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ChristchurchNZ

Convention BUREAU



Kia ora koutou

With a move to Alert Level 1 this week and Spring in full bloom, Ōtautahi Christchurch is getting back to a schedule of domestic events.

While we wait for the borders to reopen we have been working with you, our industry partners, and Tourism New Zealand to find new ways to connect and share our city and region with event planners.

To boost confidence and get clients to commit to business events, the Bureau is leading a number of projects, including our region's response to Tourism New Zealand's industry partnership initiative. We will be submitting a range of stimulation package applications by December for domestic business events activity, promotion and marketing initiatives. We will keep you updated as these unfold.

PCMA APAC are offering their Community Connect peer-to-peer meeting series free to non-members through until the end of this calendar year. Hear from a range of industry professionals, from corporates through to associations, discussing their challenges and recovery strategies. The next session, Live Event Redesign, is on 29 September and covers how live events will look when we start meeting face to face again. To join the forum click [here](#).

Ngā mihi nui

[Claire](#), [Meegan](#) and [Joy](#)

CHRISTCHURCH COMES ALIVE FOR AUSTRALIAN EVENT ORGANISERS



Ten leading Australian conference organisers and Association executives were whisked to Ōtautahi Christchurch for an immersive, virtual experience earlier this month.

With on-location famils off the table for a while, we called on local talent and innovative technology to respond to the COVID-19 challenge. We partnered with The Virtual Famil company to crystallise the Christchurch experience into an hour-long journey for Australian event organisers.

We collaborated with Tourism New Zealand's Australia team, plus Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre and a host of city and Canterbury-wide operators to give a taste of the heart of the South Island to Australian decision-makers.

Leveraging our city's reputation for innovation, the team used cutting-edge technology combined with the region's renowned hosting skills to create a virtual famil with an intimate feel.

Find out how we did it [here](#).

CHRISTCHURCH LEADS 12-HOUR TURNAROUND FOR GP CONFERENCE



In less than a day, Ōtautahi Christchurch's [Shipleys Audiovisual](#) pulled out all the stops to transform a large conference into a fully digital event.

The NZMA South GP-CME, a large medical conference for General Practitioners was to be held at Vbase's Horncastle Arena from 13 to 16 August.

The event was under construction and the trade and AV build underway when the New Zealand Government announced a move to COVID-19 Level 2, banning events over 100 people. It was just 24 hours until the start of the first session.

The conference committee made the crucial decision to pivot to a fully virtual event, across three streams using three remote broadcast studios, made possible with the expertise of the team at Shipleys Audiovisual.

Read the full story [here](#).

NEW BUSINESS EVENTS STRATEGY FOR ŌTAUTAHI CHRISTCHURCH



Over recent months we have been developing a new business events strategy for Ōtautahi Christchurch to provide a framework for business events attraction and promotion over the coming three years.

Despite the significant impact of the global pandemic, Christchurch is well positioned to meet the challenges ahead. Attracting business events to the city presents huge opportunities towards ensuring the city's socio-economic wellbeing.

We need to be ready to grasp all these opportunities at this critical time, especially with the upcoming opening of Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre.

Download the new ChristchurchNZ Business Events Strategy [here](#).

TE PAE CHRISTCHURCH CONVENTION CENTRE OPENS ITS VIRTUAL DOORS



Ground Floor Foyer



Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre has partnered with local technology start up [JIX Reality](#) to launch a virtual tour of the centre.

Specialising in extended reality (virtual reality and augmented reality), JIX has worked with the Te Pae Christchurch team to design virtual tours that allow users to follow a pre-determined path around the centre; or self-tour using their phones, iPads or virtual reality headsets.

Each tour begins at Te Pae Christchurch's main Oxford Terrace entrance and Ground Floor Foyer before visiting the centre's array of flexible and modern spaces, including the 1,400 seat Auditorium; the Rivers Room – a 1,000 seat banquet space; 2,800sqm Exhibition Halls and an array of smaller meeting rooms and pre-function areas.

The "guided" tour can be viewed [here](#).

NETWORKING AT PEPPERS CLEARWATER



On Tuesday evening we hosted a networking function for over 60 business partners in the newly refurbished Kaikainui Room at [Peppers Clearwater Resort](#).

Loren Heaphy, ChristchurchNZ's General Manager Destination and Attraction previewed the release today of ChristchurchNZ's Business Events Strategy, a ground-breaking three-year roadmap with bold plans for the city's business events marketing.

At the event, Tim Loftus, GM Marketing Brand and Communications at ChristchurchNZ presented the group with a preview of the [ExploreCHC](#) marketing campaign, a long-term regional collaboration with Christchurch International Airport and eight districts across the central South Island.

Kate Latimer from the Peppers Clearwater team introduced the newly refurbished venue, with its striking furnishings, carpets and light fittings designed to complement the sparkling blue water of its setting on Lake Kaikainui. With floor to ceiling windows, the space can cater for 200 guests theatre-style or 120 for a seated banquet dinner. The venue overlooks the championship Clearwater Golf Course and is just 15 minutes from Christchurch city centre.

NEW TO THE BUREAU

We are delighted to announce our new Bureau partners...

Haere-roa Events Centre

[Haere-roa](#) is a new, purpose-built venue at the University of Canterbury designed with tradeshows, conferences and large events in mind. This versatile and flexible venue has multiple spaces available to accommodate anything from small intimate meetings to functions of 1000+.



Higher Perspective / Soul Travel

[Higher Perspective Conferences & Events](#)

specialises in developing innovative ways to inspire and entertain. Their aim is to take the stress out of planning an event, whether it be small or large-scale, personal or corporate, such as conferences, functions, partner or incentive

programmes.

Soul Travel is a boutique tailored travel management service provider specialising in small, high end experiences.



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