



NEXT STORIES

NEXT
OUTLOOK

NEXT
FOUNDATION
Investing in our land, our people

NextGen philanthropy and generosity for Aotearoa New Zealand's future

Te Radar (MC) with panelists Guy Ryan (Inspiring Stories CEO), Julia Arnott Neenee (NEXT Fellow), Kaye-Maree Dunn (Making Everything Achievable Director; Ahau Co-founder) and Bill Kermodé (NEXT CEO).



NEXT friends

Caring for the land and people

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Investing in our land, our people

‘Ko te pae tawhiti, whāia
kia tata; ko te pae tata,
whakamaua kia tīna’

*Seek out distant horizons and
cherish those you attain*



A whole lot of help from our friends

- NEXT’s vision is to leave a legacy of environmental and educational excellence for the benefit of future generations of New Zealanders
- The work of NEXT, caring for ‘our land and our people,’ is enhanced through the Foundation’s network. NEXT values various partnerships with ‘friends’ of the Foundation
- Valued relationships exist with PwC New Zealand, Chapman Tripp, Inspiring Stories, Kea New Zealand, Play it Strange and others.

PwC NEXT Young Leaders

NEXT has enduring partnerships with PwC New Zealand, through the PwC NEXT Young Leader Programme.

The genesis of the relationship with PwC goes back decades. When NEXT founders Neal and Annette Plowman had their business, PwC has acted in various capacities for the founders, including with the charitable trust that NEXT sits under. Since the time NEXT was founded, there has been a PwC NEXT Young Leader involved. The Young Leader is seconded to the Foundation for circa six months and made available to NEXT for up to half their time, while still working at and paid by PwC.

- PwC and NEXT encourage the Young Leader to 'have a voice' and tap into their areas of personal passion and interest. Each placement is different and while the role of the Young Leader is not prescribed, activities range from shadowing Bill; to project work; to attending board meetings; assessing applications; and research
- Benefits for the Young Leader include exposure to different sectors and networks; professional development; increased confidence; being inspired by change-makers; and values alignment, 'Young people have a real sense of social responsibility'
- Gains for NEXT include access to top talent; connection with young emerging leaders and a different point of view ('Bill would say not just the old guys and gals'); access to commercial skills; and the opportunity to make a difference for a talented young person
- The relationship enables PwC to develop their people; diversify their network; and there is a good strategic fit. Building trust and helping solve important problems is integral to PwC's modus operandi

- Strengths of the partnership include the aligned values and goals; high-trust relationship; open communication; and flexibility. The Young Leaders have consistently felt respected by the NEXT team, and most remain connected ongoing
- There are a number of ways the Programme could be refined, such as involving more PwC people; working more directly in areas of mutual interest (such as financial literacy); and linking NEXT grantees and partners with PwC clients. One suggested way to evolve the programme included developing avenues for top talent to pathway into philanthropy

'The Young Leaders programme is a secondment for a young person to work with us, for a period of time. It's great experience and PwC provide them free of charge. PwC has identified the young person as someone they want to promote and it broadens their horizon.'

Barrie Brown
NEXT FOUNDATION

'The experience opened up my eyes to the philanthropic side of NZ and how many people are involved and how passionate they are. I hadn't seen that before, it was just amazing . . . I would recommend the experience to anyone who gets the opportunity. It's a side of life you would never get to experience in your usual day-to-day work.'

Daniel Houzet
YOUNG LEADER

The Young Leaders



Laura Lee



Alex McKay



Courtney Sanson



Jacob Weaver



Georgia Walker



Daniel Houzet



Max Hunt



Gwladys Tournier



Celeste Healey



Jen Read



Richard Orr

'There is a long-term relationship between PwC and the charitable trust that NEXT sits under. I went to PwC and suggested there is an opportunity for one of your young people to meet a whole lot of interesting people and for me it was a way for NEXT to get some skilled support. We trialled it with one person to see how it would work and it did, well. It has given NEXT a fantastic skilled resource and has been a valued relationship. It's also given eleven people (so far) insight into the social and for-purpose sectors.'

