

BOARD RECRUITMENT PROSPECTUS

Kids In Nature Network



Welcome,

All children in Victoria have every opportunity to experience, love and look after nature

Founded in 2010, the Kids in Nature Network acts to empower, connect and grow a movement of individuals, families and organisations who are committed to reconnecting children with nature.

Over the past 10 years we have established ourselves as a cross-sectoral network and the go-to platform on kids and nature here in Victoria.

We work to link up key initiatives that promote the role of experiencing nature for children's well-being and development and to facilitate a deep connection to the natural world. Our annual signature event, Nature Play Week, hosts hundreds of events and sees thousands of children outside, engaging in nature play.

KINN has proven to be relevant and viable as an organisation so we are moving to a new phase in which we become an incorporated association with a more sustainable structure. Part of this process involves establishing a permanent board- this is where you come in!

We are looking for people passionate about the benefits of nature for children's well-being and development who have specific professional and governance skills to help us take KINN to the next level. We hope you are one of the people that will help us get there!

On the next pages you will find position descriptions of roles we see as essential for our network. If you feel you can and want to bring to KINN what we are looking for, please send a resume and a cover letter.

KINN is a Child Safe Organisation - as part of recruitment all personnel are required to obtain a Working with Children's Check.

We would like you to reflect on how you have gained the skills and experience we are looking for and to address the following questions:

1. What makes you passionate about reconnecting kids with nature?
2. What do you have to offer on the KINN board?

We look forward to hearing from you!



EXECUTIVE ROLES

Kids In Nature Network

Kids in Nature Network is dedicated to a future where all Victorian children have every opportunity to experience, love and look after nature.

We are now looking for voluntary Executive members to help achieve this vision.

Joining KINN means you can play an important part in the organisation's future.



Executive

KINN is managed by an Executive of 5-9, with a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Fundraising Specialist and up to 4 General Executive Members. The General Members, next to core board duties, provide specialist advice- the area of expertise required may change over time, depending upon the focus of the organisation.

The Executive provides the overall management and direction for the Association.

Administration

The day-to-day work of KINN is undertaken by an Administration Officer. This position is appointed by the Executive.

Special Interest Working Groups

These small teams are managed by a Convenor and report to the Vice-President. These positions sit outside the formal Executive and deliver key priorities such as special events, professional development, webinars and resource development.

The benefits of being involved. You will:

- Join a friendly, multi-disciplinary & cross-sectoral team like no other
- Get experience working in a team focused on collaboration, where agreements are made through consensus decision making
- Help deliver an exciting vision that aims to benefit all Victorian children
- Find out all about best practice, research and benefits of time spent in nature
- Have opportunities for your own professional development

Nominating for a role

All KINN Executive positions are elected each year at the AGM and held for 12 months. Positions can be held for a maximum of three consecutive years.

Please note that all board members will have to pass a police check and working with children check before starting their position and familiarize themselves with KINN's Child Safe Policy and Code of Conduct.

To nominate:

Select a role that best fits your interest, experience, expertise and time availability. Via info@kidsinnaturenetwork.org.au, submit your Curriculum Vitae along with a cover letter briefly addressing the selection criteria to and responding to the following questions:

1. What makes you passionate about reconnecting kids with nature?
2. What do you have to offer a KINN board?

If you would like to discuss the role further, please contact Cecile 04 211 889 75 or Sanne 04 264 400 16.



PRESIDENT

Kids In Nature Network



EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

President - Provides strategic direction

Responsibilities:

- Convene the Executive meetings
- Lead the development of the short term and long-term strategy for the organisation
- Provide oversight and guidance to executive
- Build a cross-sectoral network with partners, sponsors, related organisations, government
- Represent the organisation at events and in other public forums
- Evaluate annually the performance of the organization in achieving its mission
- Prepare the President's Report for the Annual Report and contribute to the annual report
- Research possible funds for KINN's core work and projects

Selection criteria:

- Demonstrated experience in a similar position with a strong understanding of NGO governance processes and responsibilities
- Demonstrated experience with development of strategy and related priorities
- Experience working with government at a local and state level
- Demonstrated experience working across sectors, creating links and collaborations
- Experience with grants and grant applications
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills
- Have a collaborative approach
- Committed to the values of the organisation
- A passion for connecting kids to nature

Time requirement:

5 hours per week including

- Regular email and discussion, minimum 3-4 hr/week with peaks and troughs.
- Attending monthly teleconferences, approx. 2 hrs/month plus about 30 mins of background reading.
- Relationship building and representing organisation at various forums- 1-2 hours per fortnight.



VICE- PRESIDENT

Kids In Nature Network



Vice-president - *Links strategy and operations*

Responsibilities:

- Support the President in the development and implementation of organisational strategy
- Coordinate the timetable for delivery of the agreed strategic direction including development of high-level action plans
- Act on behalf of the President as required
- Act as temporary liaison with key staff and volunteers to align with strategic directions and action plans and report to executive as needed on this work, until funds for managerial staff are secured.

