



Mike Woods
Education Counsellor, North America
Ministry of Education
New Zealand

Mike Woods is the Ministry of Education's North America Education Counsellor based at the New Zealand Embassy in Washington.

Mike's education sector experience includes seven years as a secondary teacher, two years as an administrator, and fifteen years as a policy advisor.

Mike taught at Auckland secondary schools for seven years before moving to Wellington to work on a 'computers in education' programme for the then Department of Education. He became a foundation staff member at NZQA in 1989.

His policy experience included six years at the Ministry of Education, and in 1999 he carried on his policy work as an independent consultant working across the fields of education, research and social services. This work had a strong focus on child and youth policy development, intersectoral issues and major education sector reforms.

Mike sees advising North American interests about the strengths and opportunities of the New Zealand education system, and facilitating relationships between institutions and organisations as important in his education counsellor role. He also sees the role as both a conduit for and source of information and intelligence.

Mike has a degree in Computer Science from the University of Auckland, a Masters Degree in Public Policy from Victoria University and a Diploma of Teaching.

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