



Conference Guide and CPD Booklet

7-8 May 2026

Taku ahi
tūtata
Ignite

Presidents' Welcome

Tēnā koutou

Kāhore taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini.

We cannot succeed without the support of those around us.

On behalf of the ILANZ Committee, I'm delighted to welcome you to the **38th annual ILANZ Conference** at Tākina Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Our maxim, **Ignite – Taku ahi tūtata!**, is drawn from the whakataukī:

Taku ahi tūtata, taku mata kikoha.
Taku ahi mamao, taku mata kiporo.

The blade that is close to the fire is sharp, the blade that is further away is blunt.

It's a powerful reminder that when we stay close to the "fires" that sustain us – our connections, our purpose, our learning and our community – we are at our sharpest.

*Our kaupapa for this conference is simple and ambitious: **to grow stronger together as lawyers and as people.*** Over the next few days, I hope you will use this time to:

- connect with colleagues from across the motu,
- challenge and refresh your thinking, and
- focus on the skills, mindsets and wellbeing that will keep you sharp for the work ahead.

ILANZ is made by New Zealand's lawyers for New Zealand's lawyers and Conference is no exception. Our call for speakers led to an outstanding response – high-quality submissions across a broad range of topics that reflect the real issues that, as in-house lawyers, we are grappling with every day. You'll hear from many of those members during conference, as well as a number of unique voices from beyond our profession, in sessions designed to deliver **practical tools, fresh perspectives and immediately useful ideas** you can take back to your teams and organisations.

Alongside the conference programme, the social events are a key part of how we build and sustain this community. We look forward to seeing you at:

- **Wednesday night's AJ Park Welcome Function**, in the foyer on Level 2 at Tākina
- **Thursday night's Social Function**, in The Banquet Hall at Parliament

We finish on **Friday night** with the always-anticipated **MAS Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony** in the reinvigorated main conference room. It is our chance to come together as a profession to celebrate the **excellence and leadership of in-house lawyers and teams across Aotearoa**, to acknowledge those doing extraordinary work – all too often away from the spotlight – and, just as importantly, to have some fun.

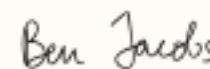
This year's gala theme is "**Wow Us**". I can't wait to see how you interpret that – whether it's bold, clever, playful or completely unexpected.

We'll also hold the **ILANZ AGM on Friday 8 May at lunchtime**, and we hope you can join us for that important part of our governance and member voice.

Thank you for making the time to be here – for stepping away from busy practices, teams and whānau

to invest in yourself and in this community. We look forward to spending focused time together over the coming days: **being inspired, learning, connecting and, we hope, leaving with our blades a little sharper than when we arrived.**

Kia tau rā ngā manaakitanga
May you be well and in good heart



BEN JACOBS

ILANZ President

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GALA DINNER AND AWARDS CEREMONY



WELCOME FUNCTION



CONFERENCE APP



LANYARDS



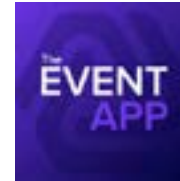
COFFEE CARTS



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Conference App



If you haven't already, we encourage you to download the Rice Speir 2026

conference app now. It includes everything you need to know and do during conference:

- Programme details, function locations and times, and conference updates
- Connect and share contact details with other delegates and exhibitors
- Ask questions at sessions
- Earn prize points
- Make CPD notes.

To download

1. Go to the app/play store and search for **EventsAir**
2. Once downloaded, enter the event code **RiceSpeir2026** & submit
3. Login using your registered email + your PIN code (located on your name tag).

Please see the OnCue team at the registration desk if you have any problems downloading the app.

Conference Information

Venue

Takina Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre
50 Cable Street
Te Aro, Wellington

Registration Desk Hours

- Wednesday 6 May
4.30–6.00pm
- Thursday 7 May – Friday 8 May
from 8.00am

Name Tag

Please wear your name tag at all times as it's used for identification. If you lose it, please visit the Registration Desk for assistance.

Social Functions

Connection is at the heart of ILANZ and our annual conference. Our social functions are a chance to build relationships, share experiences, and strengthen the in-house legal community in a relaxed and welcoming environment. Our functions are:

- **AJ Park Welcome Function**, Wednesday 6 May from 5.00pm–7.00pm, Exhibition Area, Level 2, Takina Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre.

