



MEETINGS



News release
4 June 2021

Business events industry celebrates 25th anniversary of MEETINGS

Business Events Industry Aotearoa (BEIA) hosted 500 business event professionals for its 25th anniversary celebration of [MEETINGS](#) at Cordis Auckland last night.

BEIA Chief Executive, Lisa Hopkins says the team created an elegant, glittering evening to celebrate the business events industry's night of nights.

"This has been a night everyone needed and deserved. MEETINGS has marked a turning point for our industry, and a quarter of a century after our first gathering, this is a coming-together to be truly celebrated.

"We wanted to honour the industry in style with our friends, partners, customers, suppliers, and whanāu at a lush, glamorous, black tie dinner," she said.

"It takes a village to create MEETINGS. Our principal sponsor Air New Zealand, industry partner Tourism New Zealand, host city Tamaki Makaurau Auckland, Event Technology partner EventsAIR, expo partner Peek Exhibitions, and all our brilliant family of sponsors thank you for your unwavering support.

"To the exhibitors, thanks for keeping the faith and believing in this event as the beginning of our way back. This show looked absolutely beautiful, and you have all been in lock step with us as we navigated this journey," she said.

The magnificent setting of The Great Room at Cordis Auckland was enhanced with masterful styling by Event Impressions.

The formal evening, full of entertainment and silver-themed sparkle, included a delicious three-course dining experience created by Cordis Auckland Executive Chef, Volker Marecek and his team, paired with matching fine New Zealand wines.

One of New Zealand's most-recognised entertainers and presenters, Te Radar was master of ceremonies for the evening, sponsored by Johnson and Laird. As a celebrated comedian and satirist, with a string of awards including the country's highest accolades for television and comedy, Te Radar received a warm reception from guests.

"As always at MEETINGS we have to thank The Production Agency for enthralling entertainment. Our 25th anniversary was exceptional, with a show-stopping performance from virtuoso violinist, Hannah Fang," Lisa Hopkins says.

The Production Agency entertainment also included soulful jazz from Chris Melville and Clo Chaperon, elegant live acoustic music from the Izzie and Moe Duo, and dancing until late with the sensational band, Halo.

Best Stand Awards 2021

This year Meeting Newz presented MEETINGS 2021 Awards for exhibitors, judged by a panel of industry leaders.

The Meeting Newz MEETINGS 2021 Stand Award winners were:

Best New Exhibitor – The Hotel Britomart

Judges said Hotel Britomart stood out for its smart presentation, beautiful imagery and great storytelling about sustainability.

Honourable mentions also went to Congress Rentals, BrewBus and Smoke Photo and Video.

Best Individual Stand Award —Exhibition Hire Services/Coast Group

The judges said this was the closest award of the show. It was a highly impactful and visual stand, and they noted smiling faces engaging in their work and making connections.

Honourable mentions also went to The Events Group, Naumi Hotels and The Production Agency.

Best Regional Stand – Auckland

The judges said Auckland provided a wonderful central meeting space, with professional people on the stand. Their hand-sanitiser-making station was a great touch.

Honourable mentions went to Waikato, Rotorua and Christchurch

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Click here to access [MEETINGS 2021 Folder](#) on Google Drive with all images and media releases from the event.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LZ4cqWH5jUEMI-eMo6clI64IQysYEhJg?usp=sharing>

About **Business Events Industry Aotearoa (BEIA)** — formerly CINZ

- BEIA is the official, membership-based association of New Zealand's conference and business events industry with more than 450 members across a broad range of sectors.
- It takes a leadership role in increasing meetings, incentives, conference and events business for the benefit of its members, principal stakeholders and the New Zealand economy.
- BEIA works to actively promote the sector, providing advocacy with central government and offering assistance, information, professional development and real business opportunities to its members.
- Pre-Covid, business events were generating in excess of \$1.5 billion annually for New Zealand and supporting around 22,000 jobs directly.

About **MEETINGS**

- MEETINGS is New Zealand's largest business events trade exhibition.
- Auckland is host city for MEETINGS 2021 at ASB Showgrounds on 2 and 3 June
- BEIA owns and manages the event, which has been run annually since 1997, except in 2020.
- MEETINGS 2019 generated over \$62 million in business, signed during the two-day event.
- Air New Zealand is airline partner for MEETINGS 2021, renewing its ongoing commitment to the sector and to the hosted buyer and media programmes.
- MEETINGS 2021 key partners are Air New Zealand, Host City - Auckland, Venue Partner - ASB Showgrounds, Exhibition Partner - Peek Design and Display, Technology Partner - EventsAIR.