

## PNZ Executive Nominee: Alyssa Gordon



I'm a big believer in taking action if you want to see change, so I'm throwing my hat into the ring for a position on the PNZ Executive. If I am selected I will look forward to advocating on behalf of all physiotherapists for positive steps forward in our profession. The changes I would advocate for include improving public perception of the value of physiotherapy, increasing physiotherapy recruitment to rural regions, and retaining physiotherapists in the profession.

I graduated from AUT in 2009, and since that time have worked in both the public and private sectors. I am also currently finishing a Postgraduate Diploma in Health Science. For the last few years with my husband, I have been an owner and head physio of two clinics, which has given me further awareness into the challenges faced by our profession.

We live in a rural community, and our clinics sit on the boundary of urban and rural zones, which gives me a unique insight into physiotherapy in these areas. With our clinics being semi-rural, I have also experienced the difficulty with staff recruitment and felt the effects of the dropout rates of physiotherapists, and I would love to be able to instigate ways of keeping our physiotherapists in the profession and improve recruitment and retentions. I maintain a caseload whilst actively managing our clinics, and am a mum to two young boys, so I understand the reality that a lot of you are facing day-to-day. My caseload is comprised of private and ACC clients and I also work on the ACC work and social rehabilitation contracts, which I believe gives me a broad understanding of the physiotherapy climate and the challenges we face as practitioners.

Our profession has a number of challenges facing it currently, and I believe it is only by getting engaged and facing it up to those challenges that we can progress. I look forward to representing you, and hearing what is important to you.