**Canterbury out in force at CINZ MEETINGS 2017**

The South Island’s Canterbury region will be out in force at CINZ MEETINGS 2017, when a record 12

partners join Christchurch and Canterbury Convention Bureau to showcase their latest products and services.

The Christchurch Centre, Vbase, The Commodore Hotel, The George hotel, Novotel Christchurch Airport, Multi-Media Systems, Red Travel, the International Antarctic Centre, Selwyn District Council, Heritage Hanmer Springs, and Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools and Spa will all be on show.

CCCB manager Caroline Blanchfield says many other Christchurch and Canterbury operators will be flying the flag at MEETINGS 2017, exhibiting as independents or on national stands.

‘With a $40 billion rebuild happening in the city, there is always something new to discover,’ she says.

Two new hotels are set to open in Christchurch this year - the 204-room Crowne Plaza Christchurch just opposite the convention centre site in June, and the 200-room Novotel Christchurch Airport in December.

Christchurch’s convention centre, planned for completion in late 2019, will sit in the Christchurch CBD with space for 200 to 2000 delegates.

‘The new convention centre will be a dream space for international event organisers, designed with a distinctive South Island flavour,’ says Blanchfield.

‘This will be a landmark facility of outstanding architectural significance. Its central riverside location, cultural and heritage references, and flexible layout all make it appealing to event organisers and delegates.’

The Christchurch Centre is designed to be flexible and responsive to a wide range of event requirements for up to 2000 delegates. The divisible auditorium for 1400 will allow two major events to run simultaneously, with plenty of breakout space in 1600sqm of meeting rooms, and a large 3600sqm space for exhibitions.

MEETINGS delegates will be able to put faces to names and meet the team, including manager Caroline Blanchfield, conference bid manager Claire Hector-Taylor and new bureau co-ordinator, Jessie Ross who serves as the Bureau’s first point of contact for all enquiries.