

Candidate Details
Nominations to Natural Health Products NZ Executive Board 2023

Claycomb, Dr Rod

Co-Founder and Innovation Director, Quantec Ltd

Dr Rod Claycomb is the Co-Founder and Director of Quantec Ltd, specialising in the commercialisation of high value naturally derived bioactives. He has over 30 years experience from production to commercialisation to governance. Prior to Quantec, he was the founding CEO of Sensortec Ltd and the Director of R&D for Waikato Milking Systems.

Rod is a Chartered Member of the New Zealand Institute of Directors, has been a Director of Natural Health Products NZ for the past three years and a current member on the Regulatory and Technical, the Awards and AGM subcommittees. He serves as a Director on several commercial boards as well as being Chair of the Kudos Science Trust and All Good Ventures Charitable Trust, a family-run charity.

His experience spans governance, executive leadership and practical hands-on experience in developing strategy, assessing key risk factors and overseeing financial analysis. He holds a PhD from the University of California, Davis in Biological and Agricultural Engineering.

Rod is passionate about New Zealand's place in the world for natural health-related companies and believes that it can continue to be influential on a global scale. He is a firm believer in continuing a collaborative approach with government agencies and organisations, which he sees as one of New Zealand's core strengths. He is particularly looking forward to continuing his involvement via the NHPNZ board with achieving a fit-for-purpose set of natural health product regulations that can further accelerate New Zealand's global position in the natural health products space.

Hooper, Dr Mark

Quality Manager, Good Health Products Ltd

Dr Mark Hooper has 20+ years' experience in the pharmaceutical and supplements industry, having had roles in new product development, QC & QA functions, project management, patent & IP strategy, manufacturing and business development. He currently co-ordinates the Quality function for Good Health Products Ltd, a leading dietary supplement company with significant sales in NZ and regional markets. He recently set up and ran two companies in the UK – MedCryst Therapeutics (developing a novel supplement / pharmaceutical product) and MHC (scientific consulting for legal projects), and previously worked with a contract development and manufacturing organisation (Pharmaterials, UK/US). He holds a doctorate in Chemistry and studied in the UK and US.

Mark has extensive knowledge of international healthcare regulation in the UK, Europe and US, and would love to bring his experience and slightly different international perspective to add to the NHPNZ board at this exciting and challenging time for the NZ Natural Health Products industry. He understands the massive contribution the

NHP sector makes to the NZ economy both in NZ jobs and sales and the significant exports of the world leading Kiwi NHP brands across the world. Having a strong NHP representative body in NHPNZ is important in both representing the member companies and delivering these great and wonderful products to naturally improve the health and happiness of consumers worldwide.

Lehrke, Peter

Founder, PharmaNZ

Peter Lehrke has over 30 years' experience in natural health products and related industries including as scientist, consultant, Company Director and Founder of contract manufacturer PharmaNZ. With his background Peter brings to the Board wide knowledge of the industry, business acumen and governance experience and is passionate about helping businesses succeed. Peter continues to fight for risk proportional regulations for natural health products businesses, ability to make substantiated health claims, improved export opportunities and reduced red-tape for businesses in the sector.

A long-standing member of the Board, Peter has been active on the Regulatory Committee, Awards Committee, Events Committee and is leading an initiative on training and qualifications for workers in the natural products industry. This is unfinished business for Peter who is seeking re-election for a record 7th term of service.

Rasmussen, Phil

Director, Harvest Natural Health Ltd

Phil Rasmussen (M.Pharm., M.P.S., Dip. Herb. Med.; M.N.I.M.H.(UK), M.N.H.A.A; F.N.Z.A.M.H.) is a medical herbalist, pharmacist, and researcher with 30 years of active involvement within the natural health product industry. He is the founder and former managing director of Phytomed, a GMP certified manufacturer of practitioner herbal extracts and the Kiwiherb product range. He is a former President of the New Zealand Association of Medical Herbalists, and a founding director of Natural Health Products New Zealand.

Phil has experience as CEO, Technical and R&D Director, and in a range of governance and advisory roles for privately owned, voluntary and government established organisations. Throughout his career he has taught at natural medicine colleges and universities, written extensively on herbal subjects for practitioner and consumer publications, and presented widely at conferences in New Zealand, Australia and the UK. He now works as a consultant, lecturer, podcaster and advisor to the natural health products industry and related entities.

Phil has long been a passionate advocate for natural health products to contribute to New Zealand's economic future, and for an improved regulatory environment. He has insights into the many diverse challenges the industry faces both locally and internationally, and seeks re-election to continue to make considered and experience-based contributions to the ongoing strategic development and growth of our highly innovative local industry.

Watson, Brian**CEO, Blis Technologies Ltd**

Brian Watson has been the CEO for Blis Technologies Ltd for 7 years, a company focused on delivering innovative Probiotic based solutions for global consumers. Blis activities include R&D, manufacturing of finished products and commercialisation through both B2B and B2C models.

Brian has always worked in the health and wellness sector having had an international career in Pharmaceuticals before returning to NZ to work for Fonterra in the innovative nutrition space then taking up the CEO role at Blis.

His career has focused on commercialisation of innovation across a range of markets and channels, and he believes he is well equipped to contribute across a broad range of issues relevant to the Natural Health industry.

Natural Health products are at an exciting phase with the drafting of the Therapeutic Products Bill. Having navigated several other countries' regulatory environments, including Health Canada and the TGA complementary medicines process, Brian believes we can learn a lot from these regulatory frameworks and work hard to shape our regulations as they take form.

Brian is passionate about the role the NZ industry can play in the global market, providing quality, innovation and science to deliver value for global consumers.

Wiggins, Dr Amanda**Business Developments Manager, Alaron Products Ltd**

Dr Amanda Wiggins started her working life as a research scientist in San Francisco. Since then, her career has spanned various parts of the innovation ecosystem including eight years as an advisor to government on biotechnology and R&D investment strategy. She holds a BSc Hons in Neuroscience from the University of Otago and a PhD in Neuroscience from the University of Melbourne.

Amanda entered the health products sector 2014, taking up the role of Regulatory and Innovation Manager at Supreme Biotech. She subsequently held the role of General Manager of Forest Herbs Research Ltd and more recently as a consultant in the natural health sector, focussing on new product development. Amanda was also Director on the Board of Natural Health Products NZ from 2016 – 2019. Amanda is now proud to be part of the Senior Management Team at Alaron Products Ltd, where she works as the Business Development Manager.

Amanda's unique background would bring a fresh edge to the Natural Health Products NZ Board. She brings a mix of skills to the table, including R&D, innovation, regulatory, and commercial acumen.