



Te Kōmihana Karauna mō ngā Tūkinō o Mua  
ki te Hunga i Tiakina e te Kāwanatanga  
i Tiakina hoki e ngā Whare o te Whakapono

Royal Commission of Inquiry into Historical Abuse  
in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions

**7 March 2019**

## **Expressions of Interest for appointment to the Survivor Advisory Group**

### **Introduction to the Inquiry**

The Royal Commission of Inquiry into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions was established on 12 November 2018, with the power to consider evidence from 3 January 2019. The Inquiry is Chaired by Sir Anand Satyanand. The other appointed Commissioners are Ali'imua Sandra Alofivae, Dr Andrew Erueti, Paul Gibson and Judge Coral Shaw.

The Inquiry will investigate the abuse and neglect of children, young people and vulnerable adults who were in the care of State and/or faith-based institutions in New Zealand between 1950 and 1999. Questions that will be considered include:

- Why people were taken into care – including if there was bias, discrimination or bad decision-making by agencies.
- What abuse and neglect occurred - what took place and to what extent? The Inquiry may also consider abuse and neglect that happened before 1950, or after 1999, including of people who are still in care now.
- Why it happened – what made it possible for abuse and neglect to happen to people?
- What effects this had – on the person abused, their family/whānau and others. This includes long-term effects and effects on future generations.
- What was learned – what changes were made over the years in response to abuse and neglect, including to laws, rules, and efforts to monitor places where care is provided?
- How well the systems are working now – including current redress and rehabilitation processes.
- How things can be done better in the future.

## **Purpose of the Survivor Advisory Group**

The Survivor Advisory Group is one of the methods Commissioners will use to ensure the voice of survivors is heard and recognised through the work of the Inquiry. The selection process will take into consideration the expertise and experience of applicants as well as the need to reflect the diversity of survivors and a variety of views. The Survivor Advisory Group will provide advice directly to Commissioners. The Terms of Reference for the Survivor Advisory Group will be finalised at the first meeting.

- The group will meet face to face, for a full day, at least 4 times per year.
- Meetings will be held in either Auckland or Wellington.
- There may be additional and/or optional activities between meetings depending on the work programme of the group.
- Survivor Advisory Group terms of appointment will be for 18 months, after which membership will be refreshed.
- Survivor Advisory Group participants will receive a payment in acknowledgement of their time and expertise. All reasonable expenses will be funded by the Inquiry.
- Applications from survivors with diverse support needs are welcomed. All reasonable support costs will be funded by the Inquiry and we will work with successful applicants to meet their needs as appropriate. If you require support to make your application please contact us for assistance.
- Unsuccessful applicants will be eligible for other advisory roles as required to support the Inquiry and for future appointment to the Survivor Advisory Group.
- Applicants may be interviewed depending on the volume of interest received.

## **Key Dates**

- 7 March: Expressions of Interest open
- 31 March: Expressions of Interest close
- April: Selection and appointment of Survivor Advisory Group members
- May: First meeting of the Survivor Advisory Group

## Expression of Interest Process

To apply to become a member of the Survivor Advisory Group please send us:

- Your name, phone number, email address and preferred method and time to contact you.
- A statement (maximum 2 pages) which answers the Application Questions below. Your answers will help us to form a group which reflects the diversity of survivors' experiences and the range of knowledge and skills required to support the work of the Inquiry.
- Supporting statements from 2 referees along with their name and contact details. Referees do not need to be survivors. However, they should be able to provide strong support for the information you provide in your application statement.

## Application Questions

- 1) Is your expertise related to State or faith-based institutions or both? When and where? For example, 'I was at Epuni Boys' Home in the 1970s'. Details of your experience is not required.
- 2) What specific knowledge, skills and/or expertise would you bring to the Survivor Advisory Group? For example, experience of redress schemes or of doing advocacy on a particular issue.
- 3) Please outline any previous experience of participating in an advisory group or representative network/organisation.
- 4) In what ways do you think the Survivor Advisory Group can support the Inquiry to achieve its goals?

## Expressions of Interest close on Sunday 31 March

Please email your application to  
[abuseinstatecare@royalcommission.govt.nz](mailto:abuseinstatecare@royalcommission.govt.nz)

Or send by post to PO Box 10071, The Terrace, Wellington 6143

To discuss the application process, for support in making your application, or for any other information please call our free phone number 0800 222 727 (phones are staffed from 10am to 4pm Monday to Friday).

For more information about the Inquiry see our website  
<https://www.abuseinstatecare.royalcommission.govt.nz/>