

Taranaki Branch of the Institute of Directors 2026 Chair's Report

Tēnā koutou katoa.

It is my pleasure, as Branch Chair, to present the 2025 Annual Report for the Taranaki Branch of the Institute of Directors.

Membership

2025 was another strong year for the Branch. We welcomed 29 new members, bringing our total membership to 179 as at 31 December 2025. This growth reflects the continued relevance of governance leadership in our region and the strength of our local IoD community.

Branch Events and Engagement

In 2025, the Branch delivered **20 events**, including our monthly informal coffee catchups hosted by Branch Committee members. These sessions created valuable opportunities for connection, discussion, and shared learning in a relaxed and accessible format.

Our events programme provided members with a mix of:

- Access to high quality speakers from outside the region
- Robust discussion of governance issues relevant to Taranaki directors

Highlights from the year included sessions on:

- Governance in the event of a natural disaster
- Accelerating action for women's equality
- SME Governance Series: Introducing good governance to your business
- Roundtable discussion on governance for SMEs
- Compliance, reform and risk: Director update for 2025

These events were made possible through the commitment of our Committee members, who curated speakers and topics reflecting an evolving governance landscape.

Emerging Director Award

The Emerging Director Award recognises up and coming directors in the early stages of their governance careers. We were delighted to announce Jacob Mills as the 2025 winner of the Taranaki Branch Emerging Director Award.

My sincere thanks go to our judges and to our award sponsor, Taranaki Chamber of Commerce, for their support in recognising and encouraging future governance leaders in our region.

Finances

Copies of the financial statements are available to members on request.

Sponsors

I would like to sincerely thank all our sponsors for their ongoing support, particularly our national sponsor ASB and event sponsors Auld Brewer Mazengarb & McEwen and Govett Quilliam. Their contribution extends well beyond financial support and plays an important role in strengthening the Branch.

Branch Committee

I extend my personal thanks to the 2025 Branch Committee:

- Arun Chaudhari
- Rob Facer
- Adam Harris
- Jessie Waite
- Craig Marriott
- Hayden Wano
- Guy Roper
- Justin Peterson
- Naomi Harris
- Bronwyn Koroheke
- Catherine Keenan
- Sean Maskill

Their commitment, hard work, and creativity delivered an outstanding programme of events during what was a challenging year for many. The success of the Branch is a direct reflection of their dedication.

Stepping Down as Chair

I will be stepping down as Branch Chair this year. It has been a privilege to serve the Taranaki Branch and to work alongside such a committed Committee and engaged membership. I am grateful for the support, collaboration, and trust shown during my time as Chair.

I would also like to acknowledge Hayden Wano and Guy Roper, who are also stepping down this year. Thank you both for your significant contributions to the Branch — your time, leadership, and commitment have been very much appreciated.

Branch Management

This month, we were pleased to welcome **Rachel Vickers** as our new Branch Manager, following the departure of **Rachel Church**, who stepped down in March. We are fortunate to have Rachel joining us and look forward to working closely with her. I encourage members to connect with Rachel as needed and offer her your support as she settles into the role.

Looking Ahead

As we move through 2026, our focus will remain on:

- Providing governance insight that is relevant, practical, and forward looking
- Strengthening local connections across our membership
- Supporting directors to lead with confidence in an increasingly complex environment

We will continue to prioritise member retention and connection, with a particular focus on creating opportunities for newer members to learn from and engage with experienced directors. Sharing insights, lessons, and governance experiences across our network remains central to our purpose. Looking ahead, the Branch will continue to explore topics including digital transformation, climate strategy, and governance reform, while maintaining our strong commitment to professional development and meaningful networking.

Closing

Thank you to all members for your ongoing attendance, input, and engagement. New Zealand businesses and organisations continue to need strong leadership and effective governance, and the work of this Branch plays an important role in supporting that need.

Ngā mihi nui.

Craig Hattle

Chair, Taranaki Branch

Institute of Directors in New Zealand

29 April 2026