



January 2023

## NEWSLETTER - FSC ACCREDITATION

The purpose of this special newsletter is to advise shareholders that Parengarenga Incorporation has embarked upon the journey to obtain Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) accreditation.

The FSC is an international non-profit organisation that promotes responsible management of the world's forests.

To obtain accreditation, the Incorporation must demonstrate that it has policies and procedures in place that will ensure that it:

- Protects the environment;
- Protects historical and cultural assets;
- Operates in a sustainable way; and
- Operates in a socially responsible manner.

In the first instance, the Incorporation is only working to obtain part accreditation of the FSC process. This means that we are aiming to achieve accreditation for what is referred to as 'controlled wood'. This process essentially looks at everything from the time wood is harvested through to logs arriving on a truck at their destination. We aim to achieve 'controlled wood' accreditation by 31 March 2023.

To achieve this, the Incorporation will need to develop policies and procedures that detail what happens at every step in the process. In addition, we will need to provide evidence that we are doing what we say we are doing. Once all this documentation is in place, an auditor will examine our documents to ensure that we comply with the FSC 'controlled wood' requirements. If we do comply, we will be accredited.

Once we achieve 'controlled wood' accreditation, we will work towards achieving full accreditation for the rest of the FSC processes.

### **What effect will this have?**

On the outside looking in you will not see much changing in the way that our forest operates. Most of the things required for FSC accreditation are already happening. It's more about documenting what we currently do.

### **Why are we doing this?**

In New Zealand and right across the world, customers are requiring suppliers to be FSC accredited. Those who don't have this accreditation will face limited market opportunities. In addition, as we look at our processes we will identify opportunities to improve the way we operate. This is not about cutting costs - it's about improving our environmental performance in particular, which in turn will lead to more local jobs and more that the Incorporation can do for our community.

### **Want to know more or provide feedback?**

Please contact the Office if you would like to know more about FSC accreditation or would like to provide feedback and/or suggestions in respect of our journey towards FSC accreditation. The cut-off for receiving feedback is 4pm on Friday 27 January 2023.