# Candidate for Secretary

## Yvonne M LeFort ONZM MD FRNZCGP FCFP FABM
## PGDip Digital Health NABBLM-C



**Current Position:** Medical Director

**Institution/Employer:** Milford Breastfeeding Clinic

**Location:** Auckland, New Zealand

**Primary Specialty:** Family Medicine and Breastfeeding Medicine

## Education

- 2025 – NABBLM-C, North American Board of Breastfeeding and Lactation Medicine
- 2023 – Postgraduate Diploma, Digital Health, University of Otago, NZ and FABM
- 2013 – FRNZCGP, Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners, New Zealand

## ABM Involvement

- Protocol Committee: Member, 2017–Present
- International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes Compliance Committee: Founding Member,
- Board of Directors: Director-at-Large, 2017–2024
- International Committee: Member and Chair, 2016–2019

## Other Breastfeeding Medicine Leadership

- Officer of New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for Services to Breastfeeding Medicine June 2026
- Breastfeeding Medicine Association of Aotearoa/New Zealand: Founding Co-Chair, 2024–Present
- New Zealand Breastfeeding Alliance: Board Director, 2023–2026

## Current Volunteer Commitments

- Meadowood Community Centre: Volunteer Coordinator, Breastfeeding Drop-In, 2023–Present
- Te Rito Ora South Auckland Breastfeeding Service: Clinical Volunteer
- Breastfeeding Medicine: Mentor and Educator

## Candidate Statement

For the 24 years I have been a member and volunteer of ABM I have learned much about our organization. More than ever I am aware of how crucial it is for our members to contribute their expertise. While serving as a Board member, a committee member and as an educator/author, adapting through challenges and changes (attending countless pre-dawn meetings) I am now ready for a greater level of commitment as Board Secretary.

Whilst overseeing protocol development, writing strategic policies, and providing education for ABM, I've consistently worked to further our goal and purpose. As a leader I offer transparency, inclusivity, sustainability and hard work with a result-driven mindset. I believe I can offer effective leadership as one who listens actively, communicates clearly, and acts with accountability.

Mentoring medical colleagues in BFL Medicine is one tangible accomplishment of my career. The Breastfeeding Medicine Association of Aotearoa is now a recognized advocacy and educational organization as testament to my pioneering this field in New Zealand. Such young members of BMAA are integral not only to my personal succession planning but to the success of ABM's global influence. Leadership development, global mentorship and engagement are my personal goals for ABM.

I care deeply about ABM, our mission and vision, and our future. I would be honored to help lead the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine forward with a global perspective, upholding integrity, energy, and a shared sense of purpose. I would be honored to serve as the Secretary of the Board.