



Rachel Taulelei (Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga, Ngāti Rārua, Ngāti Koata), Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM), is the CEO of Kono, the Māori-owned food and beverage business. Ms. Taulelei is an award-winning entrepreneur and business woman whose values include kaitiakitanga, whanaungatanga and pono – guardianship, relationships and integrity. She has spent 20 years championing Aotearoa as a world-class producer of food and beverages. She is also passionate about supporting the potential and growth of other people and companies.

Ms. Taulelei is a member of the Prime Minister’s Business Advisory Council; a ‘World Class New Zealander’; an awarded Māori Business Woman Leader; Director of NZ Hops, NZ Wine Growers and NZ Aquaculture; a Trustee of the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust, Young Enterprise Trust and

Queen Margaret College; Ambassador of the Victoria University Great Futures Scholarship Programme; founder of sustainable seafood company Yellow Brick Road; and a former US Trade Commissioner.