discretion and to be accountable to the community.

The Trustees must act as a diligent shareholder and monitor the performance of the directors of the Company with reference to the Company's Strategic Direction, Targets and Measures.

The Trust distributes surplus income at its discretion to energy related projects and regional or community projects or grants.

Further information about the Trust including copies of the Annual Report, Annual Intentions Plan, 5-Year Strategic Plan and the Community Investment Strategy is available from www.welenergytrust.co.nz

CANDIDATES

Disclaimer: The Electoral Officer for WEL Energy Trust accepts no responsibility for the content or accuracy contained in the statements as supplied by the candidates.

ANDERSON SCOTT Erin	5
BOOTH Geoff	5
CHEW Alan	6
DUNCAN Lehi	6
ENDRES Kevin	7
FARRELL Brian Patrick	7
HAMILL Rob	8
HARDING Denise	8
HUTT Louise	9
JOHNSTON Jan	9
RAVLICH-HORAN Vicki	10
RINALDI Mary	10
ROLTON Mike	11
SILVERTON Matt	11
STEPHEN Craig	12
WEST Michael	12
WILLIAMS Julian	13
WILLIAMS Kathryn	13
WILSON Edgar	14
YAMUNANATHAN Adrian	14

ANDERSON SCOTT Erin

Power ON - For the Community

As a new addition to the Power ON team, I seek your support in WEL Energy Trust election. Raised in the Waikato, I am passionate about inclusivity and sustainability.



Extensive international experience in community engagement and working with at risk marginalised groups has led me to gain a strong understanding of community business initiatives, people and culture.

Dedicated to social development, I hold a degree in Business Management and Marketing. Previous roles, in conjunction with Social Impact and Human Resource study, has compelled me to give back to our community.

A previous New Zealand athlete, my interests extend well beyond the sporting domain. I am an advocate for empowerment and recognise the benefits of board diversity. With your vote I will work with the team to contribute fresh perspectives to the development of the Waikato.

Please vote for all seven of the Power On - For the Community team members.

BOOTH Geoff

Independent

Hello,

I would appreciate just 1 of your votes.

I am the Principal of Puketaha school with a masters in Educational Leadership from the University of Waikato.



The last few months has rocked our equilibrium. As a result we have a unique opportunity to ensure that the Wel Energy Trust really delivers on the needs and aspirations of our community. It requires both a strategic approach and strong moral compass to achieve positive, tangible outcomes for our customers and region. I bring experience, Independence and can collaborate with anyone to drive such results in a fair and equitable manner.

Born, raised and educated in Hamilton, this place is home to my family, which includes my wife and two boys (11 and 9).

The many families I interact with daily provide me inspiration and energy to join a board that will be driven to support the Waikato Region's prosperity.

Thank you.

CHEW Alan

POWER WELbeing - Community Enhancement

Kia Ora.

Born in Malaysia into abject poverty, I came to Hamilton where I completed my BMS degree with honours. I have since embraced every opportunity thrown at me and last year was made a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

In my 40+ years here, I have developed a reputation for making things happen. I started 34-year old Houston Technology Group which is today the longest-established IT firm in the region. I also founded Houston Productivity, a firm that helps businesses to harness disruptive technologies like AI and robotics.

As a Trust Waikato trustee for 8 years, I saw trust funds grow from \$261m to nearly \$400m. I personally support a large number of charities.

I want to bring diversity as well as fresh ideas to WEL Energy Trust so that it can stay relevant in a post pandemic era and so that discounts and grants can grow.



DUNCAN Lehi

Lehi recognises the importance and power of meaningful collaboration across sectors and stakeholders in growing a Waikato where the needs of our communities are met, and the aspirations of our communities are fulfilled.

With a background in youth development and education, non-profit management, and public service, Lehi currently sits on the Board of Trustees of a number of Waikato-based philanthropic trusts, and brings important strategic, leadership and relationship management skills and experience.

Lehi has a long history of working in and alongside organisations that have directly benefitted from the Trust's support, and is passionate about using the platform of Trustee to drive systemic change and partnership to serve those in need.



