

THEATRE NEW ZEALAND INC.

56th Annual General Meeting

Date: Sunday, 27th September 2026

Time: 10:00 am

Venue: Online via Zoom

OFFICIAL AGENDA

1. Opening

- **Present** – Attendees to be recorded.
- **Apologies** – To be received and noted.
- **Welcome** – Welcome from the Chair and acknowledgement of Theatre New Zealand Life Members.

2. Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting

Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.

Motion:

That the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting be taken as read and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

Carried: _____

3. Matters Arising

- Business arising from the Minutes of the previous AGM.
- Review of actions taken.

4. President's Annual Report

The **President's Annual Report** has been circulated to members prior to the Annual General Meeting and is tabled for the record.

Motion:

That the President's Annual Report be received.

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

Carried: _____

5. Financial Report

Presentation of the **Annual Financial Statements**.

Presenter: Marilyn Ollett, Treasurer

Motion:

That the Annual Financial Statements be received and adopted.

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

Carried: _____

6. Remit – Removal of Requirement to Hold Two Face-to-Face Meetings Each Year

Submitted by: National Executive of Theatre New Zealand Inc.

The meeting will consider a remit proposing the removal of the constitutional requirement for Theatre New Zealand to hold two face-to-face meetings each year.

The proposed change recognises the geographical spread of Theatre New Zealand, the increasing costs associated with national travel and accommodation, and the ability of electronic meeting technology to provide greater accessibility and participation.

Motion:

That the Constitution of Theatre New Zealand Inc. be amended to remove the requirement to hold two face-to-face meetings each year and to provide that the Annual General Meeting and other meetings may be held face to face, electronically, or through a combination of both, as determined by the National Executive, provided that members entitled to attend are given a reasonable opportunity to participate and exercise their voting rights.

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

Decision: Carried / Lost / Carried with Amendment

7. Election of Officers and Regional Representatives

Nominations received for Theatre New Zealand Officer and Regional Representative positions will be presented to the meeting.

Where the number of nominations does not exceed the positions available, the appropriate appointments will be confirmed. Where an election is required, this will be conducted in accordance with Theatre New Zealand's governing requirements.

Motion:

That the nominations for Officer and Regional Representative positions, having been duly received, be accepted and the appropriate appointments confirmed.

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

Carried: _____

8. Theatre New Zealand – Looking Forward

A discussion on the continuing development, priorities and future direction of Theatre New Zealand.

International Recognition

- Recognition of the outstanding international response to the Experimental Theatre Collective's production ***The Ground Remembers Us*** at the **World Festival of Youth Theatre in Antwerp, August 2026**, and its subsequent performance in Ypres.
- Recognition of the international relationships and opportunities developed through this work.
- Looking ahead to **Dargaville Little Theatre's international engagement in Tulsa, USA, November 2026**.
- Acknowledgement of **Sienna Wheeler** and her involvement with the **AITA/IATA World Youth Council**, strengthening New Zealand youth representation internationally.

Innovation and Membership

- Continuing development of Theatre New Zealand's membership and engagement with the wider theatre community.
- Development of improved digital support, communications and membership systems.
- Continuing development of adjudication standards, training and mentoring.
- Expansion of opportunities and resources for societies, schools, youth theatre and individual practitioners.

Discussion Paper – Membership, Fellowship and Recognition

A separate discussion paper has been circulated to members exploring the future development of Theatre New Zealand's **membership, Fellowship and recognition structures**.

The paper considers a range of ideas concerning:

- Membership categories and accessibility.
- Fellowship of Theatre New Zealand.
- Life Membership.
- A Theatre New Zealand Hall of Fame.
- Recognition of Past Presidents.
- Voting and representation.
- Opportunities to strengthen engagement with individuals, societies, young people and supporters of community theatre.

This paper is presented for open discussion and membership feedback only. No resolution or vote on the proposals is being sought at this AGM.

Members are invited to contribute their views, raise questions, identify areas requiring further consideration and suggest other possibilities. Feedback received will assist the incoming Executive in determining whether elements of the discussion paper should be developed further.

Sustainability and Organisational Support

- Recognition of the increasing workload being carried by a volunteer National Executive.
- Exploration of sustainable funding opportunities to support a **part-time management/administrative role**.
- Strengthening Theatre New Zealand's organisational capacity to deliver its national programmes and support its membership.

World Festival – Wellington

- Update on the decision to **postpone the proposed 2027 AITA/IATA World Festival in Wellington**.
- Consideration of the circumstances leading to postponement, including international participation, funding, economic conditions and organisational capacity.
- Continued dialogue with AITA/IATA regarding the potential for Theatre New Zealand to host a future World Festival in Wellington.

9. TheatreFest

- Review of **TheatreFest 2025**.
- Recognition of participating societies, schools, performers, adjudicators, volunteers and regional organisers.
- Future development and sustainability of TheatreFest.
- Strengthening participation from community theatre, schools and youth.
- Development of pathways for emerging performers, directors, designers and theatre practitioners.
- Continuing encouragement and development of new New Zealand writing.

10. General Business

Any other business raised by members with the consent of the Chair.

11. Closing

- Thanks, and acknowledgements.
- Recognition of the contribution made by Executive members, Regional Representatives, Life Members, member societies, schools, individual members, volunteers, partners and supporters.

Meeting closed at: _____