

# 2026 TRUSTEES ELECTION CANDIDATE PROFILES

There are seven candidates standing for THREE (3) Trustee positions

# Electra TRUST



## Sharon CROSBIE

CNZM

Electra continues to be one of the country's best performing lines companies. Thanks to the community's decision 33 years ago to keep the company in local ownership, Electra's advantage is in having shareholders who are also the beneficiaries of its financial success. This means profits do not go offshore — they stay right here. This consumer trust ownership model not only ensures that the company's profits do not disappear into the pockets of faceless foreign investors and hedge funds but also locks in control by local directors and management. This means we are kept informed of developments and can enjoy dedicated services from the Electra's skilled staff. Most importantly, this consumer trust model ensures revenue goes to covering costs, which are rising all the time, and providing funds for the maintenance necessary to keep the lights on.

It's been my privilege to be a trustee working for significant, positive company changes including a new board of directors and chief executive, and an all-round improvement in our core business. I have a strong background in governance, community activity and business and, in seeking re-election, I am determined to help ease the cost pressures on households through the annual discount for beneficiaries.



## Brendan DUFFY

I am offering my name forward to be re-elected as a trustee and am confident that I have the time and energy to engage fully with Trust responsibilities. In this last term we appointed three new directors to the company, a very thorough and robust process. Appointing competent directors is a crucial task for the Trust. Our role as trustees is to hold the company to task and advocate strongly for solid dividend returns to the community in the form of the annual discount.

My roles in the community include Chair of Electra Business Awards, Chair of The Horowhenua Company, Chair of the Palmerston North Hospital Foundation, trustee on Te Puna Whai Matauranga. These broad roles ensure that I am connected across Kapiti and Horowhenua which places me in a unique role to be able to advocate for what's best in our region.

Our lines company have significant infrastructure renewals over the next decade and we all agree that resilience and keeping the lights on is important. The Trust has an influential role to play in ensuring our collective community voice is heard. Your support, by voting for me, will ensure this occurs.

Brendan J Duffy ONZM, JP

027 443 3516



## Veronica HARROD

MComms and PGDipJ

Kia ora everyone.

I already take an active interest in Electra Trust by attending Annual General Meetings and reading annual and financial reports.

One of my biggest concerns is the low voter turnout. In 2024 only 3,868 of around 47,082 beneficiaries voted. That represents only 8.38 percent of eligible voters.

My platforms include

- 1 Formally addressing the low voter turnout
- 2 Live streaming Annual General Meetings - and allow beneficiaries to ask questions online
- 3 I have no conflict of interests. Which is why your interests as voters and beneficiaries of Electra Trust will be my only priority
- 4 All trustees should undergo independent and qualified trustee training
- 5 Women make up only about 20 percent of Electra Trust's employees. A pathway to a good trade is one way for women to achieve financial security. A programme to address the inequities should be established

If you are involved in a local group and would like me to speak - for a short time - on why I am standing as a candidate in the Electra Trust elections please feel free to email me in the first instance [veronicaharrod147@gmail.com](mailto:veronicaharrod147@gmail.com)



## Wendy HUSTON

The Iran conflict highlights the urgency for New Zealand to strengthen its energy independence by continuing to develop reliable, alternative electricity sources.

It's essential that Electra remains locally owned and controlled; especially for those most affected by energy costs; including families, older people, and those on fixed incomes. Our local ownership helps ensure a dependable, sustainable power supply while protecting and growing annual line-user discounts.

Having lived and worked in Horowhenua and Kāpiti for most of my adult life, I bring proven business leadership experience and governance capabilities.

### My Background:

- Justice of the Peace
- MBA (Distinction)
- 16yrs prior to my recent retirement, CEO Kapiti Retirement Trust, operating Sevenoaks-Midlands Gardens Retirement Village and care facilities; one of Kāpiti's largest employers.
- 2022 Business Kāpiti/Horowhenua, Hall of Fame Laureate (services to the community).
- 19yrs tutoring/management, UCOL (Levin and Palmerston North) and Whitireia (Kāpiti and Wellington city) campuses.
- 8yrs secondary teaching, mostly at Paraparaumu College.
- Community involvement including: Kāpiti Chamber of Commerce, Levin BPW and Parents' Centre, Rotary, Age Concern.

I have the time, experience, and commitment to support Electra's Board and management in delivering the infrastructure our communities need, now and into the future. If our priorities align, I'd value your vote.



PLEASE TURN OVER >>

## Russell LONGUET

BE (Elec)

I am currently an Electra Trustee, having completed one three year term, and am seeking re-election to allow me to continue to contribute to Electra's Governance and protect consumers' interests.

As Trustees we are responsible for choosing the Electra Board who in turn choose the CEO. We currently have a high performing Board with wide experience and capability and a strong management team.

My background covers electrical engineering, merchant banking, energy risk consulting and governance. I was a Director of Electra for 10 years up until 2018.

I have been a senior executive and Director of a number of energy related companies as well as on Energy and Transmission Advisory Groups to Government.

I have worked overseas in Energy businesses in Sweden, London and Norway and I was an Authority member of the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority (EECA).

My considerable commercial experience in these markets leads me to strongly support the Consumer Trust structure which maintains co-operative local control with no dividends going overseas.

I am confident that under our new Board and CEO that any additional, necessary, capacity will be built/optimised and future annual discounts will grow. I live in the Otaki Gorge.



## Shelly WARWICK

**Bachelor of Nursing, Post Graduate Primary Health – Specialty Nursing**

I am standing for election as a Trustee of the Electra Trust to protect and strengthen benefits our community receives from its electricity network.

I bring a strong community focus, backed by extensive voluntary work, experience on Boards of Trustees and nine years as an elected member of the Kapiti Coast District Council. I offer governance experience, a solid understanding of accountability, strategic decision-making, and representing community interests. I also chair a national charitable organisation with strong roots in advocacy, strengthening my leadership and governance capability.

Through my work as a registered nurse, I see firsthand the pressures many families face with the rising cost of living and the challenge of balancing household budgets, this will shape my approach.

Electra has an opportunity not only to maintain strong performance, but to better support households to become more energy efficient and reduce costs—while continuing to deliver the annual discount that provides vital relief to local families.

Education, partnerships, and innovative solutions can help make homes more affordable to run.

I will be a practical, responsible voice, ensuring Electra remains strong, forward-thinking, and focused on delivering real value to our community.



## Clint SMITH

LLB, BA (Politics), GradDip (International Relations), Dip (European Studies)

I am a policy and government relations consultant specialising in economic and energy issues. I worked in Parliament on electricity policy and now run my own business in Kapiti. I have collaborated with leading energy companies and NGOs, authoring key papers on energy efficiency and ways that government could lower power costs for families.

I am active in leadership roles in our community: I was recently elected Chair of the Paraparaumu Community Board and re-elected as Chair of my children's school board.

With the rising cost of living and fuel crisis putting more pressure on local families, it is vital that Electra delivers strong dividends back to our community while ensuring reliable supply. As a locally owned asset, Electra should actively encourage households and businesses to invest in solar, batteries, and energy efficiency. This can reduce Electra's investment costs, freeing up profits for customer dividends.

If elected, I will advocate strongly for keeping costs down, boosting efficiency, and maximising the returns that flow to Electra's consumer owners.

I would deeply appreciate your support.

