

# Constitutional Objects.

## Background

After several engagements with members, Council, community and staff along with the co-design work on the constitutional objects, we present a high-level overview of their intended direction:

- **Open, fair, safe, and accessible:** Ensure equitable access for everyone by removing barriers and promoting collective responsibility to address these issues.
- **Maintaining integrity on the Internet:** Address social harms, mental health, wellbeing, data sovereignty and other implications of living in a digital world.
- **Domain Name System (DNS):** Maintain and protect the domain name system as critical infrastructure with uninterrupted access.
- **Internet as a public good:** Focus on research, advocacy, and funding to advance key areas of interest.
- **Maintaining relationships:** Maintain international, local, cross-sector, Tangata Whenua and iwi, kaupapa Māori relationships to ensure diverse voices are represented in our policy, advocacy, funding and internet governance work. Foster local, international, and cross-sector partnerships with Tangata Whenua and Iwi to ensure diverse voices are heard in policy-making and advocacy.
- **Impact on people and planet:** Uphold our responsibility to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

## Underpinning values - Te Tiriti o Waitangi & .nz domain name system

As an organisation, we have committed to centring Te Tiriti o Waitangi in our work. We considered how we reflect this commitment in our Constitution. As the Country-Code Top Level Domain provider, it is essential to reflect the importance of administering the domain name system. The proposal is that the InternetNZ Constitution include two statements through which the Constitution should be interpreted and implemented. They are:

- We are committed to centring Te Tiriti o Waitangi in our work.
- We administer a trusted .nz to benefit Aotearoa New Zealand and champion an open, fair, resilient and safe internet.

## CURRENT OBJECTS

- 2.1** To promote the competitive provision of Internet access, services and facilities in an open and uncaptureable environment.
- 2.2** To develop, maintain, evolve, and disseminate standards for the Internet and its inter-networking technologies and applications.
- 2.3** To develop, maintain, evolve and disseminate effective administrative processes for the operation of the Internet in New Zealand.
- 2.4** To promote and conduct education and research related to the Internet and inter-networking.
- 2.5** To coordinate activities at a national level pertaining to good management of centralised systems and resources which facilitate the development of the Internet, including but not limited to the Domain Name System.
- 2.6** To collect and disseminate information related to the Internet and inter-networking, including histories and archives.
- 2.7** To develop and maintain formal and informal relationships with the international Internet community, including the Internet Society.
- 2.8** To represent the common interests of the wider New Zealand Internet community both nationally and internationally.
- 2.9** To promote widely and generally available access to the Internet.
- 2.10** To liaise with other organisations, New Zealand Government authorities, and the general public for coordination, collaboration, and education in effecting the above objects.

## PROPOSED OBJECTS

- A.** Promote and contribute to an open, fair, resilient and safe internet.
- B.** Develop and provide programmes of work to ensure the internet is accessible and barriers to access are removed.
- C.** Promote, support and enable work programmes to establish and uphold certain standards in relation to online harm.
- D.** Maintain the domain name system and have the highest possible availability.
- E.** Maintain the domain name system to high standards to reflect a world-class ccTLD.
- F.** Develop and provide programmes of work and relationships to promote an internet that benefits all of Aotearoa.
- G.** Develop and maintain key relationships with Māori to inform the development of the internet to benefit all of Aotearoa New Zealand, and uphold our commitment to centring Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- H.** Advocate for and actively participate in multi-stakeholder Internet governance processes domestically and internationally.