

Community Land Scotland appoints Chartered Accountant to Board of Directors

Press release: 16 February 2023

Community Land Scotland has appointed John Todd to its Board of Directors. John is a Chartered Accountant with many years' experience in working with private business and third sector organisations, primarily in the Highlands & Islands. He was previously a Tax Partner in a large, Scotland-wide accountancy practice advising entrepreneurs, high net worth individuals and owner managed businesses.



John joins the organisation at an exciting time for community ownership and land reform. The Chair of Community Land Scotland Ailsa Raeburn said "We are delighted to welcome John to our Board. He brings huge expertise and insight to our work. We know that a lot of the current changes in the land market, with more and more estates and land being bought by speculators and 'Green Lairds' are driven by the profits these individuals and companies predict they will make. This is profit and wealth destined again to leave local areas, with local communities once again marginalised and sidelined to make way for private profit. Having John on the Board will help us

shed some light on these issues as we continue to argue for a fairer more equitable system of land ownership in Scotland."

John Todd comments "I was really pleased to be asked to join the Community Land Scotland Board as a co-opted Director. I plan to use my skills and experience in supporting Community Land Scotland's work to create a fairer more equitable Scotland. Being able to understand the different tax and subsidy advantages of private landowners and trusts, will allow me to help highlight some of the current inequities in the system and how this is impacting on local communities and people. Over the years I have been hugely impressed by what communities like Galson and Knoydart and Langholm can achieve, and I believe we need to radically reform our system of landownership to allow these great successes to be replicated across Scotland. Together with our members, Community Land Scotland is at the heart of advocating for change and I'm looking forward to being an active part of that."

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Community Land Scotland

Community Land Scotland is the representative body for Scotland's community landowners

www.communitylandscotland.org.uk

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