Selection criteria:

- Demonstrated experience in a similar position
- Demonstrated experience with implementation of strategic plans and associated action plans
- Experience with grants and grant applications
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills
- Have a collaborative approach
- Committed to the values of the organisation
- A passion for connecting kids to nature

Time requirement:

5 hours per week including

- Regular email and discussion, minimum 3-4 hr/week with peaks and troughs.
- Attending monthly teleconferences, approx. 2 hrs/month plus about 30 mins of background reading.
- Representing organisation at various forums- 1-2 hours per fortnight.



SECRETARY

Kids In Nature Network



Secretary - Provides constitutional and legal governance

Responsibilities:

- Ensures the operations of the organisation aligns with the constitutional framework
- Organises Executive meetings, agenda and minutes
- Liaises with legal representation as required for the organisation
- Compiles the Annual Report and other key reporting

Selection criteria:

- Demonstrated experience in a similar position and strong understanding of the constitutional and legal requirements of Incorporated Associations
- Strong administrative skills and experience in concise and accurate minutes
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills
- Have a collaborative approach
- Committed to the values of the organisation
- A passion for connecting kids to nature

Time requirement:

3-4 hours per week including

- Attend monthly teleconferences, approx. 2 hrs/month plus about 1 hr of background reading/minutes/agenda preparation.
- Regular email and discussion, minimum 2 hr/week with peaks and troughs.
- Prepare annual report-8 hours approx.



TREASURER

Kids In Nature Network



Treasurer - Provides financial governance

Responsibilities:

- Establishes and coordinates the organisation budget
- Completes all required organisational financial transactions
- Produces monthly and quarterly financial statements for Executive review
- Prepare the Financial Report for the Annual Report and contribute to other required financial reporting
- Help with fundraising and grant writing

Selection criteria:

- Demonstrated experience in a similar position and strong understanding of the financial requirements of operating Incorporated Associations
- Strong financial acumen
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills
- Have a collaborative approach
- Committed to the values of the organisation
- A passion for connecting kids to nature

Time requirement:

3-4 hours per week including

- Regular email and discussion, minimum 2 hr/week with peaks and troughs.
- Attending monthly teleconferences, approx. 2 hrs/month plus about 30 mins of background reading.
- Prepare financial reports 1 hr/ month



FUNDRAISING SPECIALIST

Kids In Nature Network



Fundraising Specialist - *Develop a comprehensive fundraising strategy*

Responsibilities:

- Develops a comprehensive fundraising strategy to underpin KINN's sustainability and growth, including target strategies, activities and the case for support associated with diverse programs and core revenue streams
- Researches and identifies fundraising opportunities
- Writes and submits grant applications
- Manages fundraising campaigns

Selection criteria:

- Demonstrated experience with grants and grant applications
- Demonstrated experience bringing in funds
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills
- Have a collaborative approach
- Committed to the values of the organisation
- A passion for connecting kids to nature

Time requirement:

3-4 hours per week including

- Regular email and discussion, minimum 2 hr/week with peaks and troughs.
- Attending monthly teleconferences, approx. 2 hrs/month plus about 30 mins of background reading.



HEALTH AND WELL-BEING SPECIALIST

Kids In Nature Network



General Executive Member - Focus on child and youth health and well-being

Responsibilities:

- Develops the organisational capacity in line with the strategic plan
- Advises on child and youth health and well-being
- Drives board tasks as required

Selection criteria:

- Qualifications in health, well-being or related field
- Is able to advise KINN on policy and frameworks with regard to the well-being benefits of children spending time in nature
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills
- Have a collaborative approach
- Committed to the values of the organisation
- A passion for connecting kids to nature

Time requirement:

2 hours per week including

- Regular email and discussion, minimum 1 hr/week with peaks and troughs.
- Attending monthly teleconferences, approx. 2 hrs/month plus about 30 mins of background reading.



LEARNING AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

Kids In Nature Network



General Executive Member - Focus on child and youth health and well-being

Responsibilities:

- Develops the organisational capacity in line with the strategic plan
- Advises on on learning and child development
- Drives board tasks as required

Selection criteria:

- Qualifications in education, child development or related field
- Is able to advise KINN on policy and frameworks from an educational and/or developmental perspective
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills
- Have a collaborative approach
- Committed to the values of the organisation
- A passion for connecting kids to nature

Time requirement:

2 hours per week including

- Regular email and discussion, minimum 1 hr/week with peaks and troughs.
- Attending monthly teleconferences, approx. 2 hrs/month plus about 30 mins of background reading.



