

Northern Territory Division Council Election 2026

CANDIDATES

Please note:

- Candidates are presented in alphabetical order.
- Biographies are supplied by the candidates.

The Council does not conduct an assessment process for new candidates seeking election to the Council or re-standing Councillors. However, where the Council considers a current Councillor to have made a valuable contribution to the Council or the AICD during their term, the Council has the discretion to indicate to members that it supports the re-election of that Councillor.

Where a Council supports the re-election of a current Councillor it does not constitute an assessment against other candidates. Members should consider the skills, experience and potential contribution of all candidates when casting their vote.

Charles Burkitt MAICD



Charles Burkitt MAICD has had an extensive career in the Financial Services and Commercial Property sectors, based in Darwin. He is now an experienced Non-Executive Director, having served on numerous Boards and Committees both nationally and in the Northern Territory.

In recent years, Charles has served as the President & Chair of Australian Red Cross nationally, and as a Board Member of Australian Red Cross Lifeblood. He led and implemented a comprehensive governance transformation of this organisation resulting in the adoption of new rules and a restructured skills-based board. By adopting a contemporary fit-for-purpose governance model it has allowed the organisation to have greater alignment in its strategic direction, in order to better serve the broader community and have greater impact.

Charles is passionate about uplifting the broader governance expertise within the Northern Territory by contributing his time to the AICD's Northern Territory Division Council.

Charles has been a member of the AICD since 2017.

Nominators: Karen Green GAICD and Sibylle Brautigam GAICD

Linda Fazldeen AM FAICD

MIBusMgt (CDU), BA (Curtin), GradDip Organisational Administration & Communication, GradDip Public Sector Management, Defence Industry Study Course, Cert IV AAIMS, Languages, Strategic Engagement & Public Participation.



Linda Fazldeen AM FAICD FIML has been a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors for more than 20 years.

She served on the AICD NT Committee for several terms prior to its transition to a Council structure. During that time, she was a driving force behind the research which led to establishment of AICD Indigenous governance programs - reinforcing her vision of building strong governance capability and leadership across the Northern Territory's regions.

Linda has a strong record of service to multicultural and not-for-profit community organisations. She is often consulted for advice and guidance, partnering with community leaders to strengthen organisational capability and deliver sustainable results.

Drawing on her leadership experience, Linda maintains trusted relationships with government agencies, businesses, industry and community organisations. She is recognised for her collaborative approach, strategic insight, ethical conduct and commitment to accountable decision-making.

Holding a Master of International Management degree and other qualifications, Linda hopes her skills and insights will be valuable to the AICD NT Council and membership.

Linda was admitted as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 2017 for her contribution to business leadership, women's advocacy and multicultural communities and is a Commissioner for Oaths NT.

Nominators: Angela Tomazos GAICD and Maire-Louise Pearson GAICD

Penny Priest GAICD



Penny Priest GAICD is an experienced company director and senior tourism executive with more than 17 years' experience across the Northern Territory and Queensland tourism, hospitality and events sectors. She is CEO of Arley Rae Australia, Crocosaurus Cove and Fitzroy Island Resort, leading a diverse family-owned business with a strong focus on governance, risk, compliance, safety, culture, marketing, finance and human resources.

Penny has served as a professional director for nine years, including as a Non-Executive Director of Tourism Top End and Northern Territory Major Events. She currently contributes as a member of the Tourism and Events Northern Territory Advisory Board and Chair of the Australian Tourism Export Council NT Leadership Group.

A graduate of the AICD Company Directors Course and member since 2019, Penny brings practical board experience, strong commercial acumen and deep member-based industry knowledge. She is committed to supporting the AICD's Northern Territory Division Council through informed advocacy, regional insight and a collaborative approach to strengthening governance capability across the director community.

Nominators: Karen Green GAICD and Lauren Ganley GAICD