

11 May 2026

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OIA 30868

John Luke

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Tēnā koe John Luke

Thank you for your email of 11 April 2026, in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"I noted, Notice of Appointment of a Deputy Chair of the Board of the New Zealand Antarctic Institute <https://gazette.govt.nz/notice/id/2026-g...>

- May I ask how you called for public nomination and on what platform you have call for public nominations e.g. govt.jobs website. A copy of your ad and pay rate as well. Also, how many applications you have received for each of the role from the public and how many you have received from other nominating agencies such as TPK or Ministry of women etc for your role. How many you have shortlisted and how many you have interviewed. Also, can I request to view the appointment letter if there is one sent to Heather Madge Simpson. I am happy for you to remove all the personal information.*
- Also, I would like to request the name of all current board member of New Zealand Antarctic Institute and start and end date of their terms."*

Response to your request

As set out in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's (the Ministry) response to you of 8 April 2024 (OIA 29166), the Minister of Foreign Affairs makes appointments to Antarctica New Zealand's Board under the Crown Entities Act 2004. The Gazette notice you refer to announces the Minister's decision to appoint existing member Heather Simpson to Deputy Chair of the Board.

This appointment was made in accordance with the Crown Entities Act 2004 and follows Te Kawa Mataaho the Public Service Commission's guidance on board appointments (available at: www.publicservice.govt.nz/guidance/guide-board-appointment-and-induction-guidelines). As this was an appointment of an existing Board member to a different role, there was no call for nominations, and no shortlisting or interview process was required.

Please find attached a copy of the appointment letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs to Heather Simpson. Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect individual privacy. Where the information has been withheld under

section 9 of the OIA, no public interest in releasing the information has been identified that would override the reasons for withholding it.

You also requested the remuneration for the Deputy Chair of Antarctica New Zealand's Board. The fee is NZ\$27,500 per annum, set in accordance with the Cabinet Fees Framework. Further information about this Framework can be found on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet website: www.dpmc.govt.nz/publications/co-25-2-cabinet-fees-framework-members-appointed-bodies-which-crown-has-interest

Please see the following table for the members of the Antarctica New Zealand Board, including appointment and end dates, as of the date of your request.

Name	Date of original appointment	Expiry date of present term (Gazetted)
Leon Grice (Chair)	26-Feb-24	25-Feb-27
Heather Simpson (Deputy Chair)	26-Feb-24	25-Feb-27
Neville Harris	15-Apr-24	14-Apr-27
Neil Gilbert	1-Aug-20	14-Apr-27
Kieran Horne	29-Jul-24	28-Jul-27
Craig Ellison	18-Dec-24	17-Dec-27

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade