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ONLINE ONLY

VULNERABLE CLIENTS: CAPACITY, SUPPORTED DECISION MAKING, ELDER ABUSE AND EVIDENCE

THURSDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB272NZA08

When a vulnerable client's capacity is in question, the risks are high and the decisions you make can have lasting consequences. Strengthen your ability to identify warning signs, navigate testamentary capacity and supported decision making. Learn to identify the red flags of elder financial abuse and family pressure. Gain practical strategies for dealing with capacity evidence in PPPR proceedings. You'll leave with practical guidance to protect your practice and clients, reduce risk and handle complex matters with greater confidence.

Chair: **Kate Wiseman**, Associate Member, Bankside Chambers

VULNERABLE CLIENTS AND WILL-MAKING: TESTAMENTARY CAPACITY AND STATUTORY WILLS

- Legal test for testamentary capacity
- Evidence of testamentary capacity
- Legal test for the Family Court to approve a will made by a property manager under the Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988
- Procedural requirements for statutory wills
- Role of lawyer for subject person in a statutory will application
- Court's powers in relation to statutory wills

Presented by **Dr. Rhonda Powell**, Barrister, Clarendon Chambers / Kate Sheppard Chambers

SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING AND ADULTS WITH AFFECTED DECISION-MAKING CAPACITY: WHAT LAWYERS NEED TO KNOW

- Decision-making capacity, supported decision-making and the lawyer's role
- The current legal framework and the Law Commission's recommendations for reform
- Putting supported decision-making into practice: advising clients, EPOAs and PPPR applicatio

Presented by **Iris Reuvecamp**, Principal, Vida Law

EPOAS, ELDER FINANCIAL ABUSE AND FAMILY PRESSURE: RED FLAGS, SAFEGUARDS AND REMEDIES

- Impact of financial and other forms of elder abuse on older people and families
- Using EPOA and other PPPR Act provisions - safeguards and red flags?
- 'Advice giving' and 'choice giving' of older people's decision-making
- Navigating pressures and challenges for practitioners and for older people

Presented by **Hanny Naus**, Professional Educator: Elder Abuse and Neglect Prevention, Age Concern New Zealand

CAPACITY EVIDENCE IN PRACTICE: BRIEFING DOCTORS, ASSESSING RISK AND MAKING BETTER PPPR APPLICATIONS

- When PPPR court proceedings are required and which orders practitioners should consider
- Preparing effective applications, including capacity evidence, medical reports and supporting documentation
- Managing practical and procedural risks involving appointees, family dynamics and the protection of vulnerable adults

Presented by **Helen Tyree**, Director, McWilliam Tyree Lawyers

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Be able to identify vulnerable will-making clients including issues of testamentary capacity
- Understand supported decision making relating to adults with affected decision making capacity
- Be able to identify elder financial abuse and family pressure and understand the remedies available
- Gain practical strategies to strengthen capacity evidence

ONLINE ONLY

ANALYSING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR IN-HOUSE COUNSEL WORKSHOP

FRIDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2027 **$255**
11.00PM TO 1.00PM WEB272NZA01

What are the numbers really telling you? Move beyond simply reading financial statements and develop the skills to critically analyse financial performance and position. Using a realistic case study, explore key ratios and trends, understand the relationship between profit and cash flow, spot indicators of financial stress and identify accounting choices that may obscure underlying performance. Walk away better equipped to challenge assumptions, ask the right questions and translate financial information into better legal and commercial advice.

BEYOND THE NUMBERS: ANALYSING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR IN-HOUSE COUNSEL

Financial statements rarely provide straightforward answers. While the headline figures may appear clear, understanding the commercial reality of a business requires a closer examination of the relationships between profit, cash flow, assets, liabilities and working capital.

This practical workshop will navigate a realistic case study to assist participants to move from simply reading financial statements to critically analysing them. Rather than considering individual statements and ratios in isolation, you will examine how the numbers connect, what they reveal about the financial performance and position of the underlying business, and how they can inform legal and commercial advice.

THROUGHOUT THE WORKSHOP YOU WILL EXPLORE:

- Practical financial ratio and trend analysis
- The relationship between profit, cash flow and working capital
- Indicators of liquidity, solvency and financial stress
- Accounting choices and transactions that may obscure underlying performance
- Gaps, inconsistencies and red flags in financial information
- Questions to ask management and finance teams
- Applying financial insights to legal and commercial decision-making

Your presenters:
Carissa Lacey, Director, Forensic Commercial, Vincents; Chartered Accountant and an Accredited Business Valuation Specialist
Shannon Walker, Partner, Forensic & Litigation, Vincents; Chartered Accountant and an Accredited Business Valuation Specialist

ATTEND AND EARN **2 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Analyse key financial ratios and trends to assess an organisation's financial performance, position and emerging areas of risk.
- Evaluate the relationship between profit, cash flow and working capital, and identify indicators of liquidity, solvency and financial stress.
- Identify accounting choices, unusual transactions, gaps and inconsistencies that may obscure or affect the underlying financial position of a business.
- Formulate informed questions for management and finance teams and apply financial insights to legal, governance and commercial decision-making

ONLINE ONLY

BEYOND THE RMA: NAVIGATING THE NEW ZEALAND PLANNING LANDSCAPE

TUESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB272NZA02

New legislation. A changing planning framework. What does life beyond the RMA mean for your clients? Understanding the reforms is only the starting point. The challenge is advising on projects, consents and investments while the new framework takes shape. Join an RMA Hearings Commissioner, an accredited Chair of RMA Hearings Panels and experienced environmental law practitioners to explore the legislative and policy changes and their practical implications. Examine transitional pathways, Fast-track approvals, competing environmental priorities, and natural-hazard risk and development decisions. Connect the reforms with the decisions your clients face, strengthen your approach to risk and project timing, and prepare to advise with greater confidence through the transition.

Chair: **David Allen**, Partner, Buddle Findlay; Band 2, Environment and Resource Management, Chambers Global 2026

BEYOND THE RMA: CONSENTING AND DELIVERING PROJECTS THROUGH TRANSITION

- What changes now and what will take longer to emerge
- Transitional pathways for existing and proposed projects
- Navigating and sequencing projects during transition
- Implications for long-term infrastructure and development pipelines
- Practical steps for advisers and project teams

Presented by **Megan Exton**, Senior Associate, Bell Gully; Forward Next 2026, Forward Law Review

ENVIRONMENTAL DECISION-MAKING BEYOND THE RMA: PARTICIPATION AND PRACTICAL OUTCOMES

Presented by **Clare Lenihan**, RMA Hearings Commissioner, Barrister, Kate Sheppard Chamber; National Committee Member, Resource Management Law Association

FAST-TRACK IN PRACTICE: UNDERSTANDING THE OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS

- How the Fast-track pathway is operating in practice
- Strategic choices between Fast-track, standard consenting and other development pathways
- Interaction with national direction and the wider planning reforms
- Practical lessons for advisers and project teams

Presented by **Rosie Hill**, Principal, Todd & Walker Law; NZ Lawyer Rising Star 2023

NATURAL HAZARDS AND DEVELOPMENT: APPLYING THE NEW RISK FRAMEWORK IN PRACTICE

- Key issues in natural hazard management
- Applying the new national direction (*National Policy Statement for Natural Hazards* 2025 and *Planning Act* 2026) to land use, subdivision and development issues
- Case Study: Auckland Unitary Plan PC120 – working with incomplete or evolving natural-hazard information
- Practical advice for development projects: environmental decision-making regarding natural hazard risk; assessing technical evidence, mitigation measures and residual risk; and understanding the high-level technical and legal issues that should inform natural hazard consent conditions

Presented by **Joanna Beresford**, Partner, Beresford Law; Convenor, Environment and Natural Resources Law Committee, The Law Association of New Zealand

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Assess how the transition beyond the RMA will affect consenting and project delivery.
- Examine how competing priorities and participation interests will influence environmental decision-making.
- Evaluate the opportunities and risks associated with New Zealand's fast-track approval pathway.
- Apply the new natural-hazard risk framework when advising on development

ONLINE ONLY

CONSTRUCTION LAW MASTERCLASS: PPPS, RISK AND DELAY CLAIMS

TUESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB272NZA04

Construction projects are only getting more complex, and the cost of getting it wrong has never been higher. Join leading construction law specialists for a fast-paced, practical morning that gives you the strategies you need to protect your clients and your practice. Discover how to structure the contract and win work on public private partnerships, future-proof projects against ESG and climate risk considerations, navigate liquidated damages and penalty clauses with confidence, and tackle delay claims head-on. Walk away with practical, ready-to-use insights. Don't miss out – secure your place today!

Chair: **James Riddoch**, Barrister, Canterbury Chambers

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

- The contractual structure of a PPP
- The bid phase: key legal considerations, including the interactive tender process and technical and commercial bid submissions
- From preferred bidder to contractual close: negotiating and finalising key project documents to enable financial close

Presented by **Christine Gordon**, Head of Legal NZ, ACCIONA

FUTURE PROOFING YOUR PROJECT: ESG, CLIMATE RISK AND SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION

- ESG and climate considerations for principals and contractors
- ESG considerations for each stage of a construction project's life
- Climate risk and construction: constraints from many directions

Presented by **Ana Coculescu**, Barrister

LIQUIDATED DAMAGES AND PENALTY CLAUSES

- Dealing with time and deadlines: why projects have deadlines
- Scope and extent of liquidated damages
- Carrot or stick: alternatives to the same result
- Expansion of the penalty doctrine: developing issues from the Courts

Presented by **Sam McCutcheon**, Director, Reflective Construction Law

DELAY CLAIMS AND NAVIGATING CONCURRENT DELAY

- Causes of delay and their contractual consequences
- Proving delay claims through critical path analysis and project records
- Navigating concurrent delay
- Reducing risk: effective contract administration and early intervention

Presented by **Kate Henderson**, Senior Associate, Dentons

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the contractual structure of a PPP and the key legal considerations from the bid phase through to financial close
- Identify ESG and climate risk considerations and how to future-proof against them
- Understand the principles governing liquidated damages and penalty clauses
- Examine the issues of delay, disruption and concurrent delay claims, and reducing delay risk through effective contract administration

ONLINE ONLY

DEBT RECOVERY AND INSOLVENCY STRATEGY

WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2027 **$420**
1.00PM TO 4.15PM WEB272NZA09

With financial pressure mounting and insolvencies on the rise, can you afford to be caught off guard? Whether you are recovering a debt, enforcing security, advising a business under strain or protecting a director, the decisions made early can determine whether your client recovers, restructures or loses out. In one practical afternoon, leading New Zealand experts will take you through the full financial-distress lifecycle. Strengthen your debt recovery skills before and after insolvency, identify the most effective recovery options against individuals and companies, and navigate secured and unsecured enforcement. Gain the confidence to recognise distress early, manage stakeholders, assess formal and informal restructuring pathways, and advise directors on their duties and potential personal liability. Walk away with practical strategies to protect creditor positions, manage enforcement complications and provide clear, commercially focused advice when your clients need it most.

Chair: **Paul Dalkie**, Barrister

DEBT RECOVERY BEFORE AND AFTER INSOLVENCY HITS

- Relevant considerations in preparing contracts and terms of trade
- Negotiating payment plans with defaulting debtors (and how to address voidable transaction clawback risk)
- Available recovery options against individuals and corporate entities, and strategic considerations in deploying them
- Steps to take if the debtor enters a formal insolvency process
- Avoiding common pitfalls related to each of the above

Presented by **Janko Marcetic**, Partner, Chapman Tripp and **Nathan Whittle**, Senior Solicitor, Chapman Tripp

RESTRUCTURING STRATEGY: RESPONSES TO FINANCIAL DISTRESS

- Recognising distress and taking action
- Stakeholder management
- Developing restructuring options
- Formal vs informal processes

Presented by **Michael Harper**, Partner, Harper & Co; Ranked Band 1 in Restructuring and Insolvency by *Chambers Asia-Pacific*; Inducted into the Hall of Fame by *Legal 500 Asia Pacific*

DIRECTORS' DUTIES AND DISTRESS: AVOIDING THE NEXT MAINZEAL

- Directors' duties as financial distress deepens
- Recent trends in directors' duties cases
- Other common grounds for director liability
- Practical considerations for directors' duties litigation
- What's on the horizon for directors' duties

Presented by **Phil Shackleton**, Partner, Meredith Connell

DEBT RECOVERY AND SECURITY ENFORCEMENT: STRATEGY AND PRACTICE

- What to consider before taking action
- Enforcement where land or goods are security
- Enforcement where there is no security
- Enforcement of consumer lending
- Complications involving guarantors, other creditors, other charges and difficult debtors

Presented by **Ben Upton**, Partner, Simpson Grierson

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Understand how to deal with debt recovery before and after insolvency hits
- Strengthen abilities regarding restructuring strategies and responses to financial distress
- Examine directors' duties and distress and how to avoid director liabilities for insolvency
- Evaluate debt recovery and security enforcement options

ONLINE ONLY

OVERSEAS INVESTMENT ACT IN PRACTICE: FASTER CONSENTS, SENSITIVE LAND AND ENFORCEMENT

WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2027 **$230**
12.30 TO 2.00PM WEB272NZA11

Faster consents have changed the process, but not the risk. Explore how New Zealand's reformed overseas investment regime is operating in practice. Gain advanced guidance on consent pathways, application strategy, transaction timing and national interest risk, alongside sensitive land, post-consent compliance and enforcement issues.

Know where transactions can stall, where clients remain exposed and what your advice must address now.

Chair: **Tina Hwang**, Director, Queen City Law

THE NEW CONSENT PATHWAYS IN PRACTICE: MANAGING TIMING, APPLICATIONS AND TRANSACTION RISK

- How the primary consent pathway is operating in practice: application strategy, information requirements and impact of non-NZ government investors
- Managing transaction timetables, client expectations and execution risk under the faster consent framework
- Identifying national interest issues early and navigating transactions that may require closer regulatory assessment

Presented by **Glenn Shewan**, Partner, Bell Gully; Preeminent Competition Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide*, 2026

SENSITIVE LAND RISKS, COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

- Sensitive land issues continuing to arise in practice (including forestry and other rural land transactions)
- Compliance obligations following consent
- Recent enforcement activity and lessons for practitioners

Presented by **Christina Lefever**, Principal, Lefever Law

> ***Excellent speaker and content. Useful refresher***

> ***Really direct – easily digestible***

ATTEND AND EARN **1.5 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the new consent pathways in practice in relation to Overseas Investment Act applications, including managing timing and transaction risk
- Consider sensitive land risks, compliance and enforcement in Overseas Investment Act applications

STATUTORY INTERPRETATION INTENSIVE

HYBRID

WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM 272NZW02

★ **RYDGES WELLINGTON, 75 FEATHERSTON STREET**

When legislation changes, technologies evolve and statutory powers are tested, the strength of your interpretation can determine the outcome. Build a defensible approach to statutory interpretation with practical guidance from experienced public law barristers. Examine interpretation of transitional and savings provisions.Delve into broad statutory provisions and the purpose, discretion and legal limits of interpretation. Address interpretation when modernity and technology bring a new lens to old statutes.Deep dive into cases that turn on interpretation. You'll leave better equipped to construct persuasive statutory arguments and advise clients and decision-makers with greater confidence.