Bill Kermode
NEXT FOUNDATION

PwC NEXT Young Leaders

'We have been fortunate to have a long-standing association with those that established NEXT. Our purpose at PwC is to build trust in society and solve important problems. It is well aligned with what NEXT is trying to do. With our staff there is a stronger sense around that purpose than ever before. There are three winners – NEXT, the Young Leader and PwC. We have a broad involvement with a number of philanthropic and personal clients across the country. There is close alignment in a purpose sense with NEXT.'

David Lamb
PwC

'Most participants would say the opportunity was the most enjoyable six months of their career – they are still working at PwC and getting to experience a whole new industry. The experience builds your network, your skills (particularly your soft skills) and you get to work closely with the NEXT team. I can't speak highly enough of the people involved.'

Jacob Weaver
YOUNG LEADER

'I am passionate about the environment, wanted to broaden my experience and work with Bill. I got much more out of the experience than I anticipated, especially soft skills. I come from a privileged background and work with quite wealthy clients. I was naive and the experience with NEXT put things in perspective – I learned about myself, business, social change, the environment and what is happening in Aotearoa. I enjoyed getting involved with the next generation. I recall an event at The Mind Lab, where I met other young professionals who were like-minded, with the same values - people who care about these big issues.'

Celeste Healey
YOUNG LEADER

'I was inspired by the experience. I met Kiwis for Kiwis through NEXT and now trap with them as a volunteer. We walk the trap-line in Kaipara and reset it, to reduce predator numbers. I remain connected to NEXT ongoing.'

Laura Lee
YOUNG LEADER

'I was the second Young Leader. My advice is to take it. These opportunities don't come around often to work with an organisation like NEXT. We are lucky to get the chance.'

Courtney Sanson
YOUNG LEADER

'The PwC connection recognises that the younger professional demographic want to work for an organisation that has a social focus. For those who get involved, they are surprised at how meaningful it becomes.'

Bridget Best
NEXT FOUNDATION

'Every day I would meet someone different who fitted in to the NEXT puzzle. I was exposed to a plethora of perspectives. A highlight was meeting people with the same values. Also, we go through a feedback process twice a year at PwC. I used to get a lot of comments about my confidence and willingness to speak up. NEXT helped me come out of my shell and have confidence. I believe everyone has something to contribute.'

Georgia Walker
YOUNG LEADER



NEXT Chief Executive Bill Kermode with PwC Young Leaders.

The Experience of the Young Leaders

Each of the PwC NEXT Young Leaders had a distinct experience, depending on where NEXT was at in its lifecycle and their areas of interest. The Young Leaders were encouraged to find their passion, make it known and bring their own shoes.

- The experience was different for each participant. It ranged from strategic conversations (regarding where NEXT would focus); the early EOI (expressions of interest) rounds; assessing applications/ investment proposals; assisting with events; and networking; to ensuring grant partners were well supported; and research. The first participant Jennifer Read shares, 'I was thinking how different the experience would have been for those who followed. I was there at the start, when NEXT was figuring things out and building the context'
- Over time the experience changed. Alex McKay shares, 'Every time NEXT has had a new person, they have had a completely different role – they have been at different points of the lifecycle. We didn't have to fill any shoes, we got to wear and bring our own shoes to the role'
- All of the participants had a 'genuine belief' in what NEXT was about and wanted to be involved in something meaningful and make a difference. They were keen to broaden their experience; have exposure to the for-purpose world; and work alongside Bill Kermodé at NEXT
- Highlights of the experience included getting to do something that 'positively impacts'; working with the team and meeting the founders of NEXT; being opened up to a broader network of successful people who were making a difference; regional travel; and exposure to strategic philanthropy. A young leader shared, 'Annette and Neal Plowman are the most genuine people, and really have New Zealand's future at heart'

- Strengths of the Young Leaders programme and factors for success included having strong champions inside PwC and NEXT; the Young Leader genuinely caring about the mahi (work); and flexibility to balance commitments
- The experience shaped the Young Leaders, opening their eyes up to a broader world; expanding their values; and influencing their current and/or future career, 'It has shaped me in terms of my career. The goal is to learn as much as I can and then translate those skills into doing good'
- The experience changed all of the Young Leaders, 'You will find that over half the PwC people changed roles after, and one during, the secondment. The programme changed us all'

NEXT values the relationship with PwC and acknowledges David Lamb and Leo Foliaki, the PwC Partners who willingly share their people with NEXT, and all of the PwC NEXT Young Leaders.