ENDRES Kevin

Power ON - For the Community

I was raised in Hamilton and have spent much of my adult life here. I am married to Kim and have three boys attending various Hillcrest Schools. I am an independent Business owner with experience in management, governance and board procedures. I have the skills to contribute positively to the WEL Energy Trust.



My background includes working at ULeisure, becoming the GM and delivering public events to our Hamilton/Waikato community such as Round the Bridges Fun Run, Great Race Rowing Regatta and REV Cycle Festival.

I am actively involved in volunteering through coaching Community Sport and as Chairperson of Hillcrest Primary. I value the benefits Community Organisations provide, and as a WEL Energy Trustee, I will help these organisations continue their great contribution to our region.

I am standing as a member of the PowerON team. Please vote for all seven of the "Power ON - For the Community" team.

FARRELL Brian Patrick

Independent

In 1993 as a former WEL Energy Trustee I saw the need for local ownership of our power company and campaigned to safeguard the public against what I believed were unjustified changes. Since then electricity line charges have again steadily increased in real terms.



After 40 plus years as a technician I have the practical knowledge necessary to once again properly represent the people of the Waikato around the Trust meeting table.

If elected I'd aim for a public survey of the WEL Network consumers to see how they would prefer to receive either an annual rebate in the form of a credit on their power bill or a community grants programme or mixture of both from the Trust's community ownership of the company?

I also oppose the sale of the Ultrafast Fibre subsidiary company without public consultation.

For more go to: <https://brianfarrell.nz>

Ph 027 356 2376

HAMILL Rob

Independent - Retain Assets

As a current trustee, thank you for voting for me at past elections.

It's been a privilege representing you, ensuring the Trust delivers for you and the community.

Rest assured, with your vote, I'll continue supporting grants, social investment and community ownership.

For example, I was the only Trustee to vote against the 100% sale of UFF (WEL Group's fibre business) to foreign investors (pending OIO approval).

My priorities for the community Trust are:

- Retain assets;
- Increase community grants;
- Increase community loans;
- Decrease community loan interest rates;
- Develop social investments/Waikato Wellbeing;
- Energy efficiency.

Recently, I was proud to support the Trust gifting \$1 million to the region's Covid-19 hardship fund.

By re-electing me, I offer my broad life experience, not only as a husband, father, but as an Olympian, trans-Atlantic champion rower, yachtsman, writer, film producer with a passion for self-sufficiency in food, health, the outdoors, sport and the community.



HARDING Denise

Power ON - For the Community

As a current trustee, I seek your vote in the WEL Energy Trust elections.

The past three years saw the Trust secure further reserves for increased and varied community grants; encourage WEL Networks' reduction in electricity line charges and establishment of OurPower as a cheaper electricity retailer in our region; proactively contribute to the Waikato Wellbeing Project; all whilst maintaining 100% community ownership of WEL, actively supporting progressive technology and new opportunities to benefit us all, the company, the community, the region.

My background is sciences and law; and I'm a Registered Intellectual Property Attorney. With Hamilton my home for 34 years, I remain strongly committed to the region and its community. Your vote for me and the team is a vote for keeping the Power-ON and the future bright for current and future generations. So, please vote for all 7 of the "Power ON - For the Community" team.



HUTT Louise

Ko Louise Hutt tōku ingoa. He uri ahau o tangata te Tiriti.

I bring a balance of expertise across both the energy and community sectors and a passion for our region and its people. My experience developing and implementing innovative solutions across these sectors is a unique perspective I can bring to the role of trustee.

Having been a part of the team who set up the WEL Networks electricity company OurPower and later run my own electricity platform, I am well acquainted with the business of electricity.

I currently am Deputy Chairperson of Go Eco, one of the largest sustainability charities in the Waikato, and for my day job I work at Seed Waikato, a youth-led organisation based in Hamilton. I understand the impact that grants and funding have and the need for good governance.

I value community engagement, diversity, and having a strong vision for the future.



JOHNSTON Jan

Bring Back Discounts

The reason I have joined the BRING BACK DISCOUNTS team seeking election to the WEL Energy Trust is simple.