- **Thursday Night Social Function**, Thursday 7 May from 6.30pm–9.30pm, The Banquet Hall, Parliament.
- **MAS Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony**, Friday 8 May from 6.45pm–11.30pm, Level 2, Takina Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Transport will be provided to/from the **Thursday Night Social Function, The Banquet Hall, Parliament.**

The pickup point for all buses is on the Wakefield St side of Takina. Due to the level of security checks at Parliament, pickup timings are earlier than usual.

For those booked on tours of Parliament (6.00pm and 6.30pm), your pickup time is 5.15pm. For everyone else attending the function, the pickup time is 6.00pm.

Buses will leave Parliament at 9.30pm and drop off points are Copthorne Hotel Wellington, Oaks Wellington, TRYP by Wyndham Hotel Wellington and the QT Hotel/ Museum Apartments. If you'd like to purchase additional tickets, or can no longer attend a social function, please let the team at the registration desk know.

Conference Dress Codes

- Conference sessions – casual business attire
- Social Functions – smart casual
- Awards Dinner – feel free to wear your favourite 'WOW Us' themed costume, or a dinner suit or evening gown, business suit or cocktail wear.

Devices

We kindly request that devices are switched off or on silent during conference sessions.

Wi-Fi

Free wi-fi is available at Takina during the conference.

To access the correct Wi-Fi, connect to '**Tākina Events**' on your device. A 'Tākina Events' internet page will pop up when you open your browser. Type in the access code '**events**' and accept the T&Cs.

Luggage Storage

If you require luggage storage at the beginning or end of the conference, please speak to the team at the conference registration desk at Takina.

Useful contact numbers

Wellington Combined Taxis

04 384 4444

Blue Bubble Cabs 0800 228 294

Corporate Cabs 0800 789 789

Hospital

Wellington Regional Hospital
49 Riddiford Street,
Newtown, Wellington
Ph: 04 385 5999

Doctors

Capital Care Health Centre
35 Tennyson St, Te Aro, Wellington
Ph: 04 801 8935

Conference contacts

For all conference enquires please contact:

Shelley Haring, On-Cue Conferences
shelley@on-cue.co.nz
021 403 316

Hannah Monk, On-Cue Conferences
hannah@on-cue.co.nz
021 758 226

Bev Armstrong, ILANZ Manager
Bev.Armstrong@lawsociety.org.nz
021 667 032

Gabi Le Roy, Membership
Engagement Advisor
Gabriella.LeRoy@lawsociety.org.nz
021 135 5737

We will be onsite during the conference and available to assist with any queries at the registration desk.

Emergency Procedures

In the event of an earthquake, please remain calm. Drop, cover & hold until the shaking has subsided.

If the evacuation alarm sounds, remain calm and:

- Follow instructions from the Tākina Events' Evacuation Wardens (wearing yellow high-vis vests).
- Move to one of the Emergency Assembly Points on Wakefield or Cable Streets.
- Wait until the Building Warden (wearing a red or orange high-vis vest) has given the 'all clear' before returning to the conference rooms.

Should you discover a fire, please advise Takina staff immediately. There are fire hoses and extinguishers throughout the building.

Accidents

Any accidents must be reported to management immediately.

Venue and conference staff are first aid trained, and first aid kits are located in the venue office and kitchens. An AED is also located on the ground floor near the ticketing area.

ILANZ Awards

The 2026 ILANZ Award winners will be announced on Friday 8 May at the MAS Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony.

Individual awards:

New In-house
Lawyer of the Year



MinterEllisonRuddWatts Private
Sector In-house Lawyer of the
Year



Sole In-house Lawyer
of the Year



Public Sector In-house Lawyer of
the Year



Team awards:

Chapman Tripp Private Sector
In-house Team
of the Year



Greenwood Roche Public Sector
In-house Team
of the Year



Small In-house Team
of the Year



Special awards:

Simpson Grierson People &
Culture Excellence Award



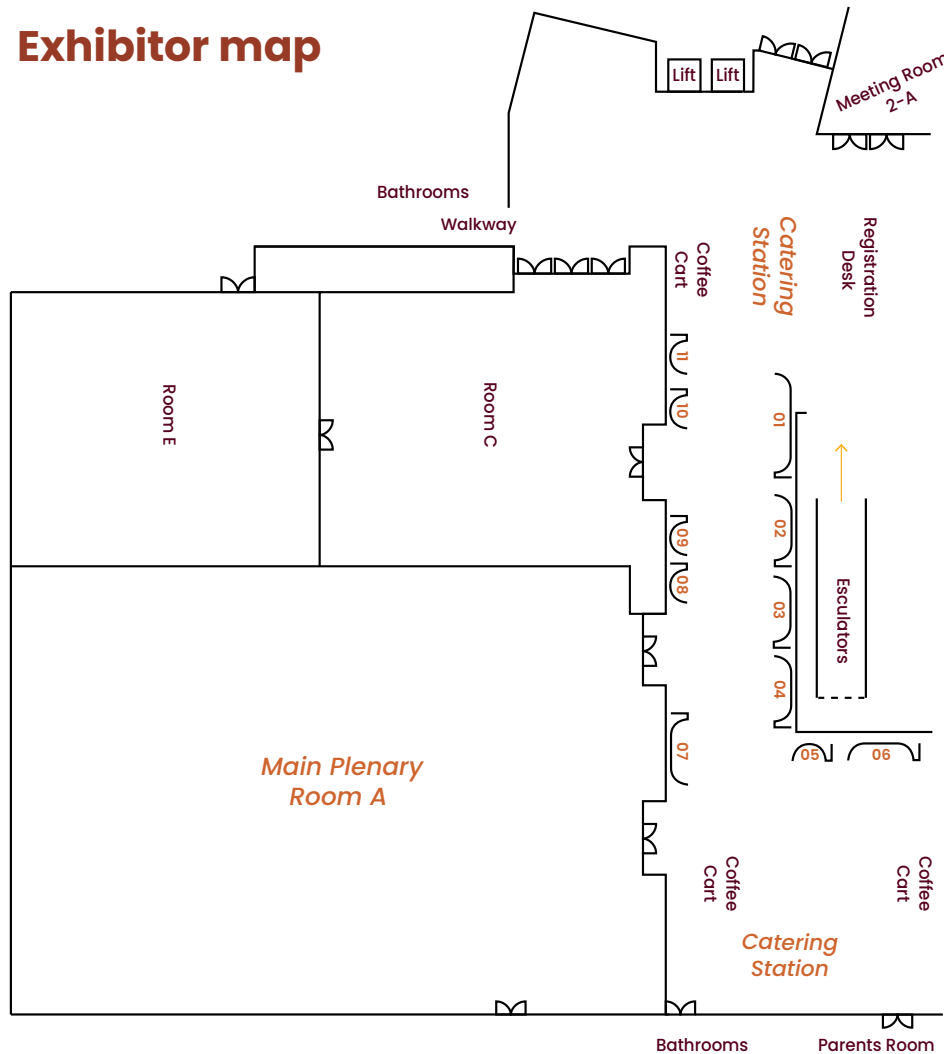
Artemis In-house
Innovation Award



ComplyWith Community
Contribution Award



Exhibitor map



Conference CPD

The programme promises to deliver valuable education to help you be the best in-house lawyer you can be and to improve your performance while you earn CPD hours. As such, we have interrelated the Development Framework with the conference CPD.

This CPD verification and Reflection Record forms part of your CPD Plan and Record (CPDPR) and should be kept with all of your CPD materials. It is available to download from the ILANZ website if you are keeping your CPDPR electronically.

The CPD initiative is learner centred rather than prescriptive. Lawyers are responsible for identifying and fulfilling their own CPD requirements while reflecting on learnings and next steps.

You may find you satisfy a significant number of your 10 hours at the ILANZ conference or you might satisfy a lesser number based on your professional judgement of what is relevant for you and your learning needs.

Programme

Wednesday 6 May 2026

4.00pm – 6.00pm	Registration desk open
4.30pm – 5.00pm	Solo delegates meet at ILANZ Stand
5.00pm – 7.00pm	Welcome Function, Level 2, Takina

Thursday 7 May 2026

8.00am	Registration desk open, tea and coffee from 8.30am. Bag storage available.
9.00am	Mihi Whakatau – Nate Rowe and Tyshah Holmes, Te Rūnanganui o Te Āti Awa
9.15am	Morning Tea
9.55am	Welcome – Day 1 ▶ Michele A’Court, MC & Ben Jacobs, <i>ILANZ President</i>
Leading with integrity / Kia pono te ārahitanga	
10.15am	Session One <i>Main room</i> Lessons in Legal Ethics from Major Public Scandals – UK Post Office, Robodebt and the Crown Casino ▶ Keynote: Prof Steven Vaughan, <i>Dean of the Faculty of Law, Monash University, Melbourne</i>
11.15am	Session Two <i>Main room</i> Staying Independent: Ethical Challenges for Today’s In-House Lawyer ▶ Panellists: Una Jagose KC Clifton Chambers; Prof Steven Vaughan, <i>Monash University</i> ; Alison Paul, <i>OceanaGold</i> ; Katie Rusbatch, <i>New Zealand Law Society</i> . Moderated by Linda Clark, <i>Thorndon Chambers</i>
12.15pm	Lunch
1.20pm	Session Three <i>Main room</i> Accountability, Confidentiality, and AI: How to Balance Evolving Challenges – the Ombudsman’s perspective ▶ Keynote: John Allen, <i>Ombudsman</i>

2.00pm	Session Four <i>Stream A: Main Room</i> Facial Recognition and the Future of Privacy ▶ Cambell Featherstone, <i>Dentons</i> and Greg Webber, <i>NEC</i> <i>Stream B: Tawhirimatea Plenary C</i> Lawyering through Disaster ▶ Jessica Easton, <i>Easton Legal</i> and Matt McGrath, <i>Kōtare Legal</i> <i>Stream C: Tawhirimatea Plenary E</i> Legal Leadership in Uncertain Times: Influence, Resilience and Value ▶ Vanessa Simons, <i>FisherFunds</i> and Jacque Goodall, <i>NZTE</i>
2.45pm	Session Five <i>Stream A: Main Room</i> How to Identify where the fires will come from, and which ones might bring the house down ▶ Hayley Evans, <i>Department of Corrections NZ</i> <i>Stream B: Tawhirimatea Plenary C</i> Managing Contractual Rights, Performance, and Disputes in New Zealand: Practical Tools for In-House Counsel ▶ Kirsty Dobbs and Matthew Gale, <i>Bell Gully</i> <i>Stream C: Tawhirimatea Plenary E</i> AI at scale in high stakes legal matters: What works, what doesn’t ▶ Amy Dove and Jason Weir, <i>Deloitte Forensic</i>
3.35pm	Afternoon Tea
4.00pm	Session Six <i>Main room</i> Department of No meets the Department of Nice? Misconceptions and challenges that Legal and Kindness have in common, and how we can build stronger infrastructure for impact ▶ Dr Nicki Macklin, <i>KindFrame</i> and <i>BMJ Leader</i>
5.00pm	Day 1 Close – MC <i>Buses available from 5.15pm to Parliament</i>
6.00pm	Social Function – The Banquet Hall, Parliament Group tours of Parliament (pre-booked) – 6.00pm and 6.30pm

Programme

Friday 8 May 2026

8.00am	Registration desk open
8.45am	Day Two Open ▶ Michele A'Court, MC
Big picture thinking / Te Whāinga Whānui	
9.00am	Session Seven <i>Main room</i> Economic insights ▶ Brad Olsen, <i>Infometrics</i>
10.00am	Session Eight <i>Main room</i> Navigating Commercial Engagements in the Māori Economy ▶ Cheri-Lee Atkinson, <i>Waikato-Tainui</i> ; Gwendoline Keel, <i>Community Law Centres Aotearoa</i> ; Te Aopare Dewes, <i>Chapman Tripp</i>
11.00am	Morning Tea
Supporting our people / Te tautoko i a tātou	
11.15pm	Session Nine <i>Main room</i> From Diagnosis to Strategy: Navigating Challenging Conversations 90 minute Workshop ▶ Dr Nicki Macklin, <i>KindFrame</i>
12.45pm	Lunch and ILANZ AGM <i>Tawhirimatea Plenary C</i>
1.45pm	Session Ten <i>Stream A: Main Room</i> Cyber Incidents from the Inside - Navigating the First 72 Hours ▶ Alex Chapman and Allan Yeoman, <i>Buddle Findlay</i> <i>Stream B: Tawhirimatea Plenary C</i> Lessons from FMA's Regulatory Sandbox: Innovation, Risk and the In-House Legal Role ▶ Alexandra McNair and Sarah Davidson, <i>FMA</i> <i>Stream C: Tawhirimatea Plenary E</i> Employment Law Essentials for In-House Counsel ▶ Renee Butler, <i>Dentons</i>

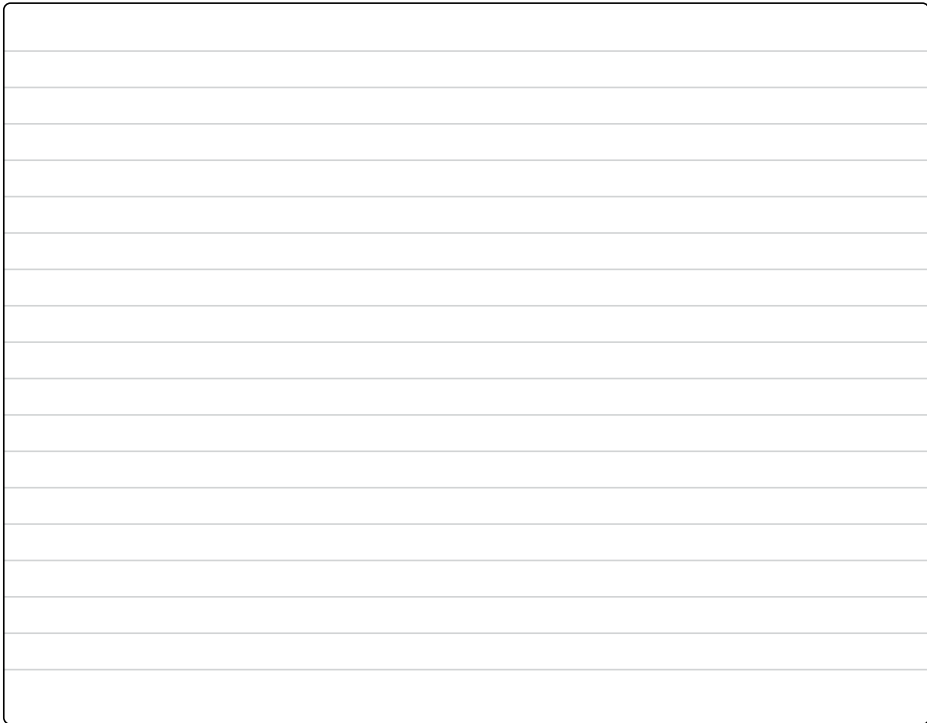
2.30pm	Session Eleven <i>Stream A: Main Room</i> M & A from the Inside ▶ Kirsten Clayton, <i>Contact Energy</i> <i>Stream B: Tawhirimatea Plenary C</i> When Mice Rock the Boat: How in-house lawyers navigate crisis response when the cargo's been nibbled! ▶ Katherine Evans and Josh Dennis, <i>Zespri</i> <i>Stream C: Tawhirimatea Plenary E</i> Practical AI and automation for in-house legal teams - with the human spark intact ▶ Lisa Gerrard, <i>Barfoot & Thompson</i> , Irene Peter, <i>Sharesies</i> , Karen Billingham, <i>Health New Zealand</i> and Anna Hildyard, <i>Gallagher Group</i>
3.15pm	Afternoon Tea
3.35pm	Session Twelve <i>Main room</i> From National Politics to Local Leadership: Lessons in Law, Crisis, and Governance ▶ His Worship the Honorable Andrew Little, Mayor of Wellington
4.35pm	Prize Giving, Closing Remarks and Poroaki
6.45pm – 11.30pm	MAS Gala Dinner & Awards Ceremony at Takina, Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre

Accountability, Confidentiality, and AI: How to Balance Evolving Challenges – the Ombudsman’s Perspective