'It was a really cool time. I couldn't speak more highly about the whole experience. Everyone there wanting to give back and do a good job, lots of interesting people. Personally I feel like I have a mentor for life in Bill.'

Jennifer Read
YOUNG LEADER

'I met such a variety of people (all working towards common goals) and enjoyed seeing how the Foundation works organisationally – the people connected to it, the benefactors and then how that flows down through the Board, the executive and out to various initiatives. The experience left me with an awareness of the importance and impact that philanthropy has on so many lives in our community. I would like to be in that world again, later on in my career.'

Max Hunt
YOUNG LEADER

'The NEXT experience helped me realise that the role I was doing was too binary. My interests were more in creative problem solving, analysis and being more high level. Within a month of being back at PwC I secured a transfer to the management consulting team. The secondment changed my perspective on life, on everything.'

Alex McKay
YOUNG LEADER

'COVID hit shortly into my tenure, I had such a different experience to others (there were a lot of Zoom calls). That said, my time at NEXT was enlightening. I was exposed to the extent of the inequities in the education system, which NEXT (and others) seek to address. I usually work in tax so it was engaging to be involved in discussions around these big issues, so far removed from my ordinary day.'

Richard Orr
YOUNG LEADER

'PwC New Zealand and NEXT collaborate to provide a unique secondment programme for young people to expand their horizons and get a stronger sense of purpose. On top of my day-to-day job in corporate tax, this secondment aligns with my values and gives me the opportunity to actively contribute to the for-purpose sector. Bill and I have recently been looking at links between biodiversity loss and climate change, amongst other subjects. What a fantastic project to be involved in!'

Gwladys Tournier
YOUNG LEADER

Chapman Tripp

Chapman Tripp (CT) provides high quality legal services to the NEXT team on a pro bono basis, and makes its networks and capabilities available to the Foundation.

- CT allocates a substantial sum of pro bono assistance each year to supporting the sustainability, health and wellbeing of New Zealand, which dovetails with NEXT's mission and goals
- They are also the first NZ law firm to join the global Net Zero Lawyers Alliance, which illustrates a commitment to accelerate the transition to net zero by 2050 and ties together a number of their sustainability and impact policies
- CT Special Counsel (Poutoko) Phillippa Wilkie advises charities, non-profits and purpose-driven organisations in all stages of their life cycles, an area of law that she is passionate about personally
- CT and Phillippa have helped to establish many of NEXT's environmental project companies and to document and monitor their partnership, funding and contractual arrangements. They have also worked with Jan Hania and others writing about steward ownership for purpose-driven companies

NEXT wishes to thank John Strowger and Phillippa Wilkie for their leadership and support in this valued partnership.

www.chapmantripp.com

'Chapman Tripp has been a strong supporter of NEXT and its environmental, educational and strategic philanthropic causes from day one. Phillippa brings a strong personal as well as professional interest to the work with us, not just the legal perspective.'

Bill Kermode
NEXT FOUNDATION

'The three things that impress me most about NEXT are their business-like, strategic and long-term approach to philanthropic projects, their acknowledgment that connectivity and collective action is needed to change the system, and their humble leadership. This is a unique combination which underpins their success in crowding in funds, developing long term relationships and being impactful.'

