



Kia ora koutou e hoa ma.

My name is Joe Stanley I have been nominated for re-election to the position of the Vice President of the NZPFU for a second term.

I grew up in a Union whanau, my Mum was a Union Organiser during the '90s in the Employment Contracts era. I remember, as a young man, going to pickets and strikes as the government continued to break the support for Unions. My first job was at a cinema complex where I recruited the entire staff to the Service and Food Workers Union and was successful in negotiating the first and only Collective Employment Contract for cinema workers at Hoyts Cinemas.

In early 2000 I was recruited by the New Zealand Council of Trade Unions (NZCTU) onto the Organising Works – Union Organiser Traineeship. This was a yearlong programme in employment law, organising strategies, and health and safety for workers. During this programme I was employed by the Engineers Union in Auckland as a Union Organiser, and then into the NZEI (Primary Teachers' Union) in Palmerston North as a Field Officer/Legal Advocate. As a Union Organiser/Field Officer I represented union members in their employment issues through informal meetings, the employment mediation service, and the Employment Relations Authority.

After some years as a Union Official, I decided I wanted a new challenge so I joined the NZ Army as a Commissioned Officer. I spent a decade in the NZ Army as both a Regular Force and Territorial Force Infantry Officer.

I joined the NZFS in 2012 and have worked in both Wellington and Christchurch Metro Brigades as a Firefighter and Station Officer. I'm currently the Officer Reliever on Blue Watch in Christchurch Metro. I love being a Firefighter and have a passion for our profession that motivates me to continue working as an NZPFU representative. I want to continue working for Career Firefighters to be recognised as the backbone of Fire and Emergency. For this to happen the NZPFU needs to continue our strategic focus.

NZFS/FENZ has evolved since the 90s, and our Union needs to evolve with it. I am confident that my experience as a paid Union Official in two of NZ's largest unions puts me in a good position to provide a renewed leadership focus as we move into this new era. Now is the time to shape what Fire and Emergency NZ should be as an organisation, by enhancing the status of Career Firefighters.

**“Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi
Engari, he toa takitini”
“My strength is not the strength of one
It is the strength of many”**