Chair: **Debra Angus,** Barrister, Lambton Chambers

INTERPRETING AND APPLYING TRANSITIONAL AND SAVINGS PROVISIONS

- Default rules of the Legislation Act 2019 on the effect of repeal and amendment, including the preservation of accrued rights, liabilities and pending proceedings
- The presumption against retrospectivity and how courts decide whether legislation applies to past events, existing arrangements, or proceedings already underway
- Common drafting pitfalls: silence, ambiguity, gaps between old and new regimes, and conflicts between express transitional provisions and the statutory defaults
- Recent decisions where transitional & savings provisions created difficulties

Presented by **Duncan Ballinger**, Barrister, Stout Street Chambers

INTERPRETING BROAD STATUTORY POWERS: PURPOSE, DISCRETION AND LEGAL LIMITS

- Formulations of broad statutory powers: as to the constitution of an entity; as to the range of decisions, illusions of broad statutory powers
- First principles approach to interpretation
- When situations call for exercise of discretion, or experience, judgement and expertise
- When it gets interesting: interpretation in extraordinary times

Presented by **Lizzy Wiessing**, Barrister, Kate Sheppard Chambers

WHEN TECHNOLOGY OUTRUNS THE STATUTE: INTERPRETING OLD LAWS IN NEW CIRCUMSTANCES

Technological change exposes assumptions embedded in legislation drafted for an earlier world. Section 11 of the Legislation Act 2019 reflects the "always-speaking" principle that legislation applies to circumstances as they arise. Gain practical guidance on:

- When can existing statutory language accommodate a technology that was not contemplated when the legislation was enacted?
- When does adapting legislation to technological change risk crossing the line between interpretation and law reform?
- Learning from past developments such as motor vehicles, telephones, email communications and digital records?
- Consider AI inventorship, automated decision-making & driverless vehicles

Presented by **Michael Cameron**, Barrister Lambton Chambers

LITIGATING COMPLEX STATUTORY INTERPRETATION ISSUES IN COURT

Explore litigation where an issue of statutory interpretation dominates the proceeding:

- Explore the rise of consumer class actions and the challenges of managing a class of millions
- New frontiers including privacy and employment class actions

Presented by **Charlotte Griffin**, Barrister, Kate Sheppard Chambers

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Develop an understanding of Interpretation and application of transitional and savings provisions
- Analyse the principles permitting interpretation of broad statutory powers by reference to purpose, discretion and legal limits
- Evaluate the outcomes when we interpret old laws when technology creates new circumstances
- Develop the skills to litigate complex statutory interpretation issues in court

ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION MAKING, INFORMATION AND PRIVACY

HYBRID

WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2027 **$345**
2.00PM TO 5.15PM 272NZW03

★ **RYDGES WELLINGTON, 75 FEATHERSTON STREET**

More data. More automation. More at stake. As AI and automated decision-making gain ground and more information is gathered, used and stored, administrative decision-makers and solicitors face pressing questions about how public decisions are made and how to challenge them. This focused seminar tackles the three major issues which currently cause concern for decision-makers. Examine the opportunities and legal risks of AI-assisted decisions, including transparency, procedural fairness and lawfulness. Put evidence gathering and information use under the spotlight including compliance with privacy obligations. Whether advising decision-makers or acting for those affected, gain practical insights to advise with greater confidence.

Chair: **Linda Clark**, Barrister, Thorndon Chambers

EVIDENCE IN PUBLIC DECISION-MAKING

Presented by **Tim Smith**, Barrister, Thorndon Chambers

AI, ALGORITHMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION-MAKING

Decision-makers across government are already making use of AI – and are being encouraged to do so to a greater extent. This creates opportunities in terms of efficiency and consistency in decision-making, but it also raises serious legal challenges – both for the decision-makers themselves, and for those who are on the receiving end of those decisions.

- Examine the opportunities and the risks
- Explore how the courts may respond to the challenges around transparency, procedural fairness, and the lawfulness of AI-assisted decisions

Presented by **Nick Chapman**, Partner, Simpson Grierson; Adjunct Lecturer and Teaching Fellow, Faculty of Law, Victoria University

INFORMATION, PRIVACY AND SEARCH POWERS

Presented by **Ben Keith**, Barrister, Woodward Street Chambers

CALLING ALL GOVERNMENT LAWYERS!

Don't miss these timely programmes in Wellington, featuring a fantastic line-up of speakers & up to 7 CPD Hours in one day.

ATTEND AND EARN **3 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Examine the appropriate use of evidence in administrative decision-making to correctly support the decision
- Understand the practical implications and the challenges and implementing AI, algorithms and automation into administrative decision making
- Understand the correct gathering, including search powers, of and use of information, and the privacy implications in decision making

HYBRID

WELLINGTON EDUCATION LAW CONFERENCE 2027

WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2027
9.00AM TO 5.15PM

$690
272NZW01

★ **RYDGES WELLINGTON, 75 FEATHERSTON STREET**

Stop second-guessing the tough calls. This one-day conference gives school leaders the confidence and practical tools to handle the legal and governance challenges that land on your desk every day, all in one power-packed program. Walk away knowing exactly how to manage staff absence, return to work and medical incapacity, respond to bullying allegations with fairness, strengthen your health and safety practices, and navigate parenting and protection orders when family law reaches the school gate. Hear directly from ERO on its priorities and processes, learn how to work more effectively with your board, and get straightforward guidance on handling OIA requests and protecting your school's data. Whether you're a principal, senior leader or board member, you'll leave with ready-to-use strategies to reduce legal risk, make stronger decisions and put what you learn into action in your school or kura straight away. Don't miss out – secure your place today!

SESSION 1: EMPLOYMENT, OIA, DATA PROTECTION AND FAMILY PROTECTION IN EDUCATION

9.00AM TO 1.15PM | 272NZW01A | $420

Chair: **Tim Fox**, Deputy Principal, Hutt Valley High

NAVIGATING ABSENCE, RETURN TO WORK AND MEDICAL INCAPACITY SITUATIONS

- Navigate the legal framework relevant to ongoing absence, return to work and medical incapacity
- Practical tips for managing absence at an early stage and effectively managing a return to work
- Recognising when a formal medical incapacity process may be appropriate and navigating it effectively
- Recent case law and practical application to the school context
- Common mistakes for employers, along with practical tips for getting the process right

Presented by **Andrea Pazin**, Special Counsel, and **Hanifa Kodirova**, Solicitor, Black Door Law; Employment Law Specialists

MANAGING BULLYING ALLEGATIONS

- What is bullying?
- Taking reasonably practicable steps to preventing bullying
- Dealing with a bullying complaint/allegations
- Recent caselaw

Presented by **Tanya Kennedy**, Barrister, Lambton Quay; Employment, Work, Health Safety and Education law Specialist

MANAGING OIA REQUESTS IN SCHOOLS: PRACTICAL COMPLIANCE AND DATA PROTECTION

- OIA is important but can be hard to manage in a kura environment with volunteer board members, overworked teachers and proactive parents
- What can you do to balance your kura's obligations with the time and resources you have?
- What must you do? What don't you have to do?
- Tips and tricks to help you with compliance
- Data protection meets the OIA: what do school boards need to know and who can they approach for assistance?

Presented by **Kirsty Wallace**, Special Counsel, Duncan Cotterill; Education and Employment Law Specialist

WHEN FAMILY LAW MEETS THE SCHOOL GATE

- Who can decide? Guardianship, day to day care and education decisions, including enrolment and changing schools
- Parenting orders in practice: reading Court orders, school collection, changeovers and conflicting parental instructions
- Protection orders and school safety: implications for collections, contact and attendance at school events

Presented by **Marieke van den Bergh**, Barrister, Merieke van den Bergh Family Law; Family Law Specialist

SESSION 2: LEGAL COMPLIANCE: ERO, GOVERNANCE, HEALTH AND SAFETY

2.00PM TO 5.15PM | 272NZW01B | $345

Chair: **Mark Robinson**, Principal, Paraparaumu College

KO TE TAMAITI TE PŪTAKE O TE KAUPAPA | THE CHILD - THE HEART OF THE MATTER

A practical look at Education Review Office's purpose, priorities, and processes, and what this means for schools.

Presented by **Deborah Wood**, Deputy Chief Executive Te Uepū ā-Motu Deputy Chief Executive, Te Ihuwaka (Acting), Education Review Office

GETTING ON BOARD WITH YOUR BOARD

- Building and maintaining a strong framework
- Living your Code of Conduct
- Understanding governance and management at your school
- What might you do when things are getting crunchy

Presented by **Fi McMillan**, Special Counsel, Anderson Llyod; Employment and Education Law Specialist

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY IN SCHOOLS

- Duties under Health and Safety legislation
- Governance and managing risks
- Development of health and safety procedures

Presented by **Mike Mercer**, Senior Associate, Simpson Grierson; Employment, Health and Safety Specialist

> ***"Lots of big learning! I got so much out of today. It has deepened my understanding and left me with lots of to think about"***

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **7 PLD/CPD HOURS**

★ **This Conference is included in the Te Mahere Whanake Tumuaki Principal Development Plan list of Courses and Programmes on the Education Workforce website.**

Learning Objectives:

- Apply strategies to manage school employee absence, return to work and medical incapacity
- Evaluate and respond to bullying allegations fairly and effectively in schools
- Implement OIA and school data protection obligations
- Interpret family law and court orders affecting schools
- Explain ERO priorities, reviews and processes for schools
- Apply school board governance principles in challenging situations
- Identify key health and safety responsibilities and apply practical approaches to managing risks and procedures in schools

DRAFTING FOR LITIGATORS: PLEADINGS, RESPONSE AFFIDAVITS AND DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

ONLINE ONLY

THURSDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2027 **$345**
2.00AM TO 5.15PM WEB272NZA06

Strong drafting underpins every successful dispute. This practical session takes you through the skills that win matters, so you walk away with tools you can use straight away. You will learn how to draft clear, persuasive pleadings, defences and replies. Gain confidence managing disclosure, chronologies and bundles from disclosure to hearing, and discover how to use AI and review tools responsibly to save time without adding risk. Don't miss your chance to strengthen your drafting and your matter management.

Chair: **Rob Latton**, Barrister, FortyEight Shortland Barristers

PLEADINGS: FUNDAMENTALS FOR DRAFTING CLEAR AND PERSUASIVE PLEADINGS

- Preliminary steps: identifying the material facts required to establish or answer each cause of action
- Drafting claims, defences, counterclaims, affirmative defences and replies
- Procedural and substantive requirements
- Drafting tips and avoiding pleadings vulnerable to strike out applications

Presented by **Kishen Kommu**, Barrister, FortyEight Shortland Barristers

DRAFTING RESPONSE AFFIDAVITS

- Draft clear, focused and persuasive response affidavits that directly address the evidence and issues raised by the other party
- Explore how to identify what requires a response, structure the affidavit effectively, deal with disputed evidence and avoid unnecessary or inadmissible material, with
- practical tips for producing concise and compelling affidavit evidence

Presented by **Ben Prewett**, Barrister & Arbitrator, Bankside Chamber

MANAGING THE DOCUMENTARY RECORD: FROM DISCLOSURE TO HEARING

- Identifying and providing initial disclosure, including what has changed under the High Court Rules
- Drafting and responding to requests for further disclosure
- Building a reliable chronology and common bundle
- Using the documentary record for evidence and submissions
- Using AI and review tools responsibly for document review and drafting

Presented by **Nicole Thompson**, Partner, Dentons New Zealand; Rising Star – Restructuring and Insolvency, *IFLR 1000* 2026

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Draft clear and persuasive pleadings, defences and replies that avoid strike out applications
- Understand how to prepare focused response affidavits that address the other party's evidence
- Manage disclosure, chronologies and bundles from disclosure to hearing
- Use AI and review tools responsibly in document review and drafting

TRAFFIC OFFENCES FORUM: ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, SERIOUS OFFENCES AND FORENSIC EVIDENCE

ONLINE ONLY

THURSDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 5.15PM WEB272NZA05

Your clients' licences, livelihoods and vehicles are on the line and the law is moving fast. With new antisocial road use offences, expanded police powers and presumptive vehicle forfeiture arriving in 2027, you need to know how to defend these charges before the first instruction lands. Join experienced traffic law barristers and a leading forensic scientist and walk away with practical strategies to defend antisocial road use charges, build or challenge serious careless, dangerous and reckless driving cases, and test blood specimen evidence from the laboratory to the courtroom. Attend and be ready to act with confidence for your next traffic client.

Chair: **Steven Cullen**, Barrister, Steven Cullen Barrister

DEFENDING ANTISOCIAL ROAD USE CHARGES: NEW OFFENCES, POLICE POWERS AND VEHICLE FORFEITURE

Presented by **Zoe Reid**, Principal and Barrister, Drink Drive Legal

CARELESS, DANGEROUS AND RECKLESS DRIVING: BUILDING AND DEFENDING THE SERIOUS TRAFFIC CASE

- Distinguishing careless, dangerous and reckless driving and the issues influencing the appropriate charge
- Evidential and practical considerations in preparing serious traffic cases
- Building, presenting and challenging the prosecution and defence case
- Current developments and issues arising from charge through to resolution, trial and sentencing

Presented by **Shafraz Khan**, Partner, Fortune Manning Lawyers

BLOOD SPECIMENS IN ALCOHOL AND DRUG-DRIVING CASES INTENSIVE: FROM SCIENTIFIC RESULT TO TRIAL EVIDENCE

Join a two-part intensive that takes you from the laboratory to the courtroom, with a leading forensic scientist and an experienced defence barrister helping you understand, test, use and challenge blood specimen evidence:

- What does the result really mean? Forensic analysis and scientific limitations
- From collection to court: procedure, admissibility and litigation strategy

Presented by
Dr Anna Sandiford, Director, The Forensic Group and
Allan Tobeck, Barrister

> ***Excellent presentation and valuable tips for trials***

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the reforms relating to defending antisocial road use charges including the new offences, police powers and vehicle forfeiture
- Consider building and defending careless, dangerous and reckless driving offences
- Gain specialist scientific perspective on blood specimens in alcohol and drug-driving cases including what does the result really mean and the forensic analysis and scientific limitations
- Gian best practice on procedure, admissibility and litigation strategy for forensic evidence in driving offences matters

FAMILY LAW ADVOCACY BOOTCAMP: PRACTICAL COURTROOM SKILLS FOR JUNIOR & INTERMEDIATE LAWYERS

HYBRID

FRIDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2027
9.00AM TO 5.15PM

$690
272NZA03

★ **RYDGES AUCKLAND, 59 FEDERAL STREET**

A HANDS-ON COURTROOM SKILLS PROGRAMME FOR FAMILY LAWYERS WHO WANT TO RUN HEARINGS WITH CONFIDENCE

- Work a mock relationship property case with an experienced advocate taking a case to a JSC and final hearing
- Work with the advocate to strategies and plan the case
- Watch the advocate then perform your case preparation
- Gain feed back from judges and ask questions

SESSION 1: BUILDING YOUR CASE: STRATEGY, EVIDENCE AND PREPARATION

9.00AM TO 1.15PM | 272NZA03A | $420

Chair: **Brintyn Smith**, Barrister and Mediator, Brintyn Smith Lawyers and Barristers

WORK THROUGH A COMPLEX RELATIONSHIP PROPERTY DISPUTE -FROM FIRST INSTRUCTIONS TO HEARING PREPARATION.

CASE STUDY

Case Study Facilitator: **Ben Snedden**, Barrister, Hobson Chambers

Case Study Workshop Activities will include:

√ *Analyse the case*

√ *Identify the evidence required*

√ *Develop a strong case theory*

√ *Draft applications, affidavits and interlocutory applications*

√ *Identify what supporting evidence to rely upon*

√ *Prepare for the Judicial Settlement Conference, including a brief presentation on the key steps required before the conference*

Your Workshop Panellists:
John Gandy, Director, Litigation, Totara Law
Simon Jefferson KC, Trinity Chambers
Aly Strang, Barrister, Brintyn Smith Barrister
Ben Snedden, Barrister, Hobson Chambers

SESSION 2: ADVOCACY IN ACTION: NEGOTIATION, CROSS-EXAMINATION AND COURTROOM PERFORMANCE

2.00PM TO 5.15PM | 272NZA03B | $345

Chair: **Brintyn Smith**, Barrister and Mediator, Brintyn Smith Lawyers and Barristers

PUT YOUR CASE THEORY INTO PRACTICE THROUGH A JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE SIMULATION AND FINAL HEARING EXERCISES.

√ *Judicial Settlement Conference Intensive*
- › Presenting your case

√ *Preparing for the Final Hearing*
- › Case strategy
- › Evidence
- › Cross-examination planning taken from Applicant and Respondents perspective

√ *Final Hearing Workshop*
- › Cross-examination in action

Your Workshop Panellists:
Her Honour Judge EB Parsons, The District Court of New Zealand
John Gandy, Director, Totara Law
Simon Jefferson KC, Trinity Chambers
Aly Strang, Barrister, Brintyn Smith Barrister
Ben Snedden, Barrister, Hobson Chambers

Join us in person in Auckland
(or live online from wherever you are)
for this unique chance to join a Judge, KCs, leading specialists and New Zealand's eminent practitioners for this exclusive advocacy bootcamp.

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **7 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Gain a better practical understanding of the pre hearing documentation required including drafting court documents, evidence required, analysing the case and creating the case theory
- Work with the advocate to strategies and plan the case
- Understand appearing and preparing for a Judicial Settlement Conference
- Gain a better understanding of preparation required for a final hearing
- Work through Final Hearing Cross-examination requirements

★ 8TH ANNUAL

PROPERTY LAW: REFORM, RISKS AND PRACTICE CHALLENGES

ONLINE ONLY

FRIDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2027
9.00AM TO 5.15PM

$690
273NZA07

★ **RYDGES AUCKLAND, 59 FEDERAL STREET**

The past year has presented New Zealand property lawyers and conveyancing practitioners with increasing challenges arising from AML/CFT compliance obligations, overseas investment reforms, settlement disputes, unconsented works and evolving client expectations. This practical annual conference brings together experienced New Zealand property law specialists to address the issues most commonly encountered in practice, from conveyancing risks and complex settlements to overseas investment regulation and emerging AI-related concerns. Gain practical guidance, topical legal updates and risk-management strategies to help you advise clients confidently and efficiently in a changing property landscape

SESSION 1: CRITICAL CONVEYANCING UPDATES, RISK MANAGEMENT & PROPERTY LAW DEVELOPMENT

9.00AM TO 1.15PM 273NZA07A $420

ONE YEAR ON: THE MARCH 2026 OVERSEAS INVESTMENT REFORMS IN PRACTICE: KEY OIO GUIDANCE UPDATES AND LESSONS FOR PROPERTY PRACTITIONERS

- One year on: how the 6 March 2026 Overseas Investment Act reforms have operated in practice
- Update on the new primary consent pathway (national interest test) and its application to date
- Update on the residential land pathway for investor visa holders and key trends emerging
- Technical amendments, residential land statement changes, and recent OIO guidance updates
- Common practitioner pitfalls, including consent conditions, sensitive land issues, and overseas client transactions

Presented by **Briar Shaw**, Senior Associate, Tompkins Wake

TAX UPDATE FOR PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

- Tax changes pending election outcome
- Compulsory zero land rules under GST
- Refreshed tax and social policy work program - our thoughts

Presented by **Carla Cross**, Tax Director, Acclime

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT REFORM – LEGAL ISSUES ARISING FROM URBAN INTENSIFICATION

- Are neighbouring property rights relevant considerations in resource consent decisions?
- Recognising visual amenity impacts
- Infrastructure connectivity issues (drainage, water services, and infrastructure crossing private land)
- Shared access, easements, and connectivity between development sites
- Choosing the right forum to address conflict from intensification issues

Presented by **Stuart Ryan**, Barrister, Akarana Chambers

RIGHT-SIZING RISK: COMMERCIAL LEASES FOR A DOWNSIZING ECONOMY

- Looking at the impact of online retail migration, cost-of-living pressure and rising occupancy costs, all of which impact tenants
- Will also focus on tenant failure and/or shrinkage (downsizing/break rights)

Presented by **Scott Ratuki**, Partner, and **Jacinda Johnston**, Special Counsel, Tompkins Wake

SESSION 2: TECHNOLOGY, COMPLIANCE & PRACTICE RISK IN PROPERTY PRACTICE

2.00PM TO 5.15PM 273NZA07B $345

Chair: **Graham Petrie**, Survey Manager, Harison Grierson

USING AI IN PROPERTY PRACTICE: PRACTICAL BENEFITS, PITFALLS AND SAFEGUARDS

- Practical applications in drafting, document review and client communications
- Common pitfalls and issues in practice
- Confidentiality considerations and practical boundaries when using client information

Presented by **Tina Hwang**, Director, Queen City

AML UPDATES THAT IMPACT PRACTITIONERS IN THE PROPERTY SPACE

- New Sector Risk Assessment for Real Estate Agents
- Politically exposed person checks conducted on a risk-based approach
- Amended requirements for low- and medium-risk trusts
- Major amendments to the Identity Verification Code of Practice
- New reduced verification process for low- and medium-risk legal persons and arrangements

Presented by **Dr Giulia Dondoli**, AML Specialist, Total AML

> ***Knowledgeable and personable. Concise and practical advice regarding agreements relevant to my current role as a conveyancing lawyer***

> ***Massive topic but covered key points really clearly and a great reminder of the minefield that is Brightline***

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **7 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Assess the practical implications of the March 2026 overseas investment reforms and relevant OIO guidance for property transactions.
- Identify key tax considerations affecting property transactions and their implications
- Analyse legal issues arising from urban development intensification in the context of Resource Management Act reform
- Evaluate practical uses of AI in property practice, recognise common pitfalls and identify appropriate safeguards
- Identify AML updates relevant to property practitioners and assess their implications for compliance processes

★ 9TH ANNUAL

ONLINE ONLY

COMMERCIAL LEASING UNDER PRESSURE: RENT REVIEWS, TENANT DISTRESS AND EXIT RISK

TUESDAY, 2 MARCH 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB273NZA04

The lease is signed. The pressure is just beginning. Tackle rent-review surprises, tenant distress, escalating costs and exit disputes through the current TLANZ Deed of Lease. Identify drafting traps, weigh enforcement options and clarify who bears the risk from first draft to final make-good. For property and commercial leasing lawyers, property litigators and in-house counsel seeking practical ways to protect their clients' position.

Address key issues and their practical implications for your clients:

RENT REVIEWS UNDER THE DEED OF LEASE

- Understand how CPI, fixed and market rent-review mechanisms operate
- Identify drafting choices, calculation issues and valuation processes that can create unintended commercial outcomes
- Evaluate practical approaches to aligning the review mechanism with the parties' intentions and reducing ambiguity when the provision is applied

TENANT DISTRESS, LEASE CANCELLATION AND ENFORCEMENT

- Assess the options available when a commercial tenant is under financial pressure, from temporary arrangements and restructuring pathways to security enforcement, cancellation and negotiated exit.
- Learn how you can assist your clients to preserve rights, avoid procedural missteps
- Compare responses that protect value in the circumstances

HIGH-RISK COMMERCIAL LEASE CLAUSES

Review the commercial lease provisions most likely to create disagreement over responsibility and cost, including outgoings, insurance, statutory compliance, building works and change of use. See how clearer drafting and earlier allocation of risk can reduce exposure.

END-OF-LEASE OBLIGATIONS: ASSIGNMENT, SURRENDER, MAKE-GOOD AND EXIT CLAIMS

- Clarify landlord and tenant obligations approaching expiry, termination or negotiated surrender
- Manage assignments, subleases and changes in occupation under commercial or financial pressure
- Resolve disputes about make-good, reinstatement, fit-out removal and the required condition of the premises
- Address release of tenants, guarantors and security providers and outstanding liabilities
- Use condition records, alteration histories and practical exit provisions to reduce downstream claims

Your Presenters include:
Tina Hwang, Director, Queen City Law, Chair
William Cheyne, Senior Associate, Chapman Tripp

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Assess CPI, fixed and market rent-review provisions to identify calculation issues and drafting ambiguity
- Evaluate options for responding to tenant distress, including security enforcement, cancellation and negotiated exit
- Identify ambiguities in lease clauses allocating outgoings, insurance, statutory compliance and building-work responsibilities
- Analyse obligations and potential liabilities arising on assignment, surrender, expiry and make-good
- Identify the condition records and alteration histories needed to assess end-of-lease claims

ONLINE ONLY

TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT: REFORMS AND RISKS

TUESDAY, 2 MARCH 2027 **$345**
2.00PM TO 5.15PM WEB273NZA03

Recent reforms have changed the legal and commercial consequences of terminating employment. Gain an understanding of the implications on termination rights, liability and risk across high-income employment, serious misconduct, procedural fairness and remedies. Examine the competing obligations that arise under the Privacy Act, Human Rights Act, Holidays Act and Health and Safety at Work Act when managing medical incapacity, mental health and psychosocial hazards. Test your approach to restructuring and redundancy against current legal requirements. The result: more rigorous advice, stronger termination processes and a clearer basis for protecting your clients from avoidable claims and liability.

Chair: **Jennifer Mills**, Director – Head of Practice, Jennifer Mills & Associates; *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific* 2026, Leading Partner; Chambers Asia Pacific ranked in Employment Law

THE NEW TERMINATION LANDSCAPE: MANAGING RISK UNDER RECENT EMPLOYMENT LAW REFORMS

- High-income employees and personal grievances: understand the new statutory framework, eligibility thresholds and the implications for termination decisions involving senior and highly remunerated staff
- Serious misconduct and procedural fairness: what constitutes serious misconduct and how much process is enough
- Remedies in employment disputes: recent developments affecting reductions for employee contribution
- Practical lessons for employers: cases, common termination pitfalls, and strategies

Presented by **Blair Edwards**, Managing Partner; *Doyle's Guide* 2026, Recommended Employment Lawyer and **Georgia Watts**, Senior Associate, Edwards Sluiters Employment Lawyers

WHEN HEALTH BECOMES THE ISSUE: MEDICAL INCAPACITY, MENTAL HEALTH AND FAIR TERMINATION PROCESSES

- Impact on the workplace, diagnosis and prognosis: What do you know and what do you need to know?
- Mental health: How do you identify and manage the hazard that you cannot see?
- Processes that comply with the clash of legislation and your employment agreement – navigating the Privacy Act, the Employment Relations Act, the Holidays Act, the Human Rights Act and the Health and Safety at Work Act amidst the rise of mental health mental health issues and psychosocial hazards
- What reasonable accommodations and support are required, and how far does the employer need to go?
- Reasonableness when it comes to medical incapacity

Presented by **Jim Roberts**, Partner, Hesketh Henry; *Doyle's Guide* 2026, Recommended Employment Lawyer

RESTRUCTURING, REDUNDANCY AND ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE: MANAGING TERMINATIONS IN A TIME OF TRANSFORMATION

- Key legal obligations
- Getting the business case right
- Consultation requirements
- Selection criteria and redeployment obligations
- Common mistakes and dealing with roadblocks

Presented by **Hayley Coles**, Senior Associate, Duncan Cotterill

ATTEND AND EARN **3 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Apply recent employment law reforms when advising on termination, serious misconduct, procedural fairness and remedies
- Navigate Medical Incapacity, Mental Health and Fair Termination Processes given the employment law reform including the Safety at Work Act plus others
- Manage restructuring and redundancy processes from developing the business case through consultation, selection and redeployment

ONLINE ONLY

NAVIGATING TRUSTEE OBLIGATIONS AND TRUST DISPUTES: WORKING WITH TRUSTS LAW

TUESDAY, 2 MARCH 2027
9.00AM TO 5.15PM

$690
WEB273NZA05

Trust problems rarely begin in court. They start with uncertain authority, conflicted decisions, incomplete records, difficult information requests or an indemnity dispute that brings administration to a standstill. This advanced programme provides practical guidance for navigating trustee decision-making, disclosure, trustee mistakes and corrective remedies, removal and replacement, liability and indemnities. Examine when the court may intervene, how to manage trustee conflict and replacement, and litigation strategies needed when a trust dispute escalates.

SESSION 1: TRUSTEE DECISIONS AND LIABILITIES

9.00AM TO 1.15PM	WEB273NZA05A	$420

Chair: **Stephanie Irons**, Director, Trusts & Wealth Protection, Davenports Law; Recommended Wealth, Estates & Succession Planning Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2026

TRUSTEE DECISION-MAKING THAT WITHSTANDS SCRUTINY: GETTING THE PROCESS AND RECORD RIGHT

Examine what sound trustee decision-making requires in practice, from identifying the decision to be made through to recording it in a way that can withstand later scrutiny.

- Making the decision for the right purpose, including identifying the matters trustees should, and should not, take into account
- Ensuring the trustees genuinely make the decision: managing conflicts, maintaining independent judgement and dealing with settlor, family or beneficiary influence
- Getting the process right: what enquiries should be made, what information trustees need, when advice should be obtained and whether consultation is appropriate
- Creating a defensible record, including what trustee minutes and resolutions should demonstrate and the common weaknesses that become significant when decisions are later challenged
- Learning from challenged decisions: the practical warning signs that suggest the trustees' process may be vulnerable

Presented by **Ingrid Taylor**, Partner, Anderson Lloyd

CHALLENGING TRUSTEE DECISIONS: WHEN WILL THE COURT INTERVENE?

- The threshold for challenging discretionary trustee decisions
- Failure to exercise discretion, improper purpose and conflicts
- The distinction between reviewing the decision-making process and reconsidering the merits
- Directions and blessing applications
- Practical and evidential considerations when seeking court intervention

Presented by **Richard Belcher**, Partner, Molloy Batts

THE INFORMATION BATTLE: TRUSTEE DISCLOSURE, CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE

- Beneficiary requests for trust information
- Decisions to withhold information
- Confidentiality and privilege
- The boundary between beneficiary requests and discovery obligations

Presented by **Josh Taylor**, Partner, Wynn Williams; Recommended Trusts & Estates Litigation Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2026 and **Matthew Rhodes**, Senior Associate, Wynn Williams; Recommended Trusts & Estates Litigation Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2026

TRUSTEE LIABILITY AND INDEMNITIES: PROTECTING TRUSTEES AND PREVENTING DISTRIBUTION DEADLOCK

- Trustee liability and indemnity rights
- Circumstances where the usual protections may be insufficient
- Indemnities sought by outgoing or former trustees
- Disputes delaying distributions or trust administration
- Practical approaches to negotiating and documenting appropriate protection

Presented by **Mike Phillipps**, Special Counsel, Vicki Ammundsen Trust Law Limited

SESSION 2: REMOVING AND REPLACING TRUSTEES AND TRUSTS LITIGATION

2.00PM TO 5.15PM	WEB273NZA05B	$345

Chair: **Alison Gilbert**, Partner, Brookfields Lawyers; Leading Trusts & Estates Litigation Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2026; ranked in Chambers High Net Worth 2026

TRUSTEE MISTAKES: UNWINDING, CORRECTING AND LIVING WITH DEFECTIVE DECISIONS

- Distinguishing an unauthorised act, defective exercise of discretion, transactional mistake and subsequent regret
- When trustee decisions may be set aside, including the possible application and limits of the rule in *Re Hastings-Bass* in New Zealand
- Mistakes concerning trustee powers, beneficiary status, trust assets, tax consequences and distributions
- Choosing the appropriate response: setting aside, rectification, ratification, recovery or making a fresh decision
- Managing the consequences for trustees, beneficiaries, recipients, advisers and affected third parties

Presented by **Samuel Johnston**, Senior Associate, TGT Legal

REMOVING AND REPLACING TRUSTEES: CONFLICT, DEADLOCK AND LOSS OF CONFIDENCE

- Conflict and breakdown in trustee relationships
- Voluntary retirement and court-ordered removal
- Protecting the trust during the transition
- Selecting and appointing an appropriate replacement
- Dealing with trust documents, trust property, costs and exit arrangements

Presented by **Nick Williams TEP**, Barrister, Britomart Chambers

TRUST LITIGATION IN PRACTICE: PERILS AND PITFALLS FOR ADVISERS

- Key steps to take as an adviser when trouble brews
- Managing dynamics and conflicts
- Choosing the appropriate forum
- Settlement pitfalls and costs exposure
- Maintaining the trust fund
- Indemnity protection – or not

Presented by **Ayleath Foote**, Director, Shannon Foote Law

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **7 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Reflect on trustee decision-making that withstands scrutiny: getting the process and record right
- Gain practical guidance on challenging trustee decisions and when the court may intervene
- Navigate trustee disclosure, confidentiality, privilege and the boundary between information requests and discovery obligations
- Explore trustee liability and indemnities: protecting trustees and preventing distribution deadlock
- Examine how defective trustee decisions may be unwound, corrected, ratified or otherwise addressed
- Manage conflict, deadlock and loss of confidence when removing, replacing and transitioning trustees
- Identify practical strategies for trust litigation, including managing conflict, choosing the appropriate forum, protecting the trust fund and navigating settlement, costs and indemnity exposure

SHAREHOLDER AGREEMENTS IN PRACTICE

ONLINE ONLY

WEDNESDAY, 3 MARCH 2027 **$345**
2.00PM TO 5.15PM WEB273NZA06

One afternoon. Three sessions. Experts will share with you their insights into shareholders' agreements that work from day one to exit and throughout the entire lifecycle including through to the shareholder dispute resolution. Understand how to manage the risks for the Board, protect shareholder interests and ensure proper governance. Walk away with the confidence to draft and advise on shareholders' agreements that protect your clients, stand up as their business grows and changes, and reduce the risk of costly disputes. Hear from practitioners who work in this area every day and take their practical insights straight back to your practice.

Chair: **Graeme Switzer**, Partner, Tavendale & Partners

SHAREHOLDER AGREEMENTS ACROSS THE BUSINESS LIFECYCLE

- Getting it right from the outset: key considerations when establishing a shareholders' agreement, including shareholder contributions, expectations and future planning
- Managing growth and change: accommodating new investors, capital requirements, changes in shareholding and the evolving needs of the business
- Shareholder exits and succession: Planning for voluntary and involuntary exits, including pre-emptive rights, good and bad leaver provisions and share valuation mechanisms
- Keeping the agreement fit for purpose: Identifying key milestones and events that should trigger a review of the shareholders' agreement, and avoiding common drafting pitfalls

Presented by **Laura Monahan**, Consultant, McCaw Lewis

GOVERNANCE, CONTROL AND RISK: PROTECTING INTERESTS THROUGH EFFECTIVE SHAREHOLDERS' AGREEMENTS

- Board composition: going beyond ordinary resolutions when appointing directors
- Shareholder reserved matters: bridging the gap between hands-off ownership and practical control
- Managing risk: finding the balance between protecting shareholder interests and allowing directors to exercise governance

Presented by **Jessica Middleton**, Special Counsel, Foley Douglas

MINORITY SHAREHOLDER PROTECTIONS AND REMEDIES

- Key rights and protections available to minority shareholders
- Oppression claims and available remedies
- Navigating deadlock, exit and buy-out scenarios
- Strategic considerations in resolving minority shareholder disputes

Presented by **Bret Gustafson**, Barrister, FortyEight Shortland Barristers

SHAREHOLDER DISPUTES

- Identifying and managing common shareholder disputes
- Rights and remedies when shareholder relationships break down
- Navigating deadlock, oppression and exit or buy-out scenarios
- Strategic considerations in resolving disputes and minimising commercial disruption

Presented by **Mike King**, Partner, Lane Neave; Recommended Lawyer, Dispute Resolution, *Legal 500 Asia Pacific* 2025

ATTEND AND EARN **3 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Consider the issues that matter most in drafting shareholder agreements to ensure smooth relationships and governance across the business lifecycle
- Understand governance, control and risk in shareholder arrangements and how to protect interests through effective shareholders' agreements
- Examine shareholder disputes that may arise and how to best deal with the disputes

SETTLING LITIGATION ESSENTIALS

ONLINE ONLY

THURSDAY, 4 MARCH 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB273NZA24

A good settlement is more than getting to "yes". It is knowing when to negotiate, how to create leverage and how to make sure the deal actually ends the dispute. Take a practical deep dive into the settlement skills that matter throughout litigation. Strengthen your approach to valuing your litigation position, choosing the right time and process to negotiate, preparing for mediation and breaking impasse. Gain practical insight into Calderbank offers, without prejudice protection and costs consequences, then strengthen your settlement drafting to reduce the risk of disputes resurfacing after agreement is reached. Hear from experienced New Zealand litigators and leave with practical strategies you can apply to your next matter.

Chair: **Nic Scampion**, Barrister, Shortland Chambers

SETTLEMENT STRATEGY: TIMING, OFFERS AND GETTING THE BEST RESULT BEFORE TRIAL

- Developing a settlement strategy: commercial, evidential, and relationship drivers
- Valuing the litigation position, including best, likely and worst realistic outcomes
- Choosing the right settlement window under the 2026 High Court civil-procedure framework
- Privilege in settlement negotiations and when open communications are appropriate
- Managing client expectations and obtaining meaningful instructions
- Issues in multi-party disputes
- Choosing the best procedure to facilitate settlement discussions

Presented by **Daniel Scholes**, Associate, Gilbert Walker and **Jack Alexander**, Associate, Gilbert Walker

MAKING MEDIATION WORK: PREPARATION, NEGOTIATION AND BREAKING IMPASSE

- Preparing the case, client and decision-makers for a productive mediation
- Developing and adapting your negotiation strategy during the mediation
- Managing difficult dynamics, responding to impasse and capturing settlement progress

Presented by **Martin Dillon**, Barrister, 109 Chambers

CALDERBANK OFFERS, WITHOUT-PREJUDICE PROTECTION AND COSTS CONSEQUENCES

- Drafting a clear and genuine Calderbank offer capable of acceptance
- Choosing the offer period and documenting information available to the recipient
- Assessing whether rejection was unreasonable in the circumstances
- Preserving the communication and proving it on a later costs application
- Lessons from recent New Zealand authority on settlement

Presented by **Ruth Williams**, Senior Associate, Dentons and Tayla Gordon O'Meara, Solicitor, Dentons

DRAFTING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS THAT ACTUALLY END THE DISPUTE

Presented by **Shane Swinerd**, Partner, Wotton + Kearney

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Reflect on settlement strategy including timing, offers and getting the best result before trial
- Navigate challenges in making mediation work including in preparation, negotiation and breaking any impasse
- Consider calderbank offers, without-prejudice protection and costs consequences
- Understand the nuances of drafting settlement agreements that have the ability to end the dispute

PLAIN ENGLISH DRAFTING: THE POWER OF EFFECTIVE LEGAL COMMUNICATION

ONLINE ONLY

TUESDAY, 9 MARCH 2027 **$255**
11.00AM TO 1.00PM WEB273NZA26

In the legal profession, the ability to communicate effectively is key to your success. Learn how to avoid common pitfalls and ensure your clients are not just happy but well-informed. Join us for a transformative program led by a renowned expert in legal drafting, where you'll learn how to elevate your writing skills and leave drafting mishaps behind. Don't miss this opportunity to consolidate your foundations and excel in the practice of law.

Chair: **Helen Lewin**, Director, Privacy Risk Management

In this unique, in-depth and interactive session, together with Bob Milstein you will explore:

- √ *Plain English in legal writing: what it is and what it isn't*
- √ *Why plain English writing matters for you and your firm: the voice of the firm's brand, and the voice of your own brand as a professional*
- √ *Advisory writing versus transactional writing: the differences – and the similarities*
- √ *Reflecting on audience and purpose: an interactive exercise*
- √ *The issue of tone, and how to achieve it*
- √ *The myth of the professional, legal writing voice*
- √ *The special challenges of email*
- √ *What's new in the world of legal writing: the world's first's International Plain English Standard, and its supplement on "Legal Communications"*
- √ *The promise (and threat?) of generative AI*
- √ *Tips, traps, techniques and guidelines aimed to help the lawyer get their reader through the document as painlessly as possible, and in a way that reflects well on the author, and where it's external communication, on the firm/the organisation*

Presented by **Bob Milstein**, Principal, Milstein and Associates; Principal, Words and Beyond

> ***Excellent. This should be compulsory for lawyers and non-lawyers. Bob was a brilliant facilitator***

> ***No matter what level of experience or knowledge you think you have when it comes to writing, Bob can help you to make it even better***

ATTEND AND EARN **2 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the principles and purpose of plain English in legal writing, and why it enhances clarity, professionalism, and client engagement.
- Develop practical skills to tailor legal communication for different audiences and purposes.
- Apply contemporary tools and standards to improve legal drafting, including insights into the International Plain English Standard and the impact of generative AI on legal communication.

★ ALL NEW PROGRAM WITH ROLLING HYPOTHETICAL

RELATIONSHIP PROPERTY MASTERCLASS: ASSETS, VALUATION, EQUAL SHARING & ADJUSTMENTS

ONLINE ONLY

WEDNESDAY, 10 MARCH 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB273NZA08

Take a complex relationship property file through to the final division of the property pool. Using a rolling hypothetical throughout the programme, leading practitioners and financial experts will guide you through difficult assets and liabilities scenarios, competing business and farm valuations, departures from equal sharing and post-separation adjustments. Chaired by Simon Jefferson KC, this practical programme will take you beyond the law to examine how the issues play out in real matters – what to look for, what to challenge, what evidence matters and how different arguments can change the outcome.

Chair: **Simon Jefferson KC**, Trinity Chambers

AN HYPOTHETICAL COMPLEX FILE

Created by **Helen Tyree**, Director, McWilliam Tyree

THE COMPLEX ASSET POOL: DIFFICULT ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND VALUATION ISSUES

- › Dealing with awkward assets and liabilities: family loans; personal guarantees; contingent liabilities; disputed tax liabilities
- Businesses, farms and companies - working effectively with your expert:
  - › competing valuations driven by different instructions or valuation assumptions
  - › insolvent/distressed businesses and businesses that can't readily be sold or divided
  - › differences between an earnings valuation and an assets-based valuation
  - › link between maintainable earnings, multiples, discounts, contingencies and value of net assets
  - › value of a business compared with the value of a company
  - › shareholder current accounts
  - › tax, debt and post-separation events affecting value
  - › understand drawings and retained earnings and the associated valuation issues
  - › preparing for cross examination: questions for your expert and opposing experts

Presented by **Shane Hussey**, Director, Hussey & Co; Chartered Accountant; Mediator and Arbitrator and **Zandra Wackenier**, Partner, Tompkins Wake

BEYOND EQUAL SHARING: IDENTIFYING, ESTABLISHING AND QUANTIFYING THE APPROPRIATE ADJUSTMENT

- Section 13 - Extraordinary circumstances: when the high statutory threshold for departing from equal sharing may be considered, and what is required to establish it
- Section 15 - Economic disparity: how courts assess and quantify economic disparity, impact of external factors on the calculation of any compensatory adjustment
- Section 32 - Maintenance and Child Support: the scope, application and practical implications of the Court's powers under Section 32

Presented by **Amy Malone**, Senior Associate, MacDonald Lewis Law

POST-SEPARATION ADJUSTMENTS: 18B AND 18C: CONTRIBUTIONS, BENEFITS AND CHANGES TO THE POOL

- 18B and 18C claims
- What is a contribution (s18)
- Occupation-related claims
- Examples of other post-separation claims from case law
- Dissipation by deliberate action or inaction

Presented by **Tracy Chubb**, Barrister

FINAL WRAP UP – WHERE DO WE SEE THE CASE ENDING UP AND LIKELY OUTCOME

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Analyse key issues in complex relationship property matters
- Explore complex assets, liabilities and valuation evidence in relationship property matters
- Examine and quantify departures from equal sharing
- Investigate post-separation contributions, benefits and adjustments

ONLINE ONLY

NEGOTIATING AND DRAFTING BUSINESS SALE AGREEMENTS

THURSDAY, 11 MARCH 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB273NZA09

A successful business sale starts with a carefully negotiated, well-drafted agreement. Whether you act for the buyer or the seller, strengthen your drafting skills, anticipate sticking points and negotiate and draft with greater confidence. Focus on the provisions that matter: warranties and indemnities, disclosure, liability limits, and warranty and indemnity insurance. Explore employment obligations, workforce transitions and key tax considerations to help navigate the transaction. Gain practical insights and strategy to apply to your matters immediately.

Chair: **Julika Wahlmann-Smith**, Partner, Hesketh Henry

RESTRAINTS OF TRADE IN THE NZ M&A CONTEXT

- What are we protecting?
- The legal framework
- Designing a restraint that fits the deal
- Making the agreed protection work
- Learnings from recent transactions

Presented by **Tayla Johnston**, Partner and **Jasmin Matthews**, Senior Associate, MinterEllisonRuddWatts

DRAFTING AND NEGOTIATING THE SALE AGREEMENT: WARRANTIES AND INDEMNITIES

- Warranties: purpose, core areas
- Disclosure process
- Limitations on liability
- Indemnities
- Warranties and indemnities insurance
- Top 10 Deal Killers in 2027

Presented by **Jason Maddox**, Senior Associate, Flacks & Wong

EMPLOYMENT LAW IN BUSINESS SALES

- Vendor consultation and notification obligations
- Purchaser due diligence and common red flag issues
- Key SPA clauses
- Managing a smooth workforce transition
- Recent developments impacting business sale transactions

Presented by **Ronelle Tomkinson**, Partner, LangtonHudson; Next Generation Partner by *Legal 500 Asia Pacific* & Ranked in Employment Law, Chambers Asia-Pacific

TAX CONSIDERATIONS WHEN BUYING OR SELLING A BUSINESS

- Share sale vs asset sale: income tax and GST considerations
- Dealing with tax in completion statements
- Tax considerations in locked box transactions
- Common tax issues and trends in M&A

Presented by **Andrew Priestley**, Senior Associate, Simpson Grierson

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Receive practical guidance on drafting and negotiating warranties and indemnities in the sale agreement
- Consider best practice in relation to employment law challenges in business sales
- Learn about tax considerations when buying or selling a business

ONLINE ONLY

TIKANGA MĀORI IN LEGAL PRACTICE: LITIGATION, DECISION MAKING, LAND LAW AND GOVERNANCE

THURSDAY, 11 MARCH 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB273NZA10

Tikanga Māori, Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Māori legal interests are no longer specialist issues. They increasingly influence litigation, public decision-making, governance issues and land and resource matters. Gain actionable insights from Māori law experts, informed by their deep experience. Strengthen your approach to tikanga Māori in legal practice. Navigate changing Te Tiriti obligations and public decision-making risks. Navigate Māori land changes and practical challenges and strengthen your governance advice to Māori entities.

Chair: **Kelly Dixon**, Partner, Dixon & Co Lawyers

TIKANGA MĀORI IN LEGAL PRACTICE: ARE WE GETTING IT RIGHT?

- Tikanga Māori as law: the recognition of tikanga as a legal system in its own right, and what this means for our legal institutions and professional practice
- Engaging with tikanga: the importance of context, relationships, recognising the limits of our own knowledge, and engaging appropriately and respectfully with pūkenga tikanga
- Beyond the case law: how tikanga challenges conventional approaches to legal advice, litigation strategy, evidence and courtroom practice, including the responsibilities of lawyers and the systems within which they operate

Presented by **Rohario Murray**, Barrister, Kōkiri Chambers

TE TIRITI AND PUBLIC DECISION-MAKING: CHANGING OBLIGATIONS, CHALLENGES AND LEGAL RISK

Presented by **Tom Bennion**, Principal, Bennion Law

KIA TŪ TONU TE WHENUA: SUSTAINING MĀORI LAND THROUGH CHANGE - THE PRACTICAL ISSUES SHAPING MĀORI LAND IN 2027

- How the new resource management laws will affect Māori land use
- Housing, climate change, and other challenges facing landowners
- Recent court decisions and what they mean for Whenua Māori going forward
- What's changing in Māori Land Court practice and procedure
- Key issues facing Māori land trusts and incorporations

Presented by **Kylee Katipo**, Director, Waikato, McCaw Lewis

ADVISING MĀORI ENTITIES: GOVERNANCE, TIKANGA AND THE FUTURE

- Trustee obligations, accountability and decision-making
- Drafting strong governance documents that are fit for purpose
- Managing disputes and navigating beneficiary concerns
- Tikanga-based strategic decision making as a trustee

Presented by **Renika Siciliano**, Director, McCaw Lewis; Leading Māori Law, Māori Land and Treaty of Waitangi Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2026

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Strengthen your approach to tikanga Māori in legal practice
- Navigate changing Te Tiriti obligations and public decision-making risks
- Navigate Māori land changes and practical challenges in 2027
- Strengthen governance advice to Māori entities

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ONLINE ONLY

ESTATE DISPUTES AND AVOIDING DISPUTES

FRIDAY, 12 MARCH 2027
9.00AM TO 5.15PM

$690
WEB273NZA13

Estate disputes are complex, high-stakes and difficult to navigate. Join leading New Zealand succession specialists for a comprehensive examination of the major disputes arising in and against estates. Unpack claims by beneficiaries and would-be beneficiaries, executor and trustee obligations, and disputes involving blended families. Gain practical guidance on protecting the rights of minor and unborn beneficiaries and examine the challenges of undue influence and capacity. Explore effective approaches to mediation and tackle the issues most likely to land on your desk. You will leave with current insights and expert guidance to identify risks early, strengthen your advice, avoid costly missteps and achieve better outcomes for executors, trustees, beneficiaries and claimants. If you advise on, manage or litigate estate disputes, this is an essential update you cannot afford to miss.

SESSION 1: DISPUTES AGAINST THE ESTATE

9.00AM TO 1.15PM | WEB273NZA13A | $420

Chair: **Timothy Orr**, Partner, Martelli McKegg

CASE UPDATE: DEALING WITH BLENDED FAMILIES AND OTHER CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE

- Review key developments over the last year in claims against estates, including disputes involving blended families and other claimants
- Consider how the courts are approaching competing interests, the factors influencing outcomes and the practical lessons these decisions provide for practitioners advising executors, trustees, beneficiaries and potential claimants

Presented by **Philip McHugh**, Legal Counsel, Perpetual Guardian

EXECUTORS' OBLIGATIONS TO BRING CLAIMS OUTSIDE THE ESTATE: LOOKING BEYOND THE DECEASED ASSETS AS AT TIME OF DEATH

- The executors' obligation to call up debts and other liabilities
- The risks to executors of not calling up debts etc (i.e: paying out asses before claims are settled)
- The obligation of executors to invoke defences
- The executor's power of compromise
- Derivative claims

Presented by **Alexandra Low**, Barrister, Alexandra Low and **Luke Dixon**, Senior Associate, Patterson Hopkins

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF MINORS AND UNBORN BENEFICIARIES: DEEDS OF FAMILY ARRANGEMENT, AVAILABLE OUTCOMES AND ALTERNATIVES, DRAFTING TIPS AND DEVELOPMENTS SINCE CASEY V BLAIR-BELLAMY

- Deeds of Family Arrangement unpacked
- Protecting the interests of unborn, minor and incapacitated beneficiaries
- Court – last resort or valuable ally?

Presented by **Theresa Donnelly**, Head of Legal, Perpetual Guardian and **Vicki Ammundsen**, Director and Notary Public, Vicki Ammundsen Trust Law

MEDIATING ESTATES DISPUTES: GETTING THE BEST FROM THE PROCESS

- Why mediate? Sign of weakness or pragmatic?
- When to mediate, including how the new HCR impact that choice
- Mediation and the Courts:jurisdictional issues, s145 Trusts Act, blessing orders
- Preparing: the client, the case, to settle
- On the day: people and their problems (letting it out vs blowing it up), impasse, creative solutions

Presented by **Mark Kelly**, Commercial Mediator, Bankside Chambers and **Richard Thompson**, Barrister, Park Chambers

SESSION 2: ASSET PLANNING, PARTNER CLAIMS AND CAPACITY

2.00PM TO 5.15PM | WEB273NZA13B | $345

Chair: **Richard Belcher**, Partner, Molloy Batts

ASSET PLANNING FOR BLENDED FAMILIES: HOW TO AVOID FUTURE CLAIMS

- Identifying competing interests
- Planning asset ownership
- Relationship property agreements
- Will and succession planning
- Using trusts effectively
- Planning for the surviving partner
- Aligning different legal instruments
- Practical strategies to minimise disputes

Presented by **Natasha Williams**, Senior Associate and **Keely Barnes**, Senior Solicitor, Brookfields Lawyers

CLAIMS BY SURVIVING PARTNERS AND SPOUSES AGAINST ESTATES

- Claims by surviving partners or spouses against estates, or by executors against partners or spouses
- Conflict of interest where the claimant or the residuary beneficiary opposing the claim is an executor or the administrator on an intestacy. Can they be removed?Should they resign?
- Appointment of Independent Administrators by the High Court, what is their role?
- Where there is a contracting out agreement
  - Property (Relationships) Act claims [Option A and B, time limits and s.63 and s.69]
  - Family Protection Act claims ["top up" claims in addition to the entitlement under the PRA]
  - Constructive trusts
  - Where the partners or spouse has commenced a new relationship
- Life tenancy issues from all perspectives, how these are viewed by the Court
- Testamentary promises claims

Presented by **Jane Connell**, Partner, Connell Clark Lawyers and **Richard Belcher**, Partner, Molloy Batts

SPOTLIGHT ON TESTAMENTARY CAPACITY, UNDUE INFLUENCE, AND OTHER RELATED CAUSES OF ACTION

Join a practical session examining a case study including:

- What you should look out for, increasing risks for practitioners, including reputational and disciplinary risks (Standards Committee, Disciplinary Tribunal)
- Back to basics – who is your client? Beware of family, who may not always be right/impartial
- Tips from an expert on how to recognise when a person may be affected
- "Novel" causes of action such as unconscionable conduct and fraudulent calumny

Presented by **Theresa Donnelly**, Head of Legal, Perpetual Guardian and **Dr Elizabeth Fussell**, Consultant Psychogeriatrician, Waikato DHB Health

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **7 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Examine recent developments in estate disputes and claims against estates
- Assess executor and trustee obligations when managing competing claims and interests
- Explore options for protecting minor and unborn beneficiaries
- Apply asset planning strategies to minimise disputes in blended families
- Consider relationship property and testamentary promise claims arising on death
- Identify capacity, undue influence and fraudulent calumny risks in estate planning
- Develop practical strategies to prevent and manage estate disputes

INSOLVENCY AND RESTRUCTURING ESSENTIALS AND PRACTICAL STRATEGIES

ONLINE ONLY

FRIDAY, 12 MARCH 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB273NZA11

When clients face financial distress, clear advice starts with understanding the options and recognising the pitfalls. Join experienced NZ insolvency practitioners and the Deputy Official Assignee for practical perspectives on security and PPSR priorities, restructuring decisions, personal insolvency and director compliance. Explore liquidation, receivership and voluntary administration, and gain insights to help you ask the right questions, identify risks and guide clients through challenging circumstances.

Chair: **Jacque (Jacqueline) Lethbridge**, Partner, Martelli McKegg Lawyers, Recommended/Leading Insolvency and Restructuring Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* since 2017

SECURITY AND PPSR PITFALLS IN INSOLVENCY SCENARIOS: AVOIDING COSTLY MISTAKES

- PPSA and the PPSR: the 15 year journey
- Priority issues
- Case updates

Presented by **Lynne Van**, Partner, Lane Neave; Recommended Insolvency and Restructuring Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2020–2022, 2025; Band 3, Restructuring and Insolvency, Chambers Asia Pacific 2026

RESTRUCTURING AND INSOLVENCY: PRACTICAL PERSPECTIVES – PROTECTING VALUE IN THE CURRENT ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE

- Overview of the current economic landscape
- Practical and potential outcomes/strategies for distressed businesses from a commercial point of view

Presented by **Kare Johnstone**, Partner, McGrathNicol; Licenced Insolvency Practitioner

PERSONAL INSOLVENCY, DIRECTOR COMPLIANCE AND THE OFFICIAL ASSIGNEE'S ROLE

- The Official Assignee's role in New Zealand's insolvency framework
- Bankruptcy, No Asset Procedures and Debt Repayment Orders: when, why use them
- Obtaining compliance from bankrupts and directors
- Common issues encountered during insolvency administrations
- Investigation and enforcement powers available to the Official Assignee
- Practical lessons for lawyers advising financially distressed individuals and businesses

Presented by **Russell Fildes**, National Manager, New Zealand Insolvency and Trustee Service; Deputy Official Assignee NZ

LIQUIDATIONS, RECEIVERSHIPS AND VA'S: IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES AND CURRENT APPROACH

- Dealing with liquidations, receiverships, and administrations: what you need to know
- Voidable transactions, voidable charges, and other liquidator recoveries: current approach taken by the courts
- Priorities: fundamentals and equitable liens
- Creditor claims and dealing with securities
- How to advise your insolvent client on best option

Presented by **Murray Tingey**, Barrister, Murray Tingey Barrister; Leading Insolvency and Restructuring Junior Counsel, *Doyle's Guide* 2025, 2026; Recognised in Best Lawyers for Insolvency and Reorganisation Law since 2008

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Gan practical tips on security and PPSR pitfalls in insolvency scenarios so as to avoid costly mistakes
- Understand the basics of personal insolvency, director compliance and the official assignee's role
- Examine the important differences and current approaches to liquidations, receiverships and voluntary administrations

RURAL AND FARM TRANSACTIONS INTENSIVE: TRANSACTIONS, LAND USE AND FARM SUCCESSION

ONLINE ONLY

FRIDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB272NZA10

A rural deal can settle cleanly and still leave the client carrying the wrong tax treatment, an ETS exposure, a consenting constraint or a succession plan the business cannot sustain. The risk is not confined to the agreement. It extends across the land, the operating structure, the regulatory environment and the financial realities of transition.

Follow the rural transaction from purchase price allocations, GST and agreement review through ETS provisions, planning reform, freshwater obligations and consenting risk. Then examine the funding, tax and governance decisions that determine whether farm succession can work in practice. Gain practical legal and accounting perspectives to identify red flags earlier, strengthen transaction protections and connect immediate deal decisions with longer-term business continuity.

Designed for rural and agribusiness lawyers, property and commercial lawyers, trusts and succession practitioners, and general practitioners advising farming clients.

Chair: **Mark Dineen**, Partner, Anthony Harper

STRUCTURING RURAL TRANSACTIONS: PURCHASE PRICE ALLOCATIONS, GST AND DEAL RISK

- Structuring farm sales and purchases
- Purchase price allocations and associated transaction issues
- GST treatment, including dwellings and curtilage
- Warranties and contractual protections
- Settlement and mid-season transaction complications
- Recurring deal risks that practitioners should identify early

Presented by **Pétra Allen**, Director, Treadwell Gordon

RURAL DUE DILIGENCE: REVIEWING THE AGREEMENT FOR SALE AND PURCHASE

- Developing your farm transaction checklist
- Reviewing ETS provisions and the consequences for your client
- Considering other further terms of sale

Presented by **Julie Millar**, Partner, WCM Legal

RURAL LAND USE AFTER THE REFORM RESET: NEW PLANNING FRAMEWORKS, FRESHWATER OBLIGATIONS AND PRACTICAL RURAL IMPACTS

- New national and regional planning instruments
- Freshwater and rural land-use implications
- Practical consenting issues for rural developments

Presented by **Gerard Cleary**, Partner, Anthony Harper and **Shona Walter**, Associate, Anthony Harper

MAKING FARM SUCCESSION WORK: FINANCIAL VIABILITY, TAX AND GOVERNANCE

- Testing whether the proposed succession plan is financially sustainable
- Funding the transition and managing family loans
- Governance and decision-making during and after transition
- Associated-party transactions and tax implications
- Current Inland Revenue areas of focus
- Identifying when restructuring or specialist accounting advice is required

Presented by **Rod Hansen**, Advisory Partner, BDO Christchurch

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- **Structure** rural sale and purchase transactions by addressing purchase price allocations, GST treatment, warranties, settlement issues and recurring deal risks.
- **Review** agreements for sale and purchase using a practical farm transaction checklist, with particular attention to ETS provisions and other rural-specific terms of sale.
- **Navigate** new planning instruments, freshwater obligations and consenting issues affecting rural land use and development.
- **Assess** whether a proposed farm succession plan is financially sustainable, taking account of funding, tax, governance and associated-party transactions.

ALL NEW PROGRAMME!

ONLINE ONLY

AI PROCUREMENT, PRIVACY AND CYBER: RISK, LIABILITY AND ENFORCEMENT

MONDAY, 15 MARCH 2027
2.00PM TO 5.15PM

$345
WEB273NZA14

Procure AI safely. Get privacy right. Be ready when a data breach hits. In one session, four experts guide you through AI contracts, vendor risk and liability, so you can buy with confidence. Take a deep dive into AI and privacy, including the obligations and emerging risks, and get ahead of them. Prepare yourself for cybersecurity litigation, regulatory investigations and enforcement after a data breach. Walk away knowing how to apply the Privacy Act to the use of AI systems and update your privacy policies to match. Get to grips with transparency around automated decision making and the emerging guidance from regulators. When a cyber incident or privacy breach happens, you'll know how to respond to investigations and how to manage the incident. Gain insight into regulatory enforcement pathways, penalties and the claims that arise, and take home lessons from recent cyber and data-breach enforcement activity and emerging litigation trends.

Chair: **Peter Fernando**, Partner, Duncan Cotterill

PROCURING AI SAFELY: CONTRACTS, VENDOR RISK AND LIABILITY

- Before you sign – How to run due diligence on an AI vendor: what to ask about training data, model provenance, security and sub-processors, and how to tell a mature provider from one that is still working it out
- The contract itself – The clauses that matter most in AI procurement, including data use and training restrictions, confidentiality, IP ownership of inputs and outputs, privacy and data protection obligations, audit rights, and what happens to your data when the relationship ends
- AI you didn't buy – Many organisations take on AI through existing software, when a SaaS provider adds AI features and updates its terms to match, or when staff start using free tools without approval. We'll look at how to catch this in procurement and contract review, and what to do when you find it

Presented by **Edwin Lim**, Partner, Hudson Gavin Martin

AI AND PRIVACY: LEGAL OBLIGATIONS AND EMERGING RISKS

- Applying the Privacy Act to the use of AI systems
- Updating privacy policies to reflect the use of AI
- Transparency around automated decision making and human review requirements
- Emerging guidance from privacy regulators on responsible use of AI

Presented by **Suzy McMillan**, Special Counsel, Minter Ellison Rudd Watts; Recognised in *Chambers Asia-Pacific,* Technology, Media & Telecommunications

CYBERSECURITY LITIGATION, REGULATORY INVESTIGATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT AFTER A DATA BREACH

- Responding to investigations following cyber incidents and privacy breaches
- The powers and expectations of privacy, cybersecurity and sector regulators
- Managing legal professional privilege during cyber incident investigations
- Regulatory enforcement pathways, penalties and other consequences
- Third-party claims, class actions and contractual liability arising from breaches
- Lessons from recent cyber and data-breach enforcement activity and emerging litigation trends

Presented by **Tanya Wood**, Partner, Duncan Cotterill; Insurance, Cyber and Construction Disputes Specialist and **Dion Morley**, Senior Associate, Duncan Cotterill; Selected Participant, Global Insurance Law Connect Academy 2025

About your presenters

Edwin Lim is a partner at Hudson Gavin Martin, a boutique technology, media and intellectual property law firm. Ed's main areas of practice are technology and IP development, commercialisation, protection and procurement. Ed has worked with businesses across various industry sectors (both customers and vendors) and has numerous clients offering SaaS solutions. In addition to his law degree, he has a degree majoring in Information Systems, so understands the technical, business and legal issues involved in technology projects. Ed is a committee member of the Auckland District Law Society Technology Law Committee, and is the Secretary of the NZ Middle East Business Council.

Suzy McMillan is a commercial and technology lawyer with specialist expertise in privacy and data protection law. She regularly advises clients on their compliance obligations under data protection law, including managing and responding to data breaches, drafting privacy policies, data transfer agreements, privacy impact assessments, direct marketing permissions, and helping clients navigate individual privacy requests and complaints. Suzy is also an Executive Council Member of Digital Identity New Zealand.

Tanya Wood is a Partner at Duncan Cotterill and a leading disputes lawyer specialising in insurance, cyber, construction and commercial litigation. With more than 20 years' experience advising insurers, brokers and commercial clients, she is recognised for her expertise in complex civil claims, cybersecurity incidents, construction disputes, professional indemnity matters and insurance coverage issues. She has extensive experience advising insurers on policy coverage issues and has developed a reputation for providing practical, commercially focused advice in high pressure situations. Before joining Duncan Cotterill, Tanya advised insurers impacted by the Christchurch earthquakes and worked on some of New Zealand's largest and most complex insurance claims. Her experience in large scale disaster related litigation continues to inform her work advising clients on risk management, dispute resolution and claims strategy. Tanya is a contributor to the Chambers and Partners Global Practice Guide: Insurance & Reinsurance Law and Practice in New Zealand.

Dion Morley is a Senior Associate in the litigation and dispute resolution team at Duncan Cotterill. He specialises in cyber, insurance, construction, financial regulatory litigation and commercial disputes, and advises clients across a broad range of contentious and risk management matters. Dion has extensive experience acting for insurers in cyber breach response matters, including breach counsel engagements, technology claims, recoveries and policy coverage advice. Alongside Partner Tanya Wood, he helps manage a 24/7 cyber incident response hotline for a New Zealand insurer, providing urgent legal support to organisations responding to cybersecurity incidents. Dion is actively involved in technology and innovation initiatives within the firm and is a member of Duncan Cotterill's AI implementation group, where he assists in evaluating emerging legal technologies and their practical applications. In 2025, Dion was selected as one of six emerging insurance lawyers worldwide to participate in the inaugural Global Insurance Law Connect Academy, recognising his growing reputation in insurance law.

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **3 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Gain tips to apply best practice when procuring AI safely including contracts clauses vendor risk and liability
- Understand the issues in AI and privacy including legal obligations and emerging risks
- Navigate cybersecurity litigation, regulatory investigations and enforcement after a data breach

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HYBRID

CONTRACT LAW CONFERENCE 2027

WEDNESDAY, 17 MARCH 2027
9.00AM TO 5.15PM

$690
273NZA16

★ **RYDGES AUCKLAND, 59 FEDERAL STREET**

Draft with confidence. Negotiate with purpose. Be ready when disputes arise. Designed for commercial lawyers who work with contracts, this conference brings together practical insights across drafting, negotiation and dispute resolution. Sharpen your approach to warranties, indemnities and liability caps, strengthen essential clauses, and navigate the challenges of technology and AI contracts. Explore key case law developments, contractual interpretation, and ADR and arbitration strategies to help protect clients' interests and manage commercial risk. Invest in your practice with a focused day of learning from the experience of experts.

SESSION 1: DRAFTING CONTRACTS: AVOID RISKING, ENSURING RIGHTS AND DEALING WITH TECHNOLOGY

9.00AM TO 1.15PM | 273NZA16A | $420

Chair: **Karen Ngan**, Partner, Simpson Grierson

NEGOTIATING AND DRAFTING FOR RISK IN COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS: WARRANTIES, INDEMNITIES AND LIABILITY CAPS

- Allocating contractual risk through warranties, indemnities and liability caps
- Negotiating the scope and limits of warranties and indemnities
- Drafting effective exclusions, limitations and caps on liability
- Common pitfalls and practical approaches to managing commercial risk

Presented by **Sean Brogan**, Special Counsel, McVeagh Fleming

CONTRACT NEGOTIATION AND ESSENTIAL CLAUSES: A LITIGATORS GUIDE TO CREATING VALUE AND ENSURING YOUR RIGHTS

- Intention to be bound – the importance of "subject to contract" language
- Certainty of terms – agreements to agree and objective criteria
- Exclusion and limitation clauses – the approach to interpretation
- Unenforceable penalties – the fundamentals and guidance from overseas

Presented by **Alex Church**, Senior Associate, MinterEllisonRuddWatts

PRACTICAL CONTRACTING TIPS FOR TECHNOLOGY CONTRACTS: DEMYSTIFYING A FAST-MOVING LANDSCAPE

- Common contract issues that arise when technology is involved – think software, SaaS, AI, data, privacy, IP, and everything in between
- Practical tips for drafting and negotiating tech and data terms
- Balancing legal risk with commercial pragmatism in tech deals

Presented by **Ashleigh Ooi**, Senior Associate, Dentons

SHARPER CONTRACT DRAFTING: PRACTICAL TECHNIQUES AND THE ROLE OF AI

A practical session on improving commercial contracts, using AI to support drafting, review and stress-testing:

- Translating instructions and term sheets into clear commitments; identifying who must do what, by when, and to what standard; using AI to expose gaps and assumptions
- Finding what is missing - and what does not fit: checking definitions, cross-references, document hierarchy and inconsistent provisions; using AI to test how clauses interact across the agreement
- Making risk allocation work as a whole: aligning warranties, indemnities, exclusions, liability caps and remedies
- Drafting for when things change or go wrong: using AI to challenge whether the drafting produces the intended outcome
- Improving the language without changing the bargain: simplifying dense clauses, removing ambiguity and adapting precedents

Presented by **Mark Allen**, Special Counsel, Anthony Harper

SESSION 2: NAVIGATING CONTRACTUAL DISPUTES: THE CASES, THE INTERPRETATION AND ADR

2.00PM TO 5.15PM | 273NZA16B | $345

Chair: **Mark Davies**, Barrister, Richmond Chambers

CASE LAW UPDATE

Explore key developments in contract case law and their practical implications.

Presented by **Desley Horton**, Barrister, Shortland Chambers; Leading Commercial Litigation & Dispute Resolution Junior Counsel, New Zealand *Doyle's Guide*

CONTRACTUAL INTERPRETATION

- Key principles and recent developments in contractual interpretation
- Navigating ambiguity, context and commercial purpose

Presented by **Colin Hunter**, Senior Associate, Hesketh Henry; Leading Associate; Leading Associate, *Legal 500 AsiaPacific*

ADR AND ARBITRATION

- Drafting dispute resolution clauses: what to consider at the outset
- Choosing the right forum: litigation, mediation, expert determination or arbitration?
- Managing disputes when they arise: timing, internal stakeholders and preserving commercial relationships
- Do your clauses work? Recent case law on the enforceability of dispute resolution and arbitration agreements

Presented by **Julia Carlyon**, Barrister, Richmond Chambers

> *"Great advice when drafting contract provisions"*

> *"Definitely learned more about cartel issues"*

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **7 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Navigate drafting and negotiating warranties, indemnities and liability caps to manage commercial contract risk
- Examine drafting essentials for contract clauses to create value and protect rights
- Apply practical drafting strategies to technology contracts
- Identify key developments in contract case law and their practical implications
- Examine contractual interpretation and its implications for contract disputes
- Explore ADR and arbitration options for resolving contractual disputes

AUCKLAND EDUCATION LAW CONFERENCE 2027: EMPOWERING SCHOOL LEADERS

HYBRID

WEDNESDAY, 17 MARCH 2027
9.00AM TO 5.15PM

$690
273NZA15

★ **RYDGES AUCKLAND, 59 FEDERAL STREET**

Take control of the legal and governance challenges facing your school at the Auckland Education Law Conference 2027. You will gain practical guidance on education law, student rights and discipline and handling parental conflict.Delve into the essential issues of school privacy obligations, access to information and the Education Review Office (ERO) priorities plus the Principal and Board responsibilities.Navigate through concerns in performance management and social media together with the experts. Walk away with clearer answers, practical strategies and greater confidence to manage legal risk, make defensible decisions, respond to difficult situations and strengthen governance in your school. Designed for New Zealand principals, school leaders and board members, this conference will help you protect your students, staff and school while meeting your legal and regulatory responsibilities.

SESSION 1: NAVIGATING STUDENT RIGHTS, PARENTAL CONFLICT, PRIVACY EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE

9.00AM TO 1.15PM 273NZA15A $420

Chair: **David Graham**, Principal, Goodwood School

STUDENT RIGHTS AND DISCIPLINE

- Managing student complaints and discipline in an increasingly litigious environment
- Balancing the rights of children who are neurodivergent and have challenging behaviour - with those of other learners and staff
- Managing conflicting, or unreasonable, parental expectations

Presented by **Rachael Judge**, Partner, Simpson Grierson; Employment Law Specialist

NAVIGATING PARENTAL CONFLICT IN SCHOOLS

- Navigate through the key provisions of the Care of Children Act 2004 and Family Violence Act 2018, particularly guardianship, parenting orders, parental rights, protection orders and safeguarding considerations
- Examine practical real-life scenarios involving educators, identify early warning signs, considering your responses, and explore different approaches
- Develop strategies for managing parental conflict, maintaining professional boundaries and avoiding unnecessary escalation
- Build your own checklist throughout to compare these with the practical framework provided

Presented by **Bernice Henry**, Director, Trinity Legal Ltd; Family Law Specialist

GETTING PRIVACY RIGHT: COLLECTION, RETENTION, ACCESS AND MANAGING OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT (OIA) REQUESTS

- Managing the collection and use of personal information in a school environment
- Understanding retention and record-keeping obligations, including when information should be retained or disposed of
- Responding appropriately to requests for access to information, including OIA requests, navigating privacy considerations and competing interests

Presented by **Leo Donnelly ONZM**, Barrister, Education Law NZ

KO TE TAMAITI TE PŪTAKE O TE KAUPAPA | THE CHILD - THE HEART OF THE MATTER

A practical look at Education Review Office's purpose, priorities, and processes, and what this means for schools.

Presented by **Shelley Booysen**, Deputy Chief Executive, Review and Improvement Schools , Education Review Office

SESSION 2: SOCIAL MEDIA LAW, PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND PRINCIPAL/BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

2.00PM TO 5.15PM 273NZA15B $345

SOCIAL MEDIA AND SCHOOLS – ADVANTAGES, OBLIGATIONS, AND POTENTIAL TRAPS

Looking at social media's use in, at, around, and by schools:

- How/when schools can use social media
- Online harm caused by students
- What a proposed ban may do
- Keeping an eye on what your students can do

Presented by **Arran Hunt**, Partner, Lane Neave; Social Media Law Specialist

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR

- What is the difference between performance, misconduct and serious misconduct?
- What needs to happen before a formal process commences.
- What does a formal process look like?
- Common hurdles for schools

Presented by **Fiona McMillan**, Partner, Lane Neave; Employment Law Specialist

PRINCIPAL AND BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

Understand where principal and board responsibilities begin and end, and how to manage the governance relationship effectively while reducing legal and operational risk

Presented by **Andrea Twaddle**, Director, DTI Lawyers; Employment Law Specialist and Workplace Investigator

> ***Interesting kōrero – lots of reinforcement of good practice with an contemporary focus***
>
> ***Highly effective presentations***

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **7 PLD/CPD HOURS**

★ **This Conference is included in the Te Mahere Whanake Tumuaki Principal Development Plan list of Courses and Programmes on the Education Workforce website.**

Learning Objectives:

- **Apply New Zealand education law to manage student rights, school discipline, neurodivergent and challenging behaviour, student complaints and parental expectations**
- **Recognise and respond appropriately to child protection and neglect concerns in New Zealand schools**
- **Develop practical strategies for navigating parental conflicts in Schools**
- **Understand school privacy obligations for collecting, using, retaining, disposing of and providing access to personal information**
- **Examine Education Review Office (ERO) priorities, review processes and their practical implications for New Zealand schools**

Learning Objectives:

- **Explain the legal and governance responsibilities of New Zealand school principals and boards and how they work together to support effective school governance**
- **Differentiate performance issues, misconduct and serious misconduct and apply a fair performance management process in a school setting**
- **Assess the legal, compliance and governance risks of social media use in schools and identify practical management strategies**

THE IMMIGRATION LAW SYMPOSIUM 2027

HYBRID

THURSDAY, 18 MARCH 2027
9.00AM TO 5.15PM

$690
273NZA17

★ **RYDGES AUCKLAND, 59 FEDERAL STREET**

Your clients' futures depend on the advice you give. Take advantage of the standout opportunity to hear directly from Debra Smallholme, Deputy Chair of the Immigration and Protection Tribunal. Gain valuable insights into Tribunal processes, case management and expectations of representatives and bring a sharper focus to your evidence, submissions and hearing preparation. From skilled visas and business migration to deportation appeals, employer compliance and complex medical matters, put the issues that shape your practice under the spotlight. Explore how to build a defensible AI workflow without compromising client confidentiality or professional judgment. Gain more than just updates: invest in clearer strategy, stronger preparation and greater confidence in your next client matter.

SESSION 1: VISA APPLICATIONS AND APPEALS

9.00AM TO 1.15PM	273NZA17A	$420

Chair: **Marcus Beveridge**, Managing Director, Queen City Law

NAVIGATING SKILLED MIGRATION CATEGORY RESIDENCE APPLICATIONS

Presented by **Sonny Lam**, Consultant, Queen City Law; Former Immigration New Zealand Officer

NEW ZEALAND'S GOLDEN VISA AND BUSINESS MIGRATION IN PRACTICE: OPPORTUNITIES, RISKS AND REALITY

- Active Investor Plus after reform
- Business migration beyond AIP: outcomes in practice
- Where investor applicants are encountering difficulty
- Overseas investment and immigration overlap
- Structuring investment applications and acceptable investments beyond managed funds
- Practical problems seen in applications
- Commercial and immigration due diligence
- What business lawyers need to know when immigration intersects with transactions

Presented by **Bradley So**, Director, Queen City Law and **Matthew Harrington**, Lawyer, Queen City Law

IPT RESIDENT DEPORTATION APPEALS

- Grounds for resident deportation
- Recent changes to deportation liability
- IPT appeal options
- Humanitarian appeals
- Practical tips for representation

Presented by **Pooja Sundar**, Partner, Dalley Sundar

IPT CURRENT PROCESS AND TRENDS

- Recent appeal volumes and trends
- Current timeframes for determining appeals
- The growing role of online filing and IPT case management
- Requests for priority and adjournments and managing changes of circumstances
- Issues-based focus in addressing evidence and submissions
- The value of and expectation at case management conferences
- AI-related considerations
- Practical tips for appearing before the Tribunal in 2027

Presented by **Debra Smallholme**, Deputy Chair, Immigration and Protection Tribunal

SESSION 2: IMMIGRATION LAW AND MANAGING MEDICAL MATTERS, EMPLOYMENT LAW AND USING AI IN YOUR PRACTICE

2.00PM TO 5.15PM	273NZA17B	$345

Chair: **Lauren Qiu**, Principal, Stay Legal; Specialist Immigration Lawyer

THE IMMIGRATION AND EMPLOYMENT LAW CROSSOVER: AEWV, COMPLIANCE AND EMPLOYER RISK

- Information to help identify the risk of migrant exploitation, immigration breaches and employment disputes involving visa holders
- Practical tips for addressing employer compliance and infringement offences
- Case examples and guidance to help navigate employment and immigration issues

Presented by **Shi Sheng (Shoosh) Cai**, Partner, Ashcroft Mitchell McGregor

MANAGING MEDICAL MATTERS IN IMMIGRATION: AN UPDATE WITH A FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS, AUTOIMMUNE CONDITIONS AND CARDIAC ISSUES

- Proactive management to set the best position
- Medical strategy
- Medical waiver requests
- Protecting future options and appeal grounds

Presented by **Charlotte Summers**, Enrolled Barrister and Solicitor; Operations Manager & IAA Licensed Immigration Adviser; Pathways to New Zealand

AI IN IMMIGRATION PRACTICE 2.0: BUILDING A DEFENSIBLE WORKFLOW

- Moving from experimentation to structured AI use across intake, research, drafting, document review and file management
- Protecting client information and maintaining human judgment, verification and accountability in high-stakes immigration work
- Building proportionate safeguards for tool selection, supervision, client communication and review of AI-assisted output

Presented by **Deborah Manning**, Barrister, Senior Lecturer, AUT University School of Law, Director of the Good Practice Company

> ***"Great explanation on the connection between immigration and employment law"***

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **7 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Develop practical strategies for navigating skilled migration category residence applications
- Evaluate and strengthen your abilities in relation to the golden visa and business migration options
- Strengthen your approach to IPT resident deportation appeals
- Understand IPT current process and trends to refine your appeal preparation and representation
- Navigate the immigration and employment law crossover including compliance and employer risk
- Navigate medical matters in immigration law and implications of mental health, developmental disorders, autoimmune conditions and cardiac issues
- Examine practical safeguards relating to AI and building a defensible workflows

HYBRID

10 CPD HOURS IN ONE DAY: ESSENTIAL UPDATES FOR ALL LAWYERS

THURSDAY, 18 MARCH 2027
7.30AM TO 6.30PM

$990
273NZA18

★ **RYDGES AUCKLAND, 59 FEDERAL STREET**

One day. 10 CPD hours. 10 essential updates. Sharpen your advice and strengthen your practice with practical guidance on the issues that matter to your clients in 2027. Get up to speed on family law, property transactions and development disputes, and estate planning and succession risks. Focus on the ethical challenges of AI, recognise warning signs of capacity, duress and undue influence, and strengthen your negotiation and dispute resolution skills. Build confidence in your business advice: navigate AI, privacy and technology risks, explore health and safety reform, business structures, shareholder agreements and employment law. You'll leave with practical strategies to manage the risks, guidance from the experience of experts and the ability to advise your clients with greater confidence. Earn 10 CPD hours in one day or choose the sessions that matter most to you.

SESSION 1: FAMILY, WILLS AND PROPERTY LAW UPDATES

7.30 -10.30AM | 273NZA18A | $345

Chair: **John Billington KC**, Shortland Chambers, Band 3, Dispute Resolution: The Bar, *Chambers Asia-Pacific* 2026; Best Lawyers' Auckland Criminal Defence "*Lawyer of the Year*" 2025 and 2022

FAMILY LAW UPDATE 2027: THE CASES AND PRACTICE DEVELOPMENTS LAWYERS NEED TO KNOW

This presentation will provide you with an update on key notable family law cases that any practitioner, whether a family law specialist or general practitioner, needs to be aware of. You will also explore practice developments that can assist those working in the family law space, including better use of tools such as OurFamilyWizard, Dispute Buddy and AI-based applications for transcription, note-taking and task summaries.

Presented by **Genevieve Haszard**, Barrister, Kate Sheppard Chambers

PROPERTY TRANSACTION AND DEVELOPMENT DISPUTES: UNIT TITLES, DISCLOSURE AND PERFORMANCE RISK

- Unit title disclosure issues
- Due diligence and warranty issues
- Performance risks and practical remedies

Presented by **Thomas Gibbons**, Director, Thomas Gibbons Law, Recipient, RMLA Publications Award 2025

WHEN SUCCESSION PLANNING FAILS: ESTATE DISPUTES AND LESSONS FOR ADVISERS

- Disputes arising where succession planning is absent, incomplete or ineffective
- Common planning failures involving wills, trusts, family assets and competing expectations
- Practical lessons from litigation that advisers can apply when identifying risk and documenting client intentions

Presented by **Sally Morris**, Partner, Morris Legal; Leading Trusts and Estates Litigation Lawyer and Leading Family and Relationship Property Lawyer, Doyle's Guide 2026

SESSION 2: NAVIGATING ETHICAL USE OF AI FOR LAWYERS, CLIENT CAPACITY CONCERNS AND ADR SKILLS

10.45AM – 1.45PM | 273NZA18B | $345

Chair: **Alex Penk**, CEO, Ethos Alliance

AI AND ETHICAL RISKS FOR LEGAL PRACTITIONERS

- Identifying the ethical risks in relation to AI
- Accountability and what it means in the age of AI
- Data security, confidentiality and legal privilege
- IP: who owns the outputs of AI?

Presented by **Mike Moyes**, Partner, Duncan Cotterill; Chambers Asia-Pacific Ranked Lawyer for IP and TMT 2026

SPOTTING CAPACITY, DURESS AND UNDUE INFLUENCE ISSUES

- Identify key warning signs of capacity issues, duress and undue influence
- Learn practical steps to manage risk and protect a client's intentions and independent decision making
- Understand what to look for when instructions raise concerns or red flags

Presented by **Alison Gilbert**, Partner and **Caroline Reynolds**, Senior Solicitor, Brookfields Lawyers

ADR: DISPUTE AVOIDANCE OR LITIGATION SETTLEMENT

- Has contract negotiation become a contest of wills?
- *Pacta sunt servanda* v the civil law concept of change in circumstance
- How does ADR help, or is mediation simply litigation settlement?

Presented by **John Walton**, Barrister, Arbitrator, Mediator, Bankside Chambers

ATTEND THE FULL DAY PROGRAM
OR CHOOSE ONLY THE SESSIONS MOST RELEVANT TO YOU

10 CPD HOURS IN ONE DAY: ESSENTIAL UPDATES FOR ALL LAWYERS (CONTD)

HYBRID

THURSDAY, 18 MARCH 2027
7.30AM TO 6.30PM

$990
273NZA18

★ **RYDGES AUCKLAND, 59 FEDERAL STREET**

SESSION 3: BUSINESS ADVISORY: AI, PRIVACY, WHS REFORM, EMPLOYMENT LAW, BUSINESS STRUCTURES AND SHAREHOLDER AGREEMENTS

2.15 – 6.30PM 273NZA18C $420

Chair: **Joe Edwards**, Partner, Russell McVeagh; Recommended Technology, Media and Telecommunications Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2026

RESPONSIBLE USE OF AI: ACHIEVING THE BALANCE IN LEGAL RISK AND REWARD

- High-level commercial, legal and regulatory risks arising from the use of AI
- Managing the risks contractually and through organisational measures
- Key things for lawyers to watch out for and how to respond when something goes wrong

Presented by **Güneş Haksever**, Senior Associate, Innovation and Technology, Dentons New Zealand

HEALTH AND SAFETY REFORM FROM 1 APRIL 2027: UNDERSTANDING THE NEW FRAMEWORK AND PREPARING YOUR CLIENTS

- An overview of the key amendments and what they will mean in practice for businesses
- What should lawyers be asking their clients now? Practical steps to review existing arrangements, identify gaps and prepare for the changes from 1 April 2027

Presented by **Sanja Marin**, Senior Associate, Employment & Work Health and Safety Law Rising Star, *Doyle's Guide* 2026 and **Holly Kerr**, Solicitor, Duncan Cotterill

BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS UNDER PRESSURE: MITIGATING RISK AND THE ROLE OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- Advising clients and directors when business relationships begin to break down, including shareholder and co-director disputes
- Understanding the options available when a company is in financial distress, including compromises, voluntary administration and alternatives to liquidation
- Managing director exposure, preserving available options and using dispute-resolution processes to contain risk and avoid further escalation

Presented by **Kishen Kommu**, Barrister, FortyEight Shortland Barristers

EMPLOYMENT LAW IN 2027: KEY DEVELOPMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR BUSINESS ADVISERS

- The employment law landscape in 2027: key legislative and case law developments
- Employment obligations on the sale and purchase of businesses: key employment considerations for transactions, including due diligence, employee transfer obligations, vulnerable employees, and redundancy
- Employment law 101 for employers: the key requirements for employers and when they might need specialist advice

Presented by **AJ Lodge**, Partner, Anderson Lloyd; Elite Woman 2026, NZ Lawyer; Recommended Labour, Employment and Benefits Lawyer, *Lexology Index* 2026

> ***A really good overview of this mine field topic. I enjoyed the honest and open discussion***

> ***The materials with all the relevant case materials set out and summarised were very useful***

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **10 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Gain a general update on family law developments from the last 12 months
- Better understand property transaction and development disputes including unit titles, disclosure and performance risk
- Examine estate planning and succession risks through the cases of the last 12 months
- Be more informed on AI and ethical risks in legal practice
- Explore capacity, duress and undue influence issues in vulnerable and other clients
- Develop practical skills in negotiations and dispute resolution
- Identify emerging issues and risks in AI, privacy and technology risk to advise with more depth of understanding
- Analyse the new health and safety laws and their implications for clients
- Build confidence in advising on business structures and drafting shareholder agreements for entry, exit and disputes
- Examine key employment law developments over the last 12 months

★ 12TH ANNUAL

HYBRID

IN-HOUSE COUNSEL CONFERENCE: NAVIGATING RISKS, REFORM AND REGULATION

FRIDAY, 19 MARCH 2027
9.00AM TO 5.15PM

$690
273NZA19

★ **RYDGES AUCKLAND, 59 FEDERAL STREET**

See the risk. Strengthen governance. Advise with confidence. Your business needs more than a legal answer. It needs a clear way forward. Designed for in-house counsel, this conference puts risk, reform and regulation in a practical commercial context, helping you ask the right questions, strengthen governance and deliver advice that supports confident decisions. From contractual risk and workplace law to psychosocial hazards and privacy, explore the issues that belong on your radar and your organisation's agenda. Bring digital risk and governance into sharp focus. Explore what separates a well-managed AI rollout from a costly misstep and examine the regulatory risks behind AI-assisted decisions. Put cyber preparedness front and centre: how should your organisation prepare, and what needs to happen in the first 72 hours of an incident? With cyber risks and potential claims firmly in focus, this is your opportunity to connect legal advice, governance and incident readiness before decisions have to be made under pressure.

SESSION 1: MANAGING RISKS AND REFORM: CONTRACTS, WORKPLACE LAW, PSYCHOSOCIAL HAZARDS AND PRIVACY

9.00AM TO 1.15PM | 273NZA19A | $420

Chair: **Rosemary Wooders**, Partner, Bell Gully

CONTRACTUAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Presented by **Dr Maria Pozza**, Director – Lawyer, Gravity Lawyers

WORKPLACE LAW: WHAT'S ON THE RADAR FOR 2027

A forward-looking session to highlight anticipated legislative changes, trends, and strategic considerations for employers.

- Legislation that has passed, is in progress, or has been signalled
- Key developments and trends in this space including in terms of claims
- Practical guidance to help employers stay competitive and manage risk and compliance in today's evolving business landscape

Presented by **Kate Ashcroft**, Partner, Ashcroft Mitchell McGregor

WHS AND PSYCHOSOCIAL HAZARDS

- The evolving WHS framework for psychosocial hazards and what it means for in-house counsel
- Identifying and managing psychosocial risks across the organisation
- Advising on complaints, investigations and competing employment and WHS obligations
- Managing legal, regulatory and reputational risk when psychosocial issues arise
- Practical strategies for governance, documentation and working effectively with HR and senior management

Presented by **Sanja Marin**, Senior Associate, Duncan Cotterill

NAVIGATING PRIVACY

Presented by **Dr Maria Pozza**, Director – Lawyer, Gravity Lawyers

SESSION 2: DIGITAL RISKS, LIABILITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR IN-HOUSE COUNSEL

2.00PM TO 5.15PM | 273NZA19B | $345

Chair: **Louise Taylor**, Special Counsel, Russell McVeagh

A TALE OF TWO ROLLOUTS: THE SAME AI TOOL, DONE WELL AND DONE BADLY

- I take one integration from the first vendor demo through to go live, and run it twice: once where it holds up, and once where it doesn't
- What to settle before anyone signs, covering the contract terms that matter for AI, the vendor's security, the sub-processors sitting behind the tool, where the data goes and whether it trains the model
- The privacy work that runs alongside it, including a privacy impact assessment scaled to the risk, data minimisation, and the changes the tool forces in your privacy policy, collection notices and customer terms
- What real transparency looks like to customers and staff, and what it costs to put right once the tool is already live

Presented by **Rachel O'Brien**, Director, O'Brien Legal

AI REGULATION IN NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand has no AI-specific legislation, and none is imminent. That does not leave AI unregulated. Existing law already applies to it, often in ways organisations have not anticipated. Examine the regulatory risks AI creates for organisations, and what in-house counsel should be watching in 2027, including:

- Copyright: who owns AI-generated material, and the risks of models trained on third-party works
- Consumer law: Fair Trading Act exposure from overstated AI claims and chatbot representations
- Explainability: what organisations should be able to explain about AI-assisted decisions (particularly when relying on decisions in a regulated context)
- Bias: liability for discriminatory automated decisions
- Overseas frameworks: the potential reach of the EU AI Act and other reforms into New Zealand

Presented by **Richard Massey**, Partner, Bell Gully

HOW TO PREPARE FOR AND THE FIRST 72 HOURS OF A CYBER INCIDENT: PANEL DISCUSSION

- Preparing before an incident: response plans, roles, escalation pathways and readiness
- The first 72 hours: key priorities, critical decisions and common pressure points
- Coordinating the technical, legal and business response as the incident unfolds
- Managing communications, regulatory obligations and key stakeholders
- Practical lessons from incident response: common mistakes and what organisations can do better

Panellists
Campbell McKenzie, Director, Incident Response Solutions
Mark Anderson, Partner, Martelli McKegg Lawyers

> *"Great regulatory updates"*

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN 7 CPD HOURS

Learning Objectives:

- Identify and manage contractual risks
- Assess workplace law developments for the coming year
- Examine the reforms relating to work health & safety and psychosocial hazards to be able to implement them and understand the implications
- Navigate governance requirements, privacy assessment processes and enforcement risks
- Distinguish effective AI rollout practices from approaches that create avoidable risk
- Understand the regulatory landscape for AI, governance needs and enforcement risks
- Identify the steps to prepare for a cyber breach incident and the priorities for the first 72 hours post breach

★ 10TH ANNUAL

THE CRIMINAL LAW SUMMIT 2027

HYBRID

FRIDAY, 19 MARCH 2027
9.00AM TO 5.15PM

$690
273NZA20

★ **RYDGES AUCKLAND, 59 FEDERAL STREET**

Join experienced New Zealand advocates for an advanced, practical update on the issues shaping criminal practice in 2027. Hear directly from Her Honour Judge Claire Ryan for a view from the Bench, examine significant Supreme Court and Court of Appeal decisions, and explore developments in opinion and expert evidence and counterintuitive evidence in sexual violence cases. Gain insights into sentencing law, criminal proceeds recovery and the perspectives of both prosecution and defence. With contributions from KCs, appellate advocates, Crown prosecutors and defence practitioners, take away practical guidance to strengthen your case preparation, trial strategy, sentencing submissions and courtroom advocacy.

SESSION 1: A VIEW FROM THE BENCH, RECENT CASE LAW AND EVIDENCE IN CRIMINAL LAW

9.00AM TO 1.15PM 273NZA20A $420

Chair: **John Munro**, Barrister, Sentinel Chambers

A VIEW FROM THE BENCH

Her Honour Judge Claire Ryan will share a judicial perspective on contemporary criminal practice and the matters practitioners should keep in view when appearing before the courts. Her Honour remains listed as an Auckland District Court Judge working across general, jury and youth jurisdictions.

Presented by **Her Honour Judge Claire Ryan**

CRIMINAL LAW UPDATE 2027: THE CASES INFLUENCING CRIMINAL PRACTICE

- Key Supreme Court and Court of Appeal criminal decisions
- Evidence and procedural developments
- Practical consequences for defence and prosecution
- Issues practitioners are likely to encounter in criminal litigation in 2027

Presented by **Robin McCoubrey**, Barrister, Richmond Chambers

OPINION AND EXPERT EVIDENCE: AN UPDATE

- Recent developments in opinion and expert evidence
- Admissibility, scope and use of opinion and expert evidence
- Key issues arising in the preparation and presentation of expert evidence
- Practical considerations when testing and challenging opinion and expert evidence

Presented by **Todd Simmonds KC**, Barrister

COUNTERINTUITIVE EVIDENCE IN SEXUAL VIOLENCE CASES: ADVOCACY, CREDIBILITY AND TRIAL STRATEGY AFTER THE RECENT REFORMS

- What is counterintuitive evidence and how should it be presented in the wake of recent Supreme Court commentary
- How trial judges are addressing misconceptions in sexual violence and domestic violence trials
- Practical implications for prosecution and defence case strategy
- Jury directions, evidential foundations and appellate risk

Panellists:
Fiona Culliney, Partner, Meredith Connell
Anoushka Bloem, Director, Bloem Law; Recommended Leading Criminal Defence Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2026

SESSION 2: SENTENCING, CRIMINAL PROCEEDS AND PROSECUTION AND DEFENCE PERSPECTIVES

2.00PM TO 5.15PM 273NZA20B $345

Chair: **Samira Taghavi**, Barrister and Practice Manager, ActiveLegal; Vice President, The Law Association of New Zealand

SENTENCING LAW UPDATE

- Recent legislative developments and reforms affecting sentencing law
- Recent case law and evolving sentencing principles
- Current and emerging issues arising in sentencing practice
- Practical implications for sentencing submissions and advocacy

Presented by **Annabel Maxwell-Scott KC**, King's Counsel, Sentinel Chambers; Recommended Leading Criminal Defence Lawyers, *Doyle's Guide* 2026

CRIMINAL PROCEEDS RECOVERY: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND EMERGING TRENDS

- Overview of the CPRA - key concepts
- Search powers under the CPRA – update
- The CPRA's relief jurisdiction - how the CPRA provides for the interests of non-respondents
- Money laundering as significant criminal activity – emerging trends
- Broader strategy and policy context of the CPRA

Presented by **Stephanie Earl**, Partner, Meredith Connell and **Erandi Rangamuwa**, Senior Associate, Meredith Connell

CRIMINAL LAW AND PRACTICE: PERSPECTIVES FROM PROSECUTION AND DEFENCE

Drawing on his experience acting for both the prosecution and defence, Sam Teppett's session will draw on that practical experience to explore an area of criminal law and practice of particular relevance to practitioners in 2027

Presented by **Sam Teppett**, Barrister, Sam Teppett Barrister; Atlas Chambers; Recommended Leading Criminal Defence Lawyers, *Doyle's Guide* 2026

ATTEND THE FULL DAY AND EARN **7 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Hear directly from the Bench on the issues and concerns of the Bench
- Examine the cases influencing criminal practice from the last 12 months
- Assess recent developments in preparation and presentation of opinion and expert evidence
- Evaluate the implications of counterintuitive evidence in sexual violence cases for advocacy, credibility and trial strategy after the recent reforms
- Review developments in sentencing law and the iimplications for sentencing submissions and advocacy
- Examine recent developments and emerging trends in criminal proceeds recovery
- Apply prosecution and defence perspectives to criminal law and practice

CARE OF CHILDREN: LATEST ISSUES AND PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS

ONLINE ONLY

FRIDAY, 19 MARCH 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB273NZA21

Build your confidence in navigating the complex and evolving issues arising in Care of Children matters. This practical programme together with expert and experienced family law specialists you will tackle some of the most challenging issues - from family violence, coercive control and children's participation to complex wardship, trauma-informed practice and child contact reluctance. Explore practical approaches to difficult COCA matters and strengthen your practice when working with children and families in complex and high-conflict cases.

Chair: **David Amodeo**, Barrister, Albert Park Chambers

FAMILY VIOLENCE, COERCIVE CONTROL, LITIGATION ABUSE ANDALTERNATIVE EVIDENCE – REFORMS IN 2026

- Patterns of coercive control and litigation abuse in family law proceedings
- Examining changes to the law in 2026, including reforms to alternative evidence
- How these developments may affect the way family violence cases are approached

Presented by **Minka Boddé**, Special Counsel – Family, Aspiring Law and **Ash Biggs**, Solicitor, Aspiring Law

CHILD CONTACT RELUCTANCE IN COCA AND CARE & PROTECTION CASES

- The weight given to the child's views: age, maturity, consistency, independence,lived experience
- Identifying the cause of reluctance: justified estrangement from parental influence, loyalty conflict
- Proportionate responses to resistance: supervised, staged, therapeutic, indirect, suspended or ceased contact
- Safety, permanency and identity

Presented by **Rosa Bellolio Roth**, Director, Lawyer for Child, Weston Ward & Lascelles and **Alex Meyer**, Solicitor, Weston Ward & Lascelles

WHEN WARDSHIP IS ALREADY IN PLACE: PRACTICAL ADVOCACY UNDER S 31 FOR FAMILY LAW PRACTITIONERS

- How to interpret s 31 wardship orders and the scope of the agent's powers
- Identify what remains open to challenge, negotiation and advocacy
- Seeking urgent directions when disputes arise under existing wardship orders
- Navigating placement, contact, medical and therapeutic decision-making
- Managing agency involvement, information-sharing and procedural control
- Developing effective advocacy strategies within highly managed Family Court proceedings

Presented by **Kristina Behn**, Barrister, Huia Legal

REFLECTIVE PRACTICE IN CARE OF CHILDREN MATTERS: A PANEL CONVERSATION

- Managing difficult or aggressive clients
- Maintaining reflective practice in a changing multi-cultural and religious landscape
- Your responsibility to recognise and respond appropriately to cultural diversity
- How to use the Family Court Rules to deal with tricky matters
- Dealing with potentially unethical evidence; challenging what your client gives you

Panellists
Minka Boddé, Special Counsel – Family, Aspiring Law
Rosa Bellolio Roth, Director, Lawyer for Child, Weston Ward & Lascelles
Chris Fogarty, Partner, Cameron & Co

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Examine recent developments affecting Care of Children practice, including family violence, coercive control and child participation
- Analyse complex guardianship and wardship issues under the Care of Children Act
- Review trauma-informed approaches to Care of Children matters
- Assess strategies for managing child contact reluctance in COCA and care and protection cases
- Evaluate reflective practice when working with challenging clients and culturally diverse families

EMPLOYMENT LAW IN PRACTICE: CHANGE, COMPLIANCE & LIABILITY

ONLINE ONLY

TUESDAY, 23 MARCH 2027 **$505**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB273NZA22

Gain practical strategies to manage employment law reform, reduce workplace risk and advise confidently on complex employment law issues. Examine the Employee Leave Act and the Health and Safety at Work Act reform alongside key developments in contractor relationships, the new contractor gateway test, restraints of trade, directors' personal liability, workplace bullying and harassment, workplace investigations and protected disclosures. Across four practical sessions, leading employment lawyers will guide you through the legal risks, implementation priorities and compliance steps for you to correctly advise your clients and Boards.

Chair: **John Farrow**, Partner, Anderson Lloyd; Recommended Employment Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2026

EMPLOYEE LEAVE ACT REFORM: ADVISING ON PAYROLL, AGREEMENTS, POLICIES AND IMPLEMENTATION

- Key concepts you need to know about
- Key dates and transitional periods
- The work ahead: what do you need to plan for across payroll, employment agreements and policies?

Presented by **Jim Roberts**, Partner, Hesketh Henry; Recommended Employment Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2026

PROTECTING A BUSINESS: CONTRACTOR RELATIONSHIPS, RESTRAINTS OF TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT LAW DEVELOPMENTS

- Contractors versus employees: understanding the new contractor gateway test, the continuing "real nature of the relationship" assessment and practical steps to minimise misclassification risk
- Restraints of trade: when are they enforceable, and how to withstand legal scrutiny
- Recent workplace law reforms: key changes affecting high-income earners, dismissal claims, employee misconduct, remedies and procedural fairness

Presented by **Blair Edwards**, Managing Partner; Recommended Employment Lawyer, *Doyle's Guide* 2026, and **Kate Fitz-John**, Senior Associate, Edwards Sluiters Employment Lawyers

DIRECTORS' RISKS AND LIABILITY IN EMPLOYMENT LAW REFORM AND MORE

- Personal liability for unpaid wages, holiday pay and other employee entitlements under the Employment Relations Act
- Personal liability under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- Practical scenarios and advising Boards on risk

Presented by **Kelly Rowell**, Special Counsel, and **Tanya Preston**, Senior Associate, BE Law

WORKPLACE CULTURE, BULLYING, HARASSMENT AND PROTECTED DISCLOSURES

- Recognising and responding to bullying and harassment: distinguishing inappropriate behaviour from reasonable management action and how to handle it
- Conducting workplace investigations including when an investigation may be appropriate and key considerations for ensuring a fair process
- Protected disclosures: when a concern may qualify as a protected disclosure, the protections available to those who speak up, and how to respond appropriately

Presented by **Julia Hurren**, Special Counsel and **Jonny Sanders**, Senior Associate, Duncan Cotterill

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Investigate in detail the employee leave act reform in relation to advising employers on payroll, agreements, policies and implementation
- Identify and manage legal risks arising from contractor arrangements, restraints of trade and workplace relationships.
- Recognise potential personal liability risks for directors and advise on appropriate risk management in employment law reform packages
- Examine workplace culture, bullying, harassment and protected disclosures requirements

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: CASES, AI, MĀTAURANGA MĀORI AND COMMERCIALISATION

ONLINE ONLY

WEDNESDAY, 24 MARCH 2027 **$420**
9.00AM TO 1.15PM WEB273NZA25

Intellectual property law is changing with the rapid transformation of the commercial world. AI is reshaping creation, ownership and commercial value faster than IP law can respond. Join leading New Zealand legal experts to gain guidance on AI and copyright risk, transaction due diligence, mātauranga Māori and cultural authenticity, plus an essential analysis of the key decisions affecting your future advice. Gain clear strategies to protect, commercialise and enforce IP with confidence.

Chair: **Richard Watts**, Partner and Head of IP/ICT National Practice Group, Simpson Grierson

AI, COPYRIGHT AND TEXT-AND-DATA MINING RISK: OWNERSHIP, TRAINING DATA AND CONTRACT CONTROLS

- Copyright implications of training data and text-and-data mining
- Vendor terms, licensing structures and allocation of AI-related risk
- Contractual protections and governance controls for AI adoption
- Practical considerations for businesses and advisers using AI tools

Presented by **Andrew Dentice**, Partner and **Caitlin Hadlee**, Special Counsel, Hudson Gavin Martin

IP DUE DILIGENCE FOR TRANSACTIONS: OWNERSHIP, CHAIN OF TITLE, OPEN SOURCE AND AI TOOLS

- Common gaps in IP ownership records and chain-of-title documentation identified
- AI-generated assets, provenance uncertainty, implications for warranties, risk allocation and transaction pricing
- Using AI tools to review high volumes of contracts while maintaining human oversight
- Open-source software, copyright ownership and specialist IP issues commonly missed
- Practical due diligence questions for future transactions

Presented by **Joseph Bracewell**, Special Counsel, Commercial Law Lead, AJ Park

MĀTAURANGA MĀORI, TRADEMARKS, GIS AND CULTURAL AUTHENTICITY: MANAGING BRAND AND REGISTRATION RISK

- What is Mātauranga Māori? Why should we protect Mātauranga Māori?
- How can certification trade marks and geographical indications help protect Mātauranga Māori and maintain cultural authenticity?
- Managing risks when adopting and using Māori trade marks

Presented by **Lynell Tuffery Huria**, Partner, Kāhui Legal

THE YEAR IN IP: BIG CASES, BIGGER LESSONS, RECENT DECISIONS - THE HITS, THE MISSES AND WHAT PRACTITIONERS NEED TO KNOW FOR 2027

Which cases made us laugh, which made us wince, and which should change the way we advise clients? A practical and probing look back at the year in intellectual property:

- Brand battles, trade mark missteps, what counts as genuine use and how far IP rights extend
- Explore the hits, the misses and the unexpected twists: focussing on clearance searches, brand protection, enforcement, evidence and litigation strategy
- What we might do differently tomorrow, and the risks and opportunities to watch

Presented by **Tania Goatley**, Partner, Tania Goatley Law

CLOSING PANEL: COMMERCIALISING AND ENFORCING IP IN 2027

Facilitator: **Richard Watts**, Simpson Grierson
Panel: **Tania Goatley; Lynell Tuffery Huria; Joseph Bracewell; Andrew Dentice; Caitlin Hadlee**

ATTEND AND EARN **4 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Assess AI-related copyright, ownership and text-and-data mining risks and implications
- Gain practical assistance with IP due diligence
- Evaluate options for protecting mātauranga Māori and cultural authenticity
- Gain an analysis of the past 12 months of IP decisions from courts and IPONZ
- Understand practical strategies for commercialising and enforcing IP

SUBDIVISION STRATEGIES INTENSIVE

ONLINE ONLY

WEDNESDAY 24 MARCH 2027 **$345**
2.00PM TO 5.15PM WEB273NZA23

Move your subdivision projects forward with confidence. Navigate changing planning requirements, resource management challenges and complex title arrangements with practical guidance you can put to work. Gain clarity on the new planning framework for land development, unpack key resource management and environmental considerations, and work through the subdivision process from consent to new titles. Explore how to get easements, covenants and infrastructure arrangements right from the outset and sharpen your strategies to spot issues early, avoid costly delays and keep projects moving.

Chair: **Denise Marsden**, Director, Alexander Dorrington Limited

KEY LAND DEVELOPMENT ASPECTS UNDER THE NEW PLANNING ACT

- Overview of new system
- The subdivision submissions on the new system and what has been carried through
- The changes to s104 and procedural principles
- Spatial planning and land use plans as they will relate to submissions

Presented by **Charlotte Muggeridge**, Partner, Harkness Henry

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES WHEN SUBDIVIDING

- Resource management matters that subdivision resource consent applications must address under the RMA
- Key resource management and environmental challenges that often need to be resolved in subdivision applications and through the subdivision process, with reference to fee simple residential, commercial/industrial and unit title developments
- How RM reform and the new Planning and Natural Environment Acts might impact future subdivision applications, and whether we are looking at a shift change or business as usual

Presented by **Phil Comer**, Technical Director- Planning, Harrison Grierson

SUBDIVISIONS: FROM CONSENT TO NEW TITLES

- Planning ahead: identifying legal requirements and potential issues early in the process
- Working together: working effectively with planners, surveyors, councils and third parties to avoid unnecessary delays
- Preparing for registration: practical guidance on Landonline workspace for subdivisions and drafting title instruments
- Avoiding common pitfalls: common requisitions and registration issues and how to prevent them

Presented by **Rebecca Kettle**, Partner, Harmans Lawyers

EASEMENTS AND COVENANTS IN NEW DEVELOPMENTS: GETTING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK RIGHT

- Designing and drafting easements and covenants for modern developments
- Common easements in fee simple townhouse subdivisions
- Managing privately owned assets and infrastructure
- Society covenants and encumbrances
- Avoiding ambiguity, disputes and long term issues through clear drafting
- Implementing Council consent conditions

Presented by **Kimberly Knox**, Director, Gaze Burt

ATTEND AND EARN **3 CPD HOURS**

Learning Objectives:

- Catch up on key land development aspects under the new Planning Act
- Receive practical guidance on resource management and environmental issues when subdividing
- Receive valuable practical strategies and insights on the process of subdivisions from consent to new titles
- Explore the legal framework for easements and covenants in new developments

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