



# **CRITERIA AND PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION TO THE NATIONAL PANEL OF CONCILIATORS**

The National Panel of Conciliators (“the Panel”) has been set up to resolve disputes under the Sharemilking Agreements Order 2001.

The Selection Committee invites applications from suitably qualified and experienced conciliators to be appointed to the Panel.

## **Background**

The Sharemilking Agreements Order 2001 (“the Order”) came into force on 1 June 2001 and applies to sharemilking agreements operating under the Sharemilking Agreements Act 1937.

On 14 September 2006 Federated Farmers of New Zealand Inc (“FFNZ”) entered into an agreement with the Arbitrators’ and Mediators’ Institute of New Zealand Inc. (“AMINZ”) as to the setting up and administration of a national panel of conciliators as referred to in clause 140 (c) of the Order.

The purpose of the Panel is to provide a list of suitably qualified and experienced Conciliators to assist with resolving disputes that arise from time to time under the Order. The names of members of the Panel will be available to the sharemilking industry for appointments, where required.

Members of the Panel are required to demonstrate the following:

- Independence;
- Impartiality
- A specialist focus on sharemilking disputes;
- High quality outcomes for the parties in dispute;
- Timeliness of decisions;
- Cost effective and affordable conciliation services;
- Consistency of treatment in related disputes;
- Openness to peer review;
- Ongoing training and professional development;
- Adherence to codes of practice and ethical standards;
- Accountability to the sharemilking industry; and
- Accountability to the dispute resolution profession.

## **The Selection Process**

A Selection Committee has been set up comprising representatives from FFNZ Sharemilker Employers’, FFNZ Sharemilkers’, AMINZ and the appointed Chairperson of the National Panel of Conciliators.

The Committee is seeking applications from people who meet the admission criteria and who are interested in being considered for appointment to the Panel.

The Selection Committee will, in the first instance, consider applications in writing.

Applicants who are short-listed for the Panel can expect to be interviewed by the Selection Committee. [Please note that applicants who are short-listed may be required to attend an interview in person and furthermore, any travel expense and time associated with attending an interview will be at the applicant's own cost.]

The Selection Committee will be selecting conciliators based on the prescribed admission criteria and the following guidelines. Conciliators will be required to:

- Be suitable for the role of conciliator;
- Have integrity and good reputation;
- Have recognised qualifications and experience;
- Have knowledge of the Order and law of contract;
- Have knowledge of current common law precedents in relation to sharemilking cases;
- Have good written and verbal communication skills;
- Be competent in agreement and decision writing;
- Be able to work within set time requirements;
- Be members of good standing in their respective professions; and
- Show commitment to continuing professional development.

### **Admission Criteria**

To qualify for admission to the Panel, applicants are required to demonstrate to the Committee the following:

1. Be a current member of AMINZ and to hold a dispute resolution qualification of Associate, Fellow Arbitrator, or Fellow Mediator of AMINZ. The applicant must also be a member of good standing with no disciplinary matters affecting, or having affected, the member's membership status.
2. Have a current AMINZ continuing professional development (CPD) certificate demonstrating they are current and up to date with their continuing professional development requirements.
3. Have knowledge of the Sharemilking Agreements Order 2001.
4. Have knowledge of the law of contract and current common law precedents in sharemilking cases.
5. Have experience in resolving sharemilking disputes.
6. Be a person who in the opinion of the Selection Committee have regard for the above, and in all other relevant factors is suitably qualified for admission to the Panel.

Further to the above, the Selection Committee is looking for people with the ability to effectively address the needs of parties who seek conciliation. Those people appointed Conciliators will be expected to have appropriate office facilities and case management systems. Conciliators will be expected to offer an independent service to the parties and to provide dispute resolution of a professional standard.

Appointments to the Panel will be for the term of two (2) years. Panel members may re-apply for admission at the end of each two (2) year term.

## How to apply

If you are interested in applying to be on the Panel, you should submit the following to the Selection Committee:

1. Letter of application demonstrating you meet the admission criteria set out above.
2. A copy of your current curriculum vitae.
3. A copy of the relevant qualifications you are seeking to rely upon in support of your application.

Send to:

Membership Officer  
AMINZ  
P O Box 1477  
Wellington 6140  
Fax: (04) 499 9387  
Email: [membership@aminz.org.nz](mailto:membership@aminz.org.nz)

For further information contact –

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General Manager, Member Services  
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**ARBITRATORS' AND MEDIATORS'  
INSTITUTE OF NEW ZEALAND INC**  
Te Mana Kaiwhakatau, Takawaenga o Aotearoa