

PRESENTER



Emeritus Professor John Burrows QC, Law Commission, Wellington

John Burrows QC is an emeritus professor of the University of Canterbury. He was Dean of the Faculty from 1980 to 1986, and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the university from 1992-2000. He was appointed a Law Commissioner in 2007.

Professor Burrows' main interests are media law, statute law and the law of contract. He has written or co-written *Media Law in New Zealand*, *Statute Law in New Zealand* and *Law of Contract in New Zealand*. He also contributes to Todd's *The Law of Torts in New Zealand* and has been a contributor to Lexis Nexis *Commercial Law*.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
1 THE TASK OF INTERPRETATION	3
APPLICATION	3
INTENTION	3
CONSIDERATIONS IN THE PROCESS OF INTERPRETATION	6
DRAFTING STYLES	7
AUDIENCE.....	8
FURTHER PROCESSING	9
2 PURPOSE.....	11
INTRODUCTION.....	11
STATUTES	11
<i>The purposive approach.....</i>	11
<i>Some difficulties</i>	12
CONTRACT.....	14
<i>Business common sense.....</i>	15
<i>The purpose of the contract.....</i>	16
<i>Some reservations</i>	17
3 EXTRINSIC MATERIALS	21
GENERALLY	21
EXTRINSIC MATERIALS IN STATUTE LAW.....	22
EXTRINSIC MATERIALS IN CONTRACT INTERPRETATION	26
4 EXTERNAL INFLUENCES WITHIN THE LEGAL SYSTEM.....	31
CONTRACT	31
STATUTES	31
5 THE PASSAGE OF TIME	39
INTRODUCTION	39
STATUTES	39
<i>Prospective overruling</i>	42
CONTRACT	42
6 SUMMING UP.....	45