



**Candidate Statement – Keith Clark, Life Member, 027 497 4706**

I have been heartened by the continued support and confidence of the members who have entrusted me with the Finance Directors role. This is a very complex position incorporating legal, compliance, tax, and accounting.

I truly believe that there is no other person on the Executive that has the depth of knowledge about the constitution, and legal and financial requirements of managing the finances of the Association.

I currently spend 10 – 20 hours in my role per week and this is what is required to meet the service expectations of our members, and sponsors, and ensure that the NZChefs Executive is able to function at a high level.

This is not a job that someone could pick up without training, and certainly I would not want to place the Association at financial risk through lack of knowledge, experience, and leadership and this is why I am standing again and asking for your vote.

I have faithfully served the Association over a long period and during my tenure there has been significant growth and development. In this role the Association charges me with managing funds currently exceeding  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a million dollars, as well as assets, brands and trademarks worth \$50k. I have been firm in my resolve to be fiscally prudent for the betterment of the Association.

Not only have I served as Finance Director I have also been integral in the following key areas:

- Platinum Sponsorship relationships
- Contract negotiations with our key suppliers, such as ASB Showgrounds, North Port Events
- National Salon (now NZ Hospitality Championships), instrumental in bringing this back to NZChefs, and have committed to managing this with the salon team.
- Equipment, and logistics for Fine Food, Kiwi Kids Can Cook, International competitors, and teams.
- Culinary Olympics 2016 – finance, logistics, insurances, customs and planning.
- Establishing the NZChefs Charitable Trust – a project that I worked for many years to successfully register.
- I am an active member of my branch and have always supported events such as the Seafood Festival, Christmas BBQ's, Cake and Biscuit fundraising, Chefs Ball, Long Lunches, and still have energy for more!

I have undertaken professional development and am well versed in the changes in the Incorporated Societies Act, which will come into effect over the next 2 years, but for which we are preparing now.

My vision is to continue to grow the financial assets ensuring they are spent meeting the objectives of our Association. A vote for me ensures that NZChefs finance, legal, tax and compliance remains in safe and experienced hands.