



***Kurt Thomas – Biography for PNZ President 2023***

Kia ora koutou. I am Kurt Thomas – a husband, father of four, and Physiotherapist of 20 years now seeking election as the President of Physiotherapy New Zealand.

From 2015 to 2021 I was fortunate enough to be part of the PNZ National Executive and involved in both PNZ Unification and development of the current PNZ strategy, both of which give me great insight into how PNZ works and the challenges we face.

Prior to my time on National Executive, I spent five years on the Occupational Health Physiotherapy SIG Committee including four years as Chairperson. My past committee experience also includes the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee, ACC Physiotherapy External Reference Group, HASANZ development group, and I am currently on the ACC Accredited Employer Reference Group.

I graduated as a Physiotherapist in 2003 from the University of Otago and worked in Multi-Disciplinary Private Practice in both Dunedin and Australia until 2021. I hold a Post Graduate Diploma in Ergonomics and have undertaken further study in Te Ara Reo Māori and Health and Safety Management. With experience as an employee, self-employed contractor, and business owner/director, I understand the challenges faced by each of these groups.

I'm committed to further promoting the role Physiotherapists can play in the equitable health of Aotearoa. I hope to represent our membership on this journey and advocate for our profession.

So, if you think that's a good direction and I'm right for this role, vote Kurt Thomas. Ngā mihi nui.