

NEW ZEALAND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE (INC)

Please email resolutions@nzei.org.nz

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE NEW ZEALAND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE TE RIU ROA

Branch/Aronui Tomua/Komiti Pasifika/Area Council: Christchurch
Adopted by Meeting on: Saturday 29 June

Mover: Niki Peny – Christchurch Branch

Seconded: Kaye Hyams – Christchurch Branch

RESOLUTION:

That section 16.2 of the NZEI Te Riu Rua constitution be amended to:

16.2 The rate of the membership subscriptions for the financial year (1 April – 31 March) will be adjusted each year to reflect movements in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from the previous year, ending 31 December. ~~except for every third year. On the third year, members will vote at the Annual Conference whether this increase should happen after discussion and presentation of the Financial Report by National Executive.~~

PART 2 ARGUMENTS:

Prior to the introduction of the CPI adjustment to membership fees in 2013 there were many challenges associated with bringing fee increase requests to members at annual meetings including:

- Inadequate Member Consultation: Due to time constraints and the nature of annual meetings, it was difficult to engage members in meaningful discussions and obtain their input on fee increase proposals, potentially leading to a lack of understanding, consensus, or dissatisfaction.
- Lack of Predictability: Members did not have a clear understanding of when and how fee increases will occur, making it harder for them to plan their finances accordingly.
- Large Fee Increases: In some cases, when fee increases were agreed to after some years of no increase, they needed to be substantial, even reaching high percentages (e.g., up to 10%). This created financial challenges for members met with resistance or discontent.

In the Annual Meeting of 2012, a resolution was passed to amend the rules, approving the annual adjustment of membership subscriptions to align with

changes in the annual CPI. The purpose behind this change was to create a more predictable pattern of subscription income increases, ensuring they kept pace with the cost of living. This approach aimed to safeguard the organisation's long-term financial stability.

This approach also offered members a sense of predictability and reduced the risk of sudden, substantial increases in any given year to compensate for inadequate adjustments in previous years. However, during the Annual Meeting of 2021, members voted to modify the rules so that they could have a say in whether their membership subscription should be increased or not, based on the CPI rate for the third year, which was passed.

The annual fee increase, aligned with the CPI, is crucial for NZEI Te Riu Roa in covering expenses, allowing the union to provide ongoing support to its members. This increase also contributes to activities involving advocacy, organisation, and campaigns, which are vital for expanding the union's power, enhancing members' working conditions, and bringing about positive changes in the education system.

A potential vote to halt the increase of membership subscription fees based on CPI in the third year would create substantial financial challenges for NZEI Te Riu Roa, potentially reinstating the complexities that existed before 2013. The recommendation from the Christchurch Branch is to amend Rule 16.2 to remove the option to vote on the third year from the rules.

The CPI rate increase to membership fee would be determined using the data from the previous year, ending 31 December. The CPI rate for this 12-month period would be officially available in late January and the percentage increase would be applied to membership fees for the following financial year (from 1st April - 31 March).

PART 3 COSTING:

There are no costs associated with these rule changes.

Date AC/Branch/AT/KP meeting endorsed: Christchurch Branch

Date: 29/6/24 President Signature



Notes:

1. All resolutions to amend the Rules of the New Zealand Educational Institute (Inc) must have the sanction of the National Executive or a meeting of an Area Council or Branch.
2. Resolutions must be in the form of an amendment to the Rules of the New Zealand Educational Institute (Inc). Rules may be added to, rescinded or

amended and any new section inserted.

3 All resolutions must be supported by relevant argument.

4. Resolutions may be forwarded at any time throughout the year but shall reach the National Secretary no later than **3** months prior to the Annual Meeting at which they shall be considered.