

## **Margot Nicholson**

Greetings, I can offer you consultancy services with a legal bent.

I only work with not-for-profit (nfp) organizations and feel privileged to do the work I do. In 1998, I set up my law practice “nfp law” and since then have had a wonderful journey working with and assisting some fantastic people and their organizations. I try to empower, train and support nfp organizations to manage and understand better their own legal issues so that they can minimise their risk and the need to engage lawyers.

Over the years I have built up some good networks and resources so that if I can't help you I can often put you onto others that can. In addition to my nfp experience I bring a range of skills with me as I also have to run my own small business, have worked in the corporate world, implemented strategic and business plans, and enjoy being actively involved with my family and community.

### **What I do day to day**

#### **Legal Advice**

- Legal Advisor to numerous not for profit organisations advising on how the law works, legal structures, risk, employment, contractual obligations, governance, business operations and taxation issues
- Range of client organizations includes health providers, migrant and refugee organisations, social services organisations, education providers, church organizations, and grass roots community organisations

#### **Training and Facilitation work**

- Private training for not for profit groups on duties of boards members and personal liability, governance, legal structures, changes in the law, employment and health and safety legislation, managing legal risks, and contractual obligations
- Have developed and teach Current Legal Issues five day paper for Graduate Diploma of Not For Profit Management as well as one day short courses on Introduction to the Law for nfp's and hot topics for nfp's for Unitec throughout New Zealand
- Presenter at various workshops and conferences

#### **Publications and project work**

- Undertaken significant project work on the proposed Charities Commission and capacity building work
- Producer of training resources.

#### **Summary Prior Work Experience**

- Commenced nfp legal practice on own Account August 1998
- Business Development Manager and Commercial Solicitor, Morrison Kent 1994-1997
- Associate, Commercial, Simpson Western Solicitors 1992- 1994
- Staff Solicitor, Commercial, Earl Kent Solicitors 1989- 1992

#### **Tertiary Qualifications and Continuing education**

- Completed LLB (Otago University) and Professionals Course Admitted to Bar 1989
- Completed Law Society requirements to practice on own account 1997
- Graduate Diploma Not for Profit Management (Unitec Institute of Technology) 2001
- Continued attendance at Law Society seminars, Legal research conferences and nfp special interest seminars and workshops
- BA (Hons) major in psychology to complete

**Client and work referees available on request**

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