Phillippa Wilkie
CHAPMAN TRIPP

'NEXT is a dynamic connector of people and organisations, which is what is needed to change the way things have always been done. NEXT has built up a very strong group of knowledgeable broad-thinking leaders in the environmental space. Global goals such as keeping warming at 1.5 degrees, net gain in global biodiversity by 2050, 30x30 and net zero emissions by 2050 require partnerships, collaboration and mobilisation of public and private finance. I see NEXT as an instigator, thought leader and partner in policy and projects aiming to achieve these goals.'

Phillippa Wilkie
CHAPMAN TRIPP

Inspiring Stories

Over the past decade, the Inspiring Stories (IS) charity Guy Ryan founded has engaged over 12,000+ people in its programmes, awarded more than \$85,000 to support New Zealand's most promising young social entrepreneurs, and put more than \$2million into scholarship support for young people to access life-changing programmes and experiences.

- All IS programmes and initiatives support young New Zealanders to engage in the big issues of the times, to build their capability, and to take action. Their alumni are "dreaming big and pushing boundaries to make a difference for our future"
- Inspiring Stories flagship programme is the 'Festival for the Future', Aotearoa's largest social innovation summit which attracted over 1,600 people in person in 2021. It also hosts the Impact Awards, celebrating young New Zealanders making a difference with \$30,000 in prizes awarded across six categories. Future Leaders is a year-round programme supporting young people in rural and provincial communities to develop their leadership skills and work on projects to make a difference in their backyard
- From NEXT's perspective, IS offers an entrée into a large and established network of inspiring young people, and ways to connect with and learn from them. Future talent is far easier for the Foundation to spot and support as a result

www.inspiringstories.org.nz

'For far too many young people the constant barrage of big issues like COVID, climate change and mental health can be really overwhelming. These issues are real, but so too is the need for us to approach these in a way that is hopeful, practical, and solutions-focused. Young people have the biggest stake in the future, and there's so much more that we can be doing to give our young people and the generations to come a fighting chance.'

Guy Ryan
INSPIRING STORIES

'Guy and the Inspiring Stories team have created a fantastic place for young people wanting to make their difference for a better New Zealand to come together, be inspired, and be informed. NEXT can both benefit from and support the energy and momentum that Inspiring Stories has led.'

Bill Kermode
NEXT FOUNDATION



A collaborative NEXT Outlook breakfast with Inspiring Stories in Wellington.

Play it Strange

Since 2007, Play It Strange has provided secondary school students with a platform to pursue their songwriting passions through a national competition, of the same name. Each year a cohort of songs are selected and 40 young musicians are chosen and given the opportunity to record their song. Through their partnership with NEXT, a selection of these original songs have been chosen to back the Foundation's videos.

- The young musicians get involved with NEXT due to the opportunity and values alignment. Danielle Hanna (Uka) shared, 'NEXT's goals in environment and education speak to my core values. The environment and climate change is huge. And supporting those from low socio economic backgrounds is close to my heart. Education is a way to rise up'
- Gains for the musicians include exposure; insights to the social sector; building their network; receipt of a koha; and performing at a NEXT event. Sam Cullen shared on his experience, 'I travelled to Auckland to perform. Mike Chunn facilitated - I'd do it again in a heartbeat'
- Benefits for NEXT include having an original soundtrack for their videos and introducing a different dimension to events. Mike Chunn from Play it Strange describes this, 'The spotlight is on the songwriter, you can hear a pin drop at those events, NEXT understands the power of an original song'

NEXT values the relationship with Play it Strange and acknowledges Mike Chunn and the young musicians involved.

'The songwriters have a need to say what is in the song. You can say things through a song and they have a right of place. My role with NEXT is finding the right song and working together to make it a smooth entrée to the website, have the songwriter recognised. Then there are the live performances at NEXT events.'

Mike Chunn
PLAY IT STRANGE

'My song is called National Anthem. The whole point of the song is to do with my favourite place, Tauranga Bay. My Nana used to take my Mum up there as a kid. It was our family spot – we would go there every holidays and hang out at the beach, go to the pub and the fish and chip shop. The song was about growing up and living in New Zealand. The point is it's my heaven, my place, it's my national anthem for this place.'

