

KATE WILSON

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[LINKEDIN](#)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Business strategy and governance are in my DNA.

I was a foundation and managing partner of intellectual property law firm James & Wells. Invaluable skills, networks, and insights have arisen from my role as patent attorney/IP strategist, as well as being part of a top-level international community and working with businesses to give strategic business direction.

With a strong science, food and technology background plus board experience across various organisations, I can swiftly understand the bones of a business - making the provision of high-level strategic governance that much easier.

My immersion in strategy and innovation gives a greater perspective on how to take businesses forward. My involvement in all aspects of Agritech in particular gives a greater understanding of the landscape that this industry sector plays in.

GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR – QUANTEC LTD

JANUARY 2017 - PRESENT

Quantec Limited is a New Zealand-based company specialising in deriving high-value bio-actives from dairy products and then developing them into proprietary ingredient formulations for human and animal health. Quantec has an expanding export business with markets including the United States, Europe, Asia and South America.

CHAIR OF HEED LTD

JUNE 2022 – PRESENT

Heed is a start-up that has developed a sensor system that helps Councils and other organisations monitor their sewer systems and prevent environmental damage. A highly relevant and rapidly changing industry.

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR - DEC INTERNATIONAL LTD

JUNE 2020 – DECEMBER 2022

Privately owned company encompassing a manufacturer and significant exporter of animal health devices employing 200+ people, along with a plastics manufacturing company. Moving into a broader human and animal healthcare focus for controlled release devices. Key clients include Zoetis, Fonterra and Fisher & Paykel Healthcare.

CHAIR – GORDONTON WOODLANDS TRUST

JULY 2017 – SEPTEMBER 2023

Woodlands is a Victorian Estate owned by the Waikato District Council. Chairing the Trust, which gets most of its income from hospitality events before, during, and after COVID, was an interesting learning experience – as was collaborating with the Council. Developed their strategic plan and moved them to a more professional structure.

BOARD STRENGTHS

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

- Corporate strategic planning – including leading strategic planning sessions and developing strategic plans
- Across the board business skills from growing, operating and leading a nationally recognised professional services firm.
- Entrepreneurship - inducted into NZ Women’s Entrepreneur Hall of Fame 2023
- Internationally recognized IP strategist & Global IP Leader (IAM top 300 (2023 latest recognition), IP Management Expert of Experts in IP Strategy). Several IP strategies include
 - alternative business models,
 - positioning for export growth
 - making investor ready
 - positioning for a liquidity event

GOVERNANCE CAPABILITY

- Able to chair with a keen sense of collaboration.
- Management of diverse stakeholder interests

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Agritech and sensor technologies – a sizable proportion of James & Wells’ client base that I personally advised including among others managing the IP portfolios of Gallagher Group, Bomac, AgResearch, Zespri, Sensortec, Lely and Waikato University. Currently supply IP strategies to Sprout Food/Agritech start-ups.

EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE

DIRECTOR - KTPI ENTERPRISES LTD

2007-CURRENT

IP Strategy – now consulting to James & Wells.

PARTNER – JAMES & WELLS

1987 - 2016

Foundation partner and instrumental in building the business to national significance. Roles included Managing Partner, plus Partner in charge of HR, IT, Finance and Business Development.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & QUALIFICATIONS

REGISTERED PATENT ATTORNEY IN AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

WAIKATO UNIVERSITY, MASTER OF SCIENCE (HONS)PHYSICS

WAIKATO UNIVERSITY, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE - DOUBLE MAJOR – PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY

REFEREES – WILLINGLY SUPPLIED