

CHAIR



Dr Royden Somerville QC, Dunedin

Royden specialises in public and environmental law. He was appointed as a Queen's Counsel in 1998. He has served on a number of national and international professional organisations. He is a former lecturer in environmental law at the University of Otago. He chaired the Board of Inquiry into the Proposed National Policy Statement on Renewable Electricity Generation. He also chaired the Rena Fund Advisory Panel (Ministry of Transport) and currently chairs the Environmental Legal Assistance Fund Panel (Ministry for the Environment).

SPEAKERS



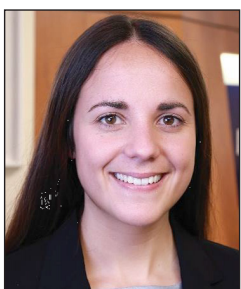
Heather Ash, Simpson Grierson, Auckland

Heather heads the firm's local government and environment group in Auckland. She specialises in all areas of resource management and environmental law, with a particular focus on the development and implementation of district plans. This includes providing advice in the areas of strategic growth planning, management of the rural environment and natural resources, urban intensification, and subdivision. Heather also advises a range of clients on their responsibilities under the Resource Management Act. She has extensive advocacy experience and regularly appears on appeals under the Resource Management Act on resource consents and district plans in the Environment Court, as well as proceedings in the High Court.



Bronwyn Carruthers, Russell McVeagh, Auckland

Bronwyn is a Partner in the Environment, Planning & Natural Resources team at Russell McVeagh. She regularly appears before the Environment Court and also has substantial experience in the High Court, particularly in judicial review proceedings some of which have gone on to the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. She has been practicing in Auckland for over 15 years, advising clients in all aspects of resource management and environmental law as well as local government law.



Horiana Irwin-Easthope, Kahui Legal, Wellington

Horiana specialises in resource management, litigation and Treaty of Waitangi settlements with a strong focus on RMA consenting and natural resource development. She primarily advises Māori clients (including land trusts and Post Settlement Governance Entities) and has particular experience working with hapū and iwi collectives in the context of environmental and commercial negotiations. Horiana has appeared in a range of courts and tribunals including the Supreme Court and at the Board of Inquiry level. Prior to joining Kahui Legal, she worked in the Resource Management, Litigation and Māori Legal teams at Russell McVeagh. In 2014 Horiana graduated with an LL.M from Harvard Law School. Her thesis is entitled New Zealand's EEZ environmental regulatory regime: A step backwards for Iwi Māori engagement and authority in environmental regulation.

SPEAKERS



Environment Judge John Hassan, Christchurch

Judge Hassan was the Deputy Chair to the Independent Hearings Panel for the Christchurch Replacement District Plan. Prior to his appointment, he was a partner in Chapman Tripp specialising in resource management and environmental law. In that capacity, he represented government agencies, industry, local government and community groups before Councils, the Environment Court, Boards of Inquiry and the High Court in relation to major infrastructure works, plan changes and consent and appeal hearings. He has a significant background in law reform and law drafting and in public law. In 2009, he was appointed as a panel member by the Local Government and Environment Select Committee to audit and advise on the drafting of the Resource Management Amendment Act 2009 and he was a reference group member advising the Environment Minister on RMA reform proposals in 2011. He is the founding co-author of Brookers Resource Management.



Environment Judge David Kirkpatrick, Auckland

Judge Kirkpatrick is an Environment Court Judge, having been sworn in on 3 February 2014. Prior to his judicial appointment, he was an experienced resource management barrister, with extensive experience in consenting and planning appeals. He was also an accredited independent hearings commissioner, and chaired council hearings, including a number of high profile consent applications. He also has expert litigation experience, having appeared before consent authorities and Boards of Inquiry as well as before the Courts.



Environment Judge Jon Jackson, Christchurch

Judge Jackson was appointed an Environment Judge on 6 September 1996. Judge Jackson was admitted to the Bar in 1978 and practised civil litigation and resource management work in Nelson where he was a partner in a law firm. He is a former member of the Nelson District Law Society Committee. He is based in Christchurch.



Principal Environment Judge Laurie Newhook, Auckland

Appointed as Environment Judge in August 2001, Acting Principal Environment Judge in 2011 and Principal Environment Judge in 2014, Judge Newhook graduated from Auckland University with an LLB(Hons) in 1972 and was admitted to the Bar the same year. From 1976 he was a partner of law firm Brookfields and antecedent firms. He practised in resource management, local government and general litigation. The general litigation component had an emphasis on land, maritime matters, construction law and mediation/arbitration work. In the areas of planning, resource management and local government he acted for councils, landowners, developers, iwi, community groups and environmental groups. The Judge is an Associate of the Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of New Zealand and a member of the Resource Management Law Association.

SPEAKERS



Andy Reisinger, New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre, Wellington

Andy is Deputy Director (International) of the New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre, where he focuses on international research collaboration and capacity building to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from livestock. Andy is also a member of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and served as coordinating lead author for two major IPCC reports released in 2014. Andy's research includes the role of agriculture in climate change policy, as well as climate change impacts, adaptation, uncertainty and implications for decision-making.



Christina Robb, Happen Consulting Ltd., Christchurch

Christina has expertise in water resource management, community collaboration and irrigation scheme strategy. Prior to starting her own consulting firm, for eight years, she led the implementation of the Canterbury Water Management Strategy - a community-led collaborative approach that seeks solutions to the challenges of water quality and water flows.



Sarah Scott, Simpson Grierson, Christchurch

Sarah leads the firm's Christchurch based local government and environment team. Her primary area of practice involves advising on resource management and environmental law with a particular focus on strategic planning and policy, and large infrastructure and utilities projects. Sarah's area of practice covers a wide range of work that involves a variety of strategic planning and policy work, including a range of earthquake recovery planning matters. In particular she has been extensively involved in the Christchurch District Plan Review hearings, representing the Christchurch City Council, and now so for the hearings on the Queenstown Proposed District Plan. Sarah also advises on consenting issues, including obtaining land use consents for transmission lines, stormwater, transport and property development projects, pursuing concessions from the Department of Conservation for energy projects, direct referrals to the Environment Court and Board of Inquiry call-in, environmental liability and due diligence, and general litigation.

SPEAKERS



Prof Peter Skelton, CNZM, Environment Canterbury, Christchurch

Peter is a former Environment Court Judge. He is currently an Environment Canterbury Councillor. He was a member of the Technical Advisory Group appointed by the Government in 2011 to review sections 6 and 7 of the Resource Management Act 1991 and to advise on improved legislative provisions for natural hazard planning.

From 2000 to 2005 he was the Associate Professor of Resource Management Law at Lincoln University and on retirement from that position he was appointed an Honorary Professor. He was the first Chair of the Environmental Legal Assistance Advisory Panel and is an Honorary Life Member of the Resource Management Law Association; and the New Zealand Legal Research Foundation. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand. In the 2001 New Years' Honours List he was appointed a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for his services to Environmental Law and in 2016 he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Natural Resources by Lincoln University

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