Danielle Hanna (Uka)
MUSICIAN

'My song is Small Town. It's quite laid back and peaceful, it fit well with the Teach First video and their goals that every young person fulfills their goals on the education front. The experience opened my eyes to what others are doing out there in education and environment. The experience was great network building. I'm currently studying music in Wellington at Victoria and am writing and playing live more than ever.'

Sam Cullen
MUSICIAN

'Mike Chunn and I talk, coordinate and make it happen. We make it easy for the singer, meet with them and there is trust and a safe space. It's a privilege and a passion. We have huge respect for the heart and process of songwriting.'

Mike Ferrand
NEXT FOUNDATION

'I had written a song that I entered in the Peace Song Competition for Play it Strange. I won the Competition alongside another artist. Under the Same Sky is about people understanding what connects everyone and how we relate. I resonated with the goals and vision of NEXT. I was stoked they wanted my song to be a part of the video about Aotearoa's rivers. This is an important issue. NEXT connected with me and invested their time in learning about my story and hopes. I was inspired to continue song writing. The experience felt affirming.'

Jess Adams
MUSICIAN

'NEXT has influenced where I hope to head. I'm passionate about the area I came from in South Auckland. I'm reflecting on how I can make a difference for these communities. I'm half Indian, half Pākehā – that is a unique experience growing up between two identities and in a Māori and Pasifika environment. I would like to work in Ministries particularly within environment, education and social development. The experience with NEXT helped me think about how I can be a force for change.'

Danielle Hanna (Uka)
MUSICIAN



Play it Strange singer songwriter Carlo Marinovich, performing at a NEXT event.

Kea New Zealand

Formed in 2001 by Sir Stephen Tindall and Dr David Teece, the organisation continues to be “Where Kiwi Explorers connect and make a difference.” By linking and supporting this massive diaspora to add value from where they live – or when they return - Kea enhances the country's global connectedness for the good of Aotearoa, the people themselves and the planet.

- Kea and NEXT share values of making our country as good a place as it can be, now and for future generations. Both see inspiring, connecting and supporting networks as powerful ways of working. And both organisations believe doing good through strategic engaged philanthropy is a model that everyone can adopt
- Closely aligned organisational cultures and styles of operation reflect a complementary desire to see the country grow and thrive through investing in its people, wherever they happen to be
- Kea has provided NEXT with access to, and better understandings of, the talent and potential represented by their membership. Through such initiatives as 'Kea Connect' (which engages monthly with over 40 businesses) and its diaspora data collection and awareness focus, Kea shares valuable insights into its community
- In return, NEXT actively supports Kea initiatives and events, including the annual World Class New Zealand showcase and a recent presentation to help foster personal philanthropy and 'giving back' within the Kea community

www.keanewzealand.com

'The Kea/NEXT cross-over is around philanthropy and giving back, connecting people for the betterment of New Zealand, now and in the future.'

Toni Truslove
Kea CEO

'So many Kiwis offshore want to make a contribution to a better New Zealand and Kea is a wonderful connector for that. It just makes sense on both sides for NEXT and the causes and organisations it supports to be in those conversations.'

Bill Kermode
NEXT FOUNDATION

'I see the friendship with NEXT continuing with more of the same. Together fostering our common interests and communities within a philanthropy focus, to ignite thoughts in their minds about how they can engage.'

Toni Truslove
Kea CEO

The future

As the Foundation looks to the far horizon, friendships old and new will continue to be an integral part of the NEXT journey.

'We value the relationships and friendships we have as a Foundation. If we are to achieve the level of change we want to – for the land and people of Aotearoa New Zealand – this can only be done collectively.'

Bill Kermode
NEXT FOUNDATION



A NEXT Outlook panel discussion in Auckland, in collaboration with Kea New Zealand. Left to right, Te Radar (MC), Toni Truslove, Kea New Zealand; Kent Gardner, philanthropist and entrepreneur; Dale Nirvani Pfeifer, Goodworld; Bill Kermode Chief Executive NEXT.

For more information go to the NEXT website

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