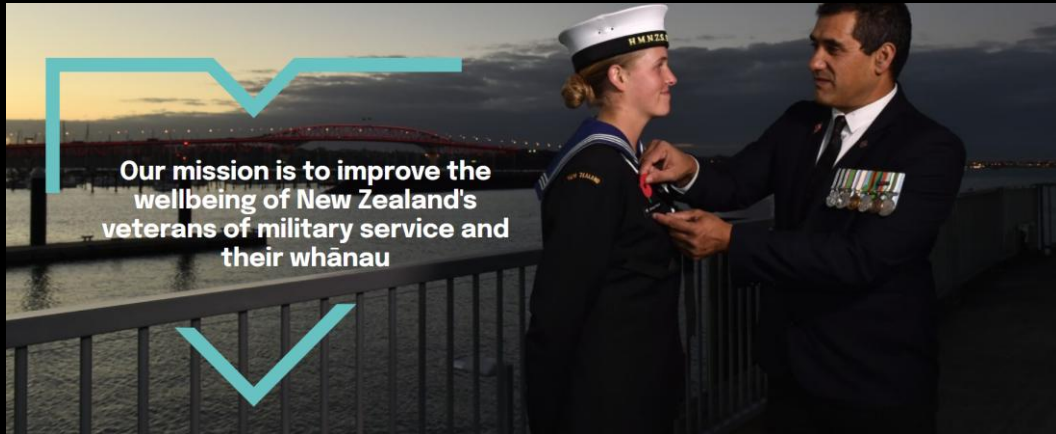RSA

Our mission is to improve the wellbeing of New Zealand's veterans of military service and their whānau

MODEL CONSTITUTION

Forum Presentation
17 December 2024

Introduction – the Model Constitution

- Background

- RNZRSA Structure

- The Consultation journey thus far

- Summary of key changes

- Model Constitution – what will it look like, changes so far

- Process – where to from here

- What you can expect

- Opportunity for Q&A

Current State: RNZRSA

RNZRSA is a federated structure joined by a common purpose:

- Using the Model Constitution is a membership requirement for RNZRSA

- Entitles you to use the name Returned and Services (RSA) & IP including the Poppy

- RSAs are evolving, RSAs have differing requirements for the Model Constitution

- If you require changes to the Model Constitution, National Office will help/approve

- Updated to include legal requirements of the new Incorp Socs Act 2022

- Updated to reinforce an RSAs ability to get on with the job of being an RSA

- RNZRSA is paying

CONSULTATION JOURNEY

- We have feedback about the Model Constitution.

- We know that for many of you this is the most important document.

- Instead of going for the broad consultation as we did with the main document we are going to do this one an RSA by RSA basis.

    Step 1: Workshop in Wellington late Jan 2025.

    Step 2: Legal review.

    Step 3: Consultation with individual RSAs when required.

RSA

CONSULTATION JOURNEY

What does Step 3: Consultation with individual RSAs look like...

- The Model Constitution next version of draft template will drop as close to the EGM on the 22nd of March 2025 as possible.

- It will be sent out with an accompanying document that gives you the steps to re-register with the Incorp Socs Registrar.

- Your Executives will need to go through the template

- If you have questions or want a change then National Office & the Constitution Working Group will help you with that.

- National Office will sign off on your Model Constitution before it goes to the Incorp Soc Registrar.

What will your Constitution look like

There will be the Model Constitution template

- Containing all the legally required clauses, e.g., responsibilities of Executive Members, a disputes process, membership criteria etc.

There will be a template for your own Bylaws and/or Rules

- Fill them in to meet the needs of your RSA i.e. dress standards, standards of behaviour

- Draft up your Code of Conduct – can be appended to your Bylaws/Rules. If you have one review it.

- Look at your Health and Safety docs and processes.

- Look at your Gaming policy requirements.

Changes to the draft to date

- **Veterans** – The collective term

- **Returned and Service** – Opportunity for your RSA to decide if it wants to use these membership categories

- **Kaumātua role –** opportunity for your RSA to include this role

- **Officers –** responsibilities made clearer

- **Language is being made less complicated –** plain English will be used where at all possible

- **Rules or Bylaws -** which will it be

- **Clarity added around the role of the National CE** – Some feedback to date considered it was over stated.

- **Supporter members changed back to Associate members –** unless you have a better idea.

- **Principles, Objects and Purposes** – veteran poverty and veteran community Section 3.1(i). Widely accepted by the Forum. Same for both Constitutions.

- Discussed the difference between **core purpose** and being a **good community** citizen.

Input needed…

- **Terms of appointment** – what do you want. Same as Board & Forum. 3yrs + 3yrs and possible further 3yrs in exceptional circumstances.

- **AGM/SGM Meetings** – Notice of Motion/Remit process tidied up, ambiguity removed, dates and process for submission made clearer.

- **Mergers** – clauses preventing of loss of RSA identity and assets.

- **Life Member** – only 1 category or Honorary as well

- **Provisional Member** – deleted

- **Membership Fees** - As set by the Executive and notified to the membership in advance.

- **Voting**

  First-past-the-post

  1 vote per individual

  Chair has deciding vote
  Methods of voting – 3 ways.

- **The Wind Up Clause** – where an RSA is not reinventing itself as a veteran centric org of a some kind, or there is not enough volunteers to keep it going, then the National Poppy Trust will be the default recipient of assets. If you want something different then let's discuss.

- **Sub-branches** - how will these work?

- What do you want to happen?