When electricity discounts from WEL Networks were introduced by the WEL Energy Trust in 2003, I knew they were an effective way of financially supporting many deserved households & families throughout the Waikato, including mine. The financial relief it gave heading into winter was so gratefully received. Sadly, this scheme was abandoned in 2018 in favour of giving grants & funding to exclusive groups and projects.

Now more than ever, I believe we need to reinstate this support back into our communities at this unprecedented time and the BRING BACK DISCOUNTS team is committed to making this happen.

We need your votes to return the discounts to the people who need it the most.

Please vote for Jan Johnston & the BRING BACK DISCOUNTS team.



RAVLICH-HORAN Vicki

Born and raised in Hamilton I left to go to university and then head off on my OE. Returning 15 years ago to start a business and subsequently raise my family in the region I have always called home.

Raised by community minded parents, being a valuable member of my community and giving back is part of my DNA.

I own and publish Nourish Magazine - now in its 10th year celebrating the Waikato. While working hard to build a successful business I founded Waikato Food Inc, a not for profit that at its core is making the Waikato a great place to live and work.

Now more than ever local businesses and community groups have an important part to play in shaping our community.

I believe my strength lies in my ability to think outside the box, to work collaboratively and not to be afraid to speak up.



RINALDI Mary

I fell in love with the Waikato after moving here 8 years ago. Hamilton is where I chose to settle and raise a family.

I will bring a fresh perspective and strategic focus to the Board. I am a corporate strategic planning consultant and am passionate about the arts, sustainability and community wellbeing.

I have governance and business management experience, having been a founding Trustee of Auckland Shakespeare Trust, and ran a theatre company for 3 years.

I strongly support continuing the grants program. As a previous applicant to WEL and other organisations I understand what it's like for those seeking funds. I will ensure community interests are taken into account and an accessible and fair process is followed.

I support the Waikato Wellbeing Project and will advocate for investments and initiatives that ensure the Waikato is a clean, safe and prosperous place for our tamariki to grow up in.



ROLTON Mike

Power ON - For the Community

I am the General Manger of St Vincent de Paul Hamilton and work in the heart of the community every day. I am passionate about enhancing the community and understand the dynamics that shape our society. Now more than ever it is time to support the community and think big picture about how we can fund projects to ensure the outcomes have the best holistic return. The experience I have provides me with beneficial insights which I believe is valuable for this role. Being of Maori descent the value of being connected to the community is engrained, I appreciate the diversity of the people in the Waikato and the opportunity we have as a region. I offer a balance of commercial and community and am committed and ready to make Waikato a better place by being a part of the Power On – For the Community team.



SILVERTON Matt

Bring Back Discounts

As a Registered Property Valuer, our Code of Ethics requires me to 'provide independent advice, and to respect the public interest' on a day to day basis, which I believe are also the key attributes required by a Trustee of the WEL Energy Trust.

My name is Matt Silverton, and I'm a born and bred Hamiltonian. I am a local business owner, an ex-Chairman of the Waikato Branch of the Property Institute of New Zealand, a husband, and a father to two young boys.

I am also under 40 (just).

While funding chosen community groups is certainly important, I believe that those who have incurred electricity costs during the year (residents, businesses and community organisations) are the ones that should primarily benefit from any residual surplus, rather than seven individuals simply reallocating the funds on a somewhat arbitrary basis.

Please vote for Matt Silverton and the BRING BACK DISCOUNTS team.



STEPHEN Craig

Power ON - For the Community

Ko Taupiri te maunga
Ko Waikato te awa
Ko Pootatau te tangata
Kei Kirikiriroa au e noho ana
Tiihei mauriora



A current Trustee seeking your continued support - help us help you by voting for all the "Power ON - For the Community" team.

I'm proud of our achievements over the last three years: increased grant funding; greater advocacy; improved governance and stewardship; all contributing to Community health, wellbeing, and vibrancy. There is still much to do.

I grew up in the Waikato, graduated from Waikato University before postgraduate study at Lincoln University and Wharton Business School.

With significant energy/electricity experience, senior leadership roles with NZSX listed companies, I am committed to using these skills to improve our wellbeing (people, economy and environment – my priorities), as we rebuild our Community and create a new and better world following Covid-19.

