



**National Spiritual Assembly
of the Bahá'ís of New Zealand**

Te Rūnanga Wairua Tapu o nga Bahá'í o Aotearoa

8 November 2023

5 Qudrat 180

To the Bahá'ís of Aotearoa New Zealand

Tēnā koutou katoa

We are delighted to announce the appointment of New Zealand's Regional Bahá'í Councils for Te-Ika-a-Māui (North Island) and Te Waipounamu (South Island) for their new one-year term, which commences on the Day of the Covenant, 180 B.E. (26 November 2023).

The National Spiritual Assembly appoints the members of the Councils from a confidential list of names, constituted from the outcome of voting by Local Spiritual Assemblies and persons proposed by the members of the Auxiliary Boards within whose areas of responsibility the region lies.

For Te Ika a Māui (North Island) Council, the following believers are appointed, in alphabetical order: Drisana Brown, Shirin Gabel, Aashish Indorewala, Andrew McNaughton, Brenda Miller, Sana Motlagh, Robyn O'Connor, Tezhar Paymani, Erica Zemke-Smith.

For Te Waipounamu (South Island) Council, the following believers are appointed, in alphabetical order: Devon Gundry, Ezra Hopkins, Nina Perez, Elti Sannyasi, Onna Tangifolau.

The Regional Bahá'í Councils are pivotal institutions for supporting the processes of the Nine Year Plan which are rapidly intensifying. The Councils are well positioned to meet the challenge thus placed on their shoulders, through the significant capacities they have developed over recent years and their readiness to further advance in their approaches to meeting the needs of the hour. We confidently see them becoming more and more effective supporters of the community in its endeavours to release the society-building power of the Faith. The National Assembly urges every individual, local community, Local Spiritual Assembly and cluster to joyfully and wholeheartedly collaborate with the Councils in our collective efforts to extend the embrace of the Faith to an ever widening circle of participants.

The love and prayers of the National Spiritual Assembly are offered for these devoted servants and the endeavours of these precious institutions.

Loving Bahá'í greetings,
National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of New Zealand

Suzanne Mahon
Secretary

cc: Counsellor Tessa Scrine