YOUTH IN NATURE CONSERVATION SPECIALIST

Kids In Nature Network



General Executive Member - *Focus on youth in nature conservation*

Responsibilities:

- Develops the organisational capacity in line with the strategic plan
- Advises on youth in nature conservation
- Drives board tasks as required

Selection criteria:

- Qualifications in nature conservation science or related field
- Has experience working and facilitating involving youth in nature conservation
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills
- Have a collaborative approach
- Committed to the values of the organisation
- A passion for connecting kids to nature

Time requirement:

2 hours per week including

- Regular email and discussion, minimum 1 hr/week with peaks and troughs.
- Attending monthly teleconferences, approx. 2 hrs/month plus about 30 mins of background reading.



URBAN PLANNING SPECIALIST

Kids In Nature Network



General Executive Member - Focus on urban planning

Responsibilities:

- Develops the organisational capacity in line with the strategic plan
- Advises on urban planning
- Drives board tasks as required

Selection criteria:

- Qualifications in urban planning, ideally at a local or state government level
- Is able to advise on KINN's ability and approach to influence urban planning to benefit Victorian children
- Excellent communication and teamwork skills
- Have a collaborative approach
- Committed to the values of the organisation
- A passion for connecting kids to nature

Time requirement:

2 hours per week including

- Regular email and discussion, minimum 1 hr/week with peaks and troughs.
- Attending monthly teleconferences, approx. 2 hrs/month plus about 30 mins of background reading.



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Kids In Nature Network

Our Vision

All children in Victoria to have every opportunity to experience, love and look after nature.

Our Mission

Kids In Nature Network is a catalyst for rebuilding the connection between our kids and the natural world.

We exist to link up key initiatives that promote the role of experiencing nature in children's well-being and development and facilitate a deep connection to the natural world.



OUR VALUES

Our work is guided by a series of core beliefs:

Connecting to nature is essential to children's well-being and development

We take an evidence-based approach and value understanding how children learn and grow. We use research to guide our work.

Childhood experiences foster nature stewardship

Time spent in nature during childhood influences our values and attitudes toward nature later in life.

We model respect for nature in all we do

All of our work demonstrates respect for the intrinsic natural and cultural values of places and our environment.

Connection is our strength

We value bringing together diverse sectors, organisations and individuals to share, learn and collaborate to help build the community's capacity to engage children with nature.

Young voices are valuable

We advocate for the role of young voices in developing and delivering initiatives that enhance the way communities value, experience and protect nature. We believe children and youth should be co-creators of these initiatives, actively involved in decision making and program design.

We are set-up for success

We have sufficient human and financial capacity and independence to enable our work. All initiatives, activities and funding partners will align with our values.



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Kids In Nature Network

EXPERIENCE NATURE

Community prioritise time children spend in nature

Nature-rich spaces are plentiful, easily accessible and safe.

VALUE NATURE

Our community values nature.

The community values nature's role in children's well-being and development.

PROTECT NATURE

Children have opportunities to protect, and regenerate nature.

Policy makers and organisations that protect restore nature value collaborating with young voices

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Kids In Nature Network

EXPERIENCE NATURE

Community prioritise time children spend in nature

Develop experiences that provide the community with tools to confidently engage with nature.

Advocate to address barriers that prevent the community from experiencing nature.

Build a network of 'Nature Play Facilitators' to promote how to connect children to nature.

Support policies and approaches that facilitate nature experiences across cultures and genders.

Build the confidence of organisations that work directly with families to prioritise time and interaction with nature in their services by linking them with nature-confident organisations.

Nature-rich spaces are plentiful, easily accessible and safe.

Create an online 'Nature Play Hub' of ideas, contacts and locations, to ensure resources to experience nature are easily accessible.

Work with councils, organisations, interest groups and individuals to develop a 'Nature is Nearby' map showing natural spaces and how to reach them.

Inform and influence standards for community access to nature-rich spaces across all tiers of government so there are plentiful, natural spaces in cities, schools & urban spaces.

Advocate with communities with inadequate access to nature-rich spaces.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Kids In Nature Network

VALUE NATURE

Our community values nature.

Increase opportunities for children and youth to understand & appreciate nature.

Connect children and youth with mentors who can provide ecological values & Indigenous perspectives.

Facilitate rich nature-based experiences with partner organisations.

The community values nature's role in children's well-being and development.

Grow an engagement program to help the community understand the essential role of nature for children's well-being and development.

Encourage the health profession to prescribe 'time spent in nature' as a preventative and therapeutic measure for common health problems.

Engage schools and governing bodies to embed nature time as part teaching pedagogy and re-imagine school outdoor areas and nature-inspired spaces to facilitate unstructured nature play experiences.

Work with media and other organisations to promote the value of nature.



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Kids In Nature Network

PROTECT NATURE

Children have opportunities to protect, and regenerate nature.

Build pathways for children and youth to engage in protecting, and regenerating nature.

Establish a KINN youth action committee to collaborate with policy makers and organisations.

Policy makers and organisations that protect restore nature value collaborating with young voices

Our partner organisations actively seek input and collaboration from children and young voices.

Participation and perspectives of children and youth are embedded in the policies and procedures within organisations that protect and restore nature.