Please vote for the "Power ON - For the Community" team.

WEST Michael

Bring Back Discounts

I was disappointed to hear Wel Trust abandoned its discounts scheme in 2018.

A grants program funded from trust investments has always complimented the discount scheme and can be retained, but Wel Networks surpluses should be returned as discounts.



As a former trustee who served from 2005 to 2008, I know first-hand the importance of the discounts. They are by far the most efficient and effective way of financially supporting our communities and here's why.

They identify households, families, community organisations and businesses as vital communities in their own right.

They maximise the amount of funds that are returned to these communities because discounts are not taxed and residential customers benefit by having the GST they paid returned to them.

The BRING BACK DISCOUNTS team is committed to reinstating this valuable scheme that puts real value into the community.

Please vote for Michael West and the BRING BACK DISCOUNTS team.

WILLIAMS Julian

Power ON - For the Community

Ko Taupiri tooku Maunga
Ko Waikato tooku Awa
Ko Pootatau te tangata
He piko he taniwha
Waikato taniwharau
Tiihei mauriora



I was raised, and attended school, in Ngaaruawaahia before graduating from the University of Waikato. I worked in Huntly for Waahi Whaanui Trust, then Fonterra, before holding senior positions within the Waikato Region, progressing collaborative arrangements to restore and protect the Waikato and Waipaa Rivers.

My wife and I have an established consultancy service providing support and engagement for community, marae and council within the governance and environmental space, while enabling quality time with our sons.

I currently chair Smart Waikato, empowering youth through real education to employment pathways. With 15 years of governance experience on charitable trusts and Marae, I contribute strong business judgement, innovative thought with experience, and advocate for fairness.

Ko Julian Williams ahau.

Please vote for me and the "Power ON - For the Community" team.

WILLIAMS Kathryn

Power ON - For the Community

I am a current trustee, I seek your vote to be re-elected to the WEL Energy Trust.

Over the last term, the trust has increased grant and investment returns, while supporting the company to "keep the lights ON" and maximise the investment for the community. We have helped create a significant community asset, to benefit us all.

I also support

- Affordable Energy "Our Power" cheaper regional power
- COVID response fund
- Community Grants, Wellbeing Project

My background includes health, science and business. I bring a strong balance of community and commercial skills through my leadership of a software company and our family marketing/advertising agency, along with 20 years' governance experience. As a passionate Waikato resident and mother of four I am determined to build a vibrant community we can all be proud of.

Please vote for me and the Power ON - For the Community team.



WILSON Edgar

POWER WELbeing - Community Enhancement

I have considerable governance experience with Non-Profit and community Organisations. I am presently Chair of Trust Waikato, overseeing \$390 Million in assets; Child Matters, supporting the wellbeing of New Zealand families; K'aute Pasifika Trust, improving educational and community choices for Pasifika peoples. I have previously been Deputy Chair of First Credit Union.



The COVID-19 era and beyond shows an even greater need to actively support community, and I will encourage WEL Energy to work closer with other Community Funders to support the wider community.

My focus in all organisations is to strengthen community and improve well-being. It is necessary for these roles as it is for WEL Energy that I demonstrate the ability to work positively with all ethnic groups across the region.

To be a governor of the Trust will be a privilege and dearly held responsibility. In seeking your vote, I thank you for this opportunity.

YAMUNANATHAN Adrian

Bring Back Discounts

When told Wel Trust was abandoning the power discounts scheme, I was disappointed.

As a local business owner, property owner, and having a young family, I know the importance of these discounts. I felt it was the fairest way of distributing the funds to the community. It provided a relief where it was most needed. It was a solution that supported businesses, households, and families. The discount came at the right time, and I can tell you from experience the joy it brought to the home.

The discounts maximised the amount of funds that were returned to these communities as there were no tax implications, and residential customers could benefit by having the GST they paid returned to them.

The Bring Back Discounts team is focused on supporting the community. We are focussed on finding the best way to distribute valuable financial support, especially during these tough economic times.





www.welenergytrust.co.nz

For ASSISTANCE phone the ELECTION HELPLINE

0800 666 031

electionz.com 
voting made easy