

Warwick Harvey Life Member citation 11 May 2025

Warwick joined the Board in May 2018 and brought with him a tremendous amount of choral and governance experience, as Chair of Auckland Youth Choir, former Chair of the Board of Barnardos, and former President of the Human Resources Institute—roles that speak to both his strategic capability and his commitment to community organisations.

In May 2020, Warwick took on the role of Vice Chair, and two years later, on Juliet Dreaver's retirement from the Board, he stepped into the position of Chair. Around the same time, Warwick retired from his role as Chief Executive of Stratos Limited but, as any former Chair of NZCF will tell you, chairing NZCF is like a part-time job, so there was no putting his feet up and smelling the roses for Warwick!

Throughout his time as Chair, Warwick has demonstrated a strong commitment to good governance and has brought clarity and structure to Board discussions. He has ensured that the Board's processes are robust, inclusive, and transparent, and that all members have the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to decision-making.

A consistent advocate for inclusivity and diversity, Warwick has helped guide NZCF towards becoming a more representative and welcoming organisation.

Warwick and his wife Shirley have long been stalwart volunteers at NZCF events and despite holding the highest office in the organisation, Warwick has always affirmed the vital contribution of volunteers at all levels of NZCF. His leadership has modelled humility, collaboration, and service.

Throughout the lead-up to the World Choir Games, Warwick took the NZCF Board's ultimate responsibility for oversight very seriously. He attended the majority of Chor 2024 Board meetings with a keen eye on risk mitigation, kept the NZCF Board well-informed, and ensured that, in the shaping of this global event, the interests of NZCF's membership were never lost sight of.

When the introduction of the 2022 Incorporated Societies Act required significant updates to NZCF's constitution, Warwick methodically translated the new legal requirements into a revised, fit-for-purpose constitution. Alongside this, he facilitated a lengthy consultation process with regional Chairs and committees to usher in a new future-focused structure, with reduced reliance on volunteerism in certain key roles.

With a professional background in human resources, Warwick has provided steady support to NZCF staff and the Chief Executive. He has taken a keen interest in staff wellbeing, offering thoughtful leadership that has balanced the Federation's needs with realistic expectations.

A fellow NZCF Board member says: Warwick is a leader who always shows up—not just physically but with genuine care and attention to everyone around him. He's the first to pick up the phone, get things done, seek advice meaningfully, and never misses a chance to acknowledge the work of others.

Warwick is not stepping away from NZCF altogether – he and Shirley continue to serve as volunteers for The Big Sing and The Kids Sing in Auckland.

Warwick's contribution to NZCF over many years has been characterised by deep commitment and a willingness to serve wherever needed. In recognition of his outstanding service, the Board is delighted to confer Life Membership on Warwick.