

Escalator Graduate

Hinerangi Edwards

The Escalator Programme is creating prospective future leaders with the skills and capability to govern and lead rural organisations and communities.

Hinerangi has been a director of a corporate land-based company for four years. She had completed a company director course and felt Escalator could provide her a deeper knowledge base and grow her agri-leader networks.

Hinerangi's leadership and governance roles are challenging and multifaceted:

- ❖ Chair of PKW Trust
- ❖ Director of Parininihi Ki Waitotara Inc
- ❖ Councillor - Western Institute of Technology
- ❖ Member of several iwi and community interest boards, including her family's trust
- ❖ Director of Māori communications consultancy AATEA Solutions and Māori Translation.co.nz Ltd



One piece of a learning puzzle

"I love the land and want to protect and grow what we have for current and future generations. I see the land as the basket that provides food for our country. As a director of a significant dairy farming company I was hungry to learn and get better at what I do. I want to share those skills to grow others and multiply our potential for success.

My experience of Escalator has been powerful and one that I will always be thankful for. I find I face many situations that can be related to a lesson or an example from the programme.

For me, Escalator is one piece of a learning puzzle that is never complete, but each piece leads to a greater sense of understanding. It has given me

valuable tools to analyse situations and therefore get to the heart of what the real issues are.

The way I receive messages now is helping me to understand my fellow board members, shareholders and whanau. Escalator has helped me ask better questions that lead to open, honest discussion and resolution. I hope that this is evident in the way I am at the board table. In the long-term it is results and relationships that matter.

Escalator has enabled me to get to know more key people in the agricultural industry. The AWDT arranged for me to be mentored by one of New Zealand's leading rural CEOs, during and after the programme. Having a professional who is prepared invest his time in me is huge."

"I have a strong sense that this programme will help produce future leaders of industry and commerce. If I could buy shares in any one of you now, I would."

Fonterra founding director, Earl Rattray, speaking at the 2011 Escalator graduation.