



Hi all,

My name is Chonell Ford, I am currently a Station Officer on Green Watch based at East Coast Bays. I live on the Coast with my fur dog family. In my spare time I work at perfecting my techniques in painting and sketching, and DIY around the house.

I have been in the job for 22 years, and on reflection I look back at how eager I was 22 years ago as a “young” rookie. Wouldn’t it be nice to still be that eager “young” person?

I have been involved with the Auckland local for 2 years, I don’t know everything and still have so much to learn, stepping outside of the comfort zone is a good push to step up and increase knowledge.

With a little nudge from colleagues, I am happy, and would be honoured, to be considered as your Northern Branch Secretary.

If you’re like me the longer you are around the more disheartened you get, with how little our voices are heard and how slow, if at all, anything changes.

It has frustrated me over the years, and this opportunity to get more involved with the team and help push and initiate the changes that we still desperately need and desire would be a challenging welcome.

I was part of a team of incredible women, that achieved the change of our current level 2 boots, which I know many of us had been screaming out for, for many years. Don’t worry!!! They are coming!

It takes perseverance, determination and being a squeaky wheel, to get heard, and I believe if we all back each other, changes can and will happen, if not for us, then for our future firefighters, for the better.

We all have a common goal within FENZ and I would be honoured to be in a position that goes a long way to improving our conditions.

Thank you for your time and consideration.