

CHAIRPERSON

Organisation:

Soda Inc. Limited

Website:

www.sodainc.com

Location of applicants:

National

Duration of appointment:

Three years

Time commitment:

10 meetings per annum

Remuneration:

\$20,000

Incumbents Restanding:

No

Application closing date:

25/01/2019

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Soda Inc. Limited is a non-profit start-up support organisation based in the Waikato but working with entrepreneurs across New Zealand.

Soda has been delivering start-up support services for the past nine years and are in a unique position to build on a proven start-up support framework, and have greater impact that will raise the “entrepreneurial IQ” of New Zealand.

Since 2009 they have worked with hundreds of entrepreneurs through a range of events and programmes designed to educate founders, accelerate business creation and growth of early stage ventures. The range of businesses they’ve worked with is diverse, from all industries including Manufacturing & Design, ICT, Food & Beverage, Biotech, Agritech and Medical Devices. Their start-ups have collectively created over 50 jobs, raised more than \$6m in funding and have generated over \$40m in revenue.

Soda Inc. believes the confidence, knowledge and networks of New Zealand's aspiring and emerging entrepreneurs should be grown. This will in turn deliver more unique, successful and high impact businesses for NZ.

Soda currently does this through facilitating world class mentors, potent networks and financial support during a customized program for founders with a unique or scalable start-up.

IDEAL APPLICANT DESCRIPTION

Soda Inc. is seeking an experienced Chairperson with entrepreneurial experience. The ideal applicant will have a passion for start-ups, have preferably built a successful company,

have a solid track record of achieving commercial results, and have strong national business networks.

The successful applicant will have strong governance capabilities and an ability to constructively challenge.

The Board and stakeholder have identified the following as particular skills that are desirable:

- Chair experience in a multi-stakeholder environment
- Strong relationship management skills and a drive to partner with other organisations
- Well respected by the industry and can obtain the confidence of governments and funders
- A clear sense of public accountability and understanding of the relationship between the government and Crown entities
- An appreciation of diversity
- Free from material conflicts of interest
- Have an understanding of the entrepreneurial path and can empathise with clients of Soda Inc.
- Developing, implementing, and promoting strategies for the start-up industry
- Connectedness with the government's business agenda, mechanisms and influencers
- Experience in scaling an organisation
- Understand regional economic growth strategies
- Experience with general promotion of good conduct and culture
- Digital fluency would be preferable

General governance capabilities

- Passionate about innovative businesses
- High integrity and strong values with a relentless focus on the highest level of customer service
- Proven track record working with start-up businesses, commercialisation, or international business
- Commercial governance experience and strong business acumen
- Collaborative decision-making style
- Strong cultural competency
- Commitment to a not for profit / social enterprise business model

We strongly recommend uploading to your profile your current CV and a brief covering letter specific to this role, outlining why you are applying and how your skills and experience match the required criteria.

Applications close at 5pm on 25/1/19.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Name: Rob Heebink (Acting Soda Inc. Chair)

Contact email: Rob.Heebink@gallagher.com