



## New book to provide essential guidance for Kiwi board members

There are **24,000 incorporated societies** in New Zealand.<sup>1</sup>

Due out in October, a new book will provide essential guidance for new and aspiring committee and board directors. *Getting to Grips with Not-for-Profit Governance* is the first printed NZ-specific book on governance on sale to the public for years.

Kiwi author Pierre Woolridge has based his new book on his decades of experience. Like many, he started on a school board, before contributing to a variety of not-for-profit boards and committees as a director, committee member, trustee, chair, and treasurer.

Stelvio Vido, Director and Chair in the charities and not-for-profit sector, says: *"It's a very easy read that packs a great deal of information and advice."*

Deryck Shaw, Director and Chair, MNZM CFloD, says: *"In reading this book you will get practical wisdom and insights that will assist you in your director's journey."*

*Getting to Grips with Not-for-Profit Governance* makes use of Woolridge's hands-on experience. It explains the complex word of governance in a simple, digestible way so that anyone can be a useful and effective board member.

An estimated **half a million Kiwis volunteer** for governance roles in not-for-profit organisations.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Greater clarity and protection for incorporated societies passes into law

<sup>2</sup> Learning for Purpose

*Getting to Grips with Not-for-Profit Governance* is particularly useful for people who are newly elected or appointed to a board or committee. It is also aimed at existing directors, both as a refresher and for when discussing the new incorporated societies requirements.

It considers:

- Why you would want to be a director plus the whys and hows of becoming an elected board member/director
- Strategic oversight of the organisation's performance
- Responsibilities of the chair, directors/committee members, and the chief executive officer
- Setting the strategic direction, and desired outcomes, priorities, and budgets
- Identifying, managing, and mitigating risk
- Using financial information to help understand the health of the organisation
- Reporting back to members.

Effective oversight is critical to the success of any incorporated society and other not-for-profit organisations.

The book's aim is for people newly elected to a board or committee to get up to speed quickly and with confidence. The reader will come away knowing how to add value to their organisation, enjoy being a board/committee member, and find the experience rewarding.

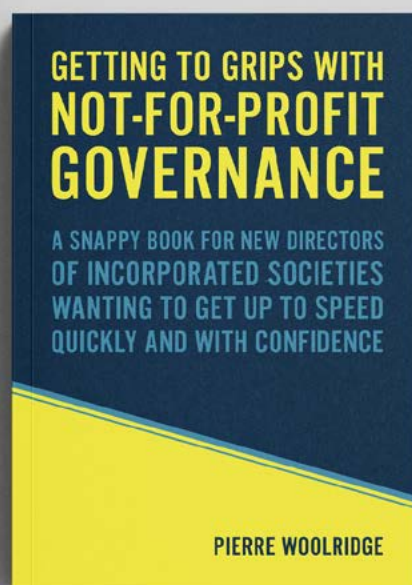
There are two and a half years for all incorporated societies to re-register.

The book references both the Incorporated Societies Act of 1908 and the Incorporated Societies Act of 2022, with its new mandatory requirements, from October 2023.

Incorporated societies will then have from October 2023 until April 2026 to re-register under the Act.

There are more than 24,000 incorporated societies in New Zealand. If you divide the time given for re-registration by the number of existing incorporated societies, that requires an average of 880 societies applying per month.

*Getting to Grips with Not-for-Profit Governance*. The snappy book for new directors of incorporated societies wanting to get up to speed quickly and with confidence.



effective  
GOVERNANCE.

The paperback will be available to purchase from bookshops or at [www.effectivegovernance.nz](http://www.effectivegovernance.nz) from October 2023.



Pierre Woolridge is available for interviews and presentations, and review copies are available.

Please contact publicist **Elizabeth Heritage** on **books@elizabethheritage.co.nz** or **022 652 3981**.

**NOTES:**

*Author:* Pierre Woolridge  
*Title:* Getting to Grips with Not-for-Profit Governance  
*Publisher:* Effective Governance  
*NZ release date:* October 2023  
*Extent:* 144 pages  
*Format:* Paperback  
*NZ RRP:* \$34.95  
*ISBN:* 978-0-473-66839-6

**BLURB:**

Master the art of being a director... and feel confident about it.

Being a not-for-profit board member is rewarding and a great way to give back to the community. It's daunting, though, if you're not sure what you are letting yourself in for.

This paperback gives you an overview of the things you need to know about being on a board or committee:

- ✓ Motivation for wanting to be on a board
- ✓ Understand what governance is about
- ✓ Making a positive impact to your board
- ✓ How a board should operate
- ✓ Discover the basics about finances, risk management, and strategic oversight

**For new directors, aspiring directors, and directors looking to refresh.**

The book draws on Pierre Woolridge's decades of experience on not-for-profit boards and committees ranging from local clubs to professional associations. Some thirty-two years of experience packed into a quick to flick through book.

**AUTHOR BIO:**

Pierre Woolridge has been on a variety of not-for-profit boards and committees as a director, committee member, trustee (credit union and school), chair, and treasurer. For many years he worked in the field of strategic and business planning. He has a keen interest in all aspects of organisational oversight/governance. This book makes use of his hands-on experience in explaining the complex word of governance in a simple, digestible way so that you too can be successful, excelling as a director. He is based in Wellington.