



## **VICKY MEE**

**Chair of the UN WEPs Committee New Zealand**

Vicky Mee (who has worked as a geologist, IT project manager, potter, orchardist, business owner and financial advisor) joined BPW in 2009 as she was passionate about making a difference for women and was attracted by the strength of BPW New Zealand as an advocacy organisation. Vicky spent time as Vice President Issues working on submissions to government and then became President of BPW New Zealand from April 2014 to April 2017.

Vicky has been on the UN Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Committee for New Zealand since 2014 and was appointed Chair in 2016. Her role is to coordinate the work of the five organisations that promote and administer the WEPs in New Zealand (of which BPW New Zealand is one) and to liaise with the 52 New Zealand WEPs signatories. The committee organises an annual survey of signatories to assist them in measuring progress and awards are presented at an annual event to honour the achievements of signatories. Other events on specific workplace policies are also organised to build up expertise and share knowledge within the WEPs signatory community.

Using the seven principles of the WEPs as a framework to build holistic workplace policies and practices in New Zealand businesses is seen by Vicky as a win for everyone. It is a win for women employees, it is a win for businesses who benefit financially and it is also a win for society as cultural changes in the workplace drive gender equity for all.

WEPs is an important part of building an inclusive and respectful society where men and women thrive and BPW New Zealand is very proud of the work we are doing in this area.