



# YHA LTD - BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION 2020

YHA Ltd (trading as YHA Australia) is a not-for-profit company governed by a Board of Directors. YHA Ltd's Constitution provides for an election for positions on the Board each year. A Call for Nominations was sent to eligible members in November 2019. There are seven nominees who have been approved by the Board to stand for election, and two vacancies. The seven nominations (with their 125-word statements) are below, listed in the order that they will appear on the ballot paper.



## BRONWYN DALLOW\*

I joined YHA at 21 to travel independently and safely around the world, meeting other people.

As a current 1<sup>st</sup> term Director and committee Chair (Nominations/Remuneration), I seek the opportunity to continue my contribution to the social, environmental and economic sustainability of your YHA. This includes addressing challenges of staying relevant in a fast changing, technology connected global market; impacts of disruptive competitive service offerings; government policy; and identifying markets for growth and new business.

I am passionate about YHA providing the best service it can for its Australian members and the unique traveller experience we can offer our international guests. I offer extensive experience in hospitality/tourism, membership, Not-For-Profit and commercial services in senior executive roles, with AICD governance training and Master of International Management.



## ROSS McDOUGALL\*

Greetings. I'm currently a YHA Director and I'm keen to be re-elected. After backpacking extensively internationally, I recognised my interest in immigration and refugee law. My immigration law practice is in Adelaide. My love of travel also led me to YHA. Being passionate about YHA providing sustainable, attractive, comfortable hostels, I proposed that YHA establish a Sustainable Hostels Fund. YHA did. Guests can donate to the fund when booking at yha.com.au. Approximately \$50,000 is donated annually. YHA matches donations. Currently, these funds have financed 15 YHA hostel environmental projects including solar hot water and solar power – reducing carbon emissions by more than 700 tonnes. I will support YHA maintaining its environmental focus and providing innovative services to members. I'd be grateful for your support. Thanks!



## ADAM QUIRK

I first joined YHA back in the early 1990s to go exploring as a young man. I experienced the comradery and openness of fellow travelers, the essential sense of adventure. This shared experience has shaped much of my life. I strive to explore and support services which facilitate travel at all budgets and styles.

An experienced senior executive within the marketing, digital and technology areas, I've worked with a range of Not-for-Profit, commercial and public travel and tourism entities.

My career has led me to do business in a range of international locations with a focus across ANZ, Asia and Europe.

I believe in creating genuine value for YHA and its members through good governance, solid financial management, forward thinking and remembering to have fun.



## MICHAEL McPHAIL

A business consultant specialising in marketing strategy, digital innovation and customer research, I seek election to enhance the appeal of staying at YHA, invest in our hostels and strengthen our financial health for generations of YHA members to come. Joining YHA at age 17 and having backpacked to 35 countries since, I have a deep passion for YHA's mission. An AICD graduate, I offer seven years' prior experience as a company director, including as previous Vice Chair YHA Australia & YHA WA; local government Deputy Mayor; Director, Australia Day Council of WA; and of two other community organisations. It would be a privilege to again serve my fellow members and play a role in ensuring YHA's growth and ongoing commitment to sustainable tourism.

It would be a privilege to again serve my fellow members and play a role in ensuring YHA's growth and ongoing commitment to sustainable tourism.



## SIMON SPICER\*

Having travelled extensively in Australia, Europe, North America and the Asia-Pacific for many years, both for pleasure and in senior executive roles, I bring a unique perspective to the YHA Board. As well as professional qualifications and extensive financial, commercial and strategic experience, I also have specific expertise in property, business and digital transformation, and governance, including in "for purpose", member-based organisations such as YHA.

Since joining YHA's Board last year, and as Chair of YHA's Audit and Risk Committee, I have contributed significantly to the Strategic Planning process, focusing on Budget rigour, governance and risk issues.

I totally embrace YHA's mission and am passionate about ensuring that YHA continues to excel at leading the provision of exceptional experiences for all travellers, Australian and international.



## BRIAN KITNEY

- Experienced executive and non-executive director.
- Strong focus on corporate governance, identifying and managing financial / corporate risk.
- Highly experienced in leading teams and negotiating of complex commercial agreements.
- Tertiary qualifications, including degrees in Business, Finance, Diplomacy, languages.

Experience as a Director and member of the Finance and Risk Committee for CO2CRC and am currently leading the development of a gas import project at AGL. In my current and previous roles, I have had a strong corporate governance and risk management focus and managed external / government relations.

I am not only a keen traveller and member of YHA for over 30 years, I encourage my children to travel and am keen to promote making travel accessible, safe and fun for young people.



## ALISON McDONAGH

I first joined YHA in 1993 upon completing a Commerce, Hospitality and Marketing degree, and travelled all over Australia. A few years later I became YHA NSW's Operations Manager. I worked for YHA for over 10 years in that role and Development Manager. I was responsible for the development of many YHAs including Railway Square, Coffs Harbour and Sydney Harbour YHA. I have a graduate diploma in planning and am passionate about creating great projects that are unique, sustainable and appropriate for the location. I love that all YHAs have their own personalities

as this enriches the travelling experience. My skills in operations, hospitality, marketing and property development will help YHA to continue to thrive as it faces the current challenges within its competitive environment.

\* = Current Director

For more information on the Board of Directors see [www.yha.com.au](http://www.yha.com.au)