

SUPREME COURT 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

The 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Supreme Court is almost upon us and, on behalf of the Legal Research Foundation and the Auckland Law School, we are delighted to invite you to this conference on **15 and 16 February 2024** to celebrate 20 years of the Court as an institution and of its jurisprudence.

The conference provides a unique opportunity to consider how the Supreme Court has been performing twenty years on, the extent to which it has met its original objectives, and what trends and characteristics can be discerned from its second decade.

The speakers include distinguished members of the judiciary, the profession and academia. The conference begins and ends with plenary sessions from Justice Miller and the Chief Justice Dame Helen Winkelmann respectively. Between those sessions are nine panel discussions focusing on particular aspects of the Court and its jurisprudence. Each speaker has written a full-length paper and these will be collected in a book, *The New Zealand Supreme Court: The Second Ten Years*, being published by LexisNexis. Attendance at the conference will include a copy of the book.

Each speaker will be brief, to allow time for discussion, comment, and questions. We expect this format will enable a wide variety of leading practitioners, academics and judges to contribute to the discussion and this will help inform the published version of the papers.

Ten years ago we organized a conference and a book to commemorate the Court's first ten years and, in the foreword to that book, Supreme Court Justice Sir John McGrath said, "This book itself will be seen as a milestone in the life of the Court." We are confident that this conference and book, commemorating the Court's second decade, will likewise be seen as a fitting tribute to the Court on its 20th anniversary ... "a milestone in the life of the Court."

Justice Rebecca Edwards, on behalf of the Organizing Committee

Please follow the registration link below for details on costs to attend and for the Conference dinner at the Northern Club on Thursday 15th of February 2024.

To register please click on [the link](#)

For further updates visit Legal Research Foundation [website](#)

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2024

PULLMAN HOTEL

1.45–2.10: Welcome and Registration

1.45–2.00: Registration

2.00–2.10: Justice Rebecca Edwards and Simon Ladd, *Welcome, Order of Proceedings*.

2.10–2.40: Session 1: Plenary

1. Justice Forrie Miller, *Reflections on the Roles of Apex and Intermediate Courts in New Zealand*.

2.40–3.50: Session 2: Panel Discussion, Perspectives on the Court

2. Jack Hodder KC, *One Advocate's Opinions: Predictabilities and the "Least Dangerous Branch"*.
3. Dr Andrew Butler KC, *The Supreme Court: Another Advocate's Opinions*.
4. Imogen Hensman, *The Supreme Court: A Clerk's View*.

3.50–4.15: Afternoon Tea

4.15–5.05: Session 3: Panel Discussion, The Court as an Institution

5. Dr Dean Knight and Pita Roycroft, *A Supreme Voice: Non-adjudicative Expression by the Supreme Court*.
6. Alexandra Allen-Franks, *Looking for an "Appropriate Vehicle": the Leave Decisions of the Supreme Court of New Zealand in the Period 2018–2022*.

5.05–6.00: Session 4: Panel Discussion, The Court and Māoridom

7. Mihiata Pirini, *Māori Legal Issues in the Supreme Court, 2013–2023*.
8. Matanuku Mahuika, *The Supreme Court's Decisions on Māori Legal Issues*.

6.30–7.00: Drinks and canapés

At the Northern Club.

7.00–9.30: Dinner

At the Northern Club.

FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2024

PULLMAN HOTEL

9.00–9.10: Welcome

9.00–9.10: Professor Warren Swain, *Welcome*.

9.10–10.20: Session 5: Panel Discussion, Public Law

9. Professor Paul Rishworth KC and Professor Janet McLean KC, *The New Zealand Bill of Rights Act: Ordinary Business as Usual or Constitutional Review?*
10. Associate Professor Marcelo Rodriguez Ferrere and Professor Andrew Geddis, *The Supreme Court, Public Law and Adjudicative Minimalism*.

10.20–11.30: Session 6: Panel Discussion, Private Law

11. Jack Alexander, *Contract Law in the Supreme Court* (to be presented by Tiaan Nelson)
12. Professor Peter Watts KC, *The Supreme Court's Company Law Cases*.
13. Professor Allan Beever, *How to Save the Law of Negligence from the New Zealand Way*.

11.30–11.55: Morning Tea

11.55–1.05: Session 7: Panel Discussion, Regulation

14. Dr Ed Willis, *Economic Law: Analysing Competition Law and Economic Regulation*.
15. Professor Michael Littlewood, *The Supreme Court's Tax Cases, 2014–2024*.
16. Sam Bookman, *The Supreme Court's Resource Management Cases*.

1.05–2.05: Lunch

2.05–2.55: Session 8: Property

17. Katherine Sanders, *The Supreme Court's Land Law Cases*.
18. Dr Jane Norton, *The Supreme Court and the Law of Trusts and Charities*.

2.55–3.20: Afternoon Tea

3.20–4.30: Session 9: Criminal, Evidence and Family

19. Professor Julia Tolmie, *The Supreme Court and the Criminal Law*.
20. Associate Professor Scott Optican, *The Second 10 Years: The Supreme Court and the Law of Evidence*.
21. Professor Mark Henaghan, *Family Law and the Supreme Court of New Zealand: A 20-Year Affair*.

4.30–5.00: Session 10: Plenary

22. The Chief Justice, Dame Helen Winkelmann, *The Supreme Court*.

5.00–5.05: wind up

Professor Michael Littlewood and Professor Janet McLean KC, *Closing Remarks*.

5.05–5.30: Drinks