► John Allen, *Ombudsman*

Development Framework Skills: Technical, Commercial, Enterprise, Management

Reflection on activity and future learning needs

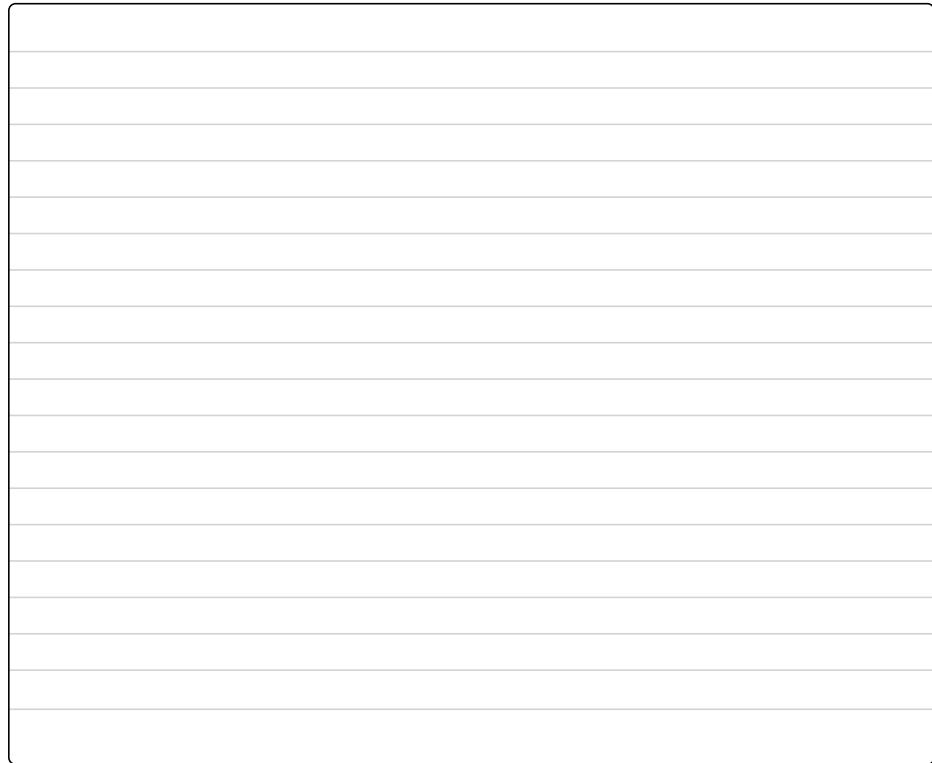


Facial Recognition and the Future of Privacy

► Campbell Featherstone, *Dentons* and Greg Webber, *NEC*

Development Framework Skills: Technical, Commercial, Enterprise

Reflection on activity and future learning needs



CPD hours gained at the 2026 ILANZ conference

Session Title	Attended	Time Offered	Time Earned
Lessons in Legal Ethics from Major Public Scandals – UK Post Office, Robodebt and the Crown Casino		60 Mins	
Staying Independent: Ethical Challenges for Today's In-House Lawyer		60 Mins	
Accountability, Confidentiality, and AI: How to Balance Evolving Challenges – the Ombudsman's Perspective		30 Mins	
Facial Recognition and the Future of Privacy		40 Mins	
Lawyering Through Disaster		40 Mins	
Legal Leadership in Uncertain Times: Influence, Resilience and Value		40 Mins	
How to Identify Where the Fires Will Come From, and Which Ones Might Bring the House Down		40 Mins	
Managing Contractual Rights, Performance, and Disputes in New Zealand: Practical Tools for In-House Counsel		40 Mins	
AI at Scale in High-Stakes Legal Matters: What Works, What Doesn't		40 Mins	
Department of No Meets the Department of Nice? Misconceptions and Challenges that Legal and Kindness Have in Common		60 Mins	
Economic Insights		60 Mins	
Navigating Commercial Engagements in the Māori Economy		60 Mins	

Session Title	Attended	Time Offered	Time Earned
From Diagnosis to Strategy: Navigating Challenging Conversations (Workshop)		90 Mins	
Cyber Incidents from the Inside – Navigating the First 72 Hours		40 Mins	
Lessons from the FMA's Regulatory Sandbox: Innovation, Risk and the In-House Legal Role		40 Mins	
Employment Law Essentials for In-House Counsel		40 Mins	
M&A from the Inside		40 Mins	
When Mice Rock the Boat: How In-House Lawyers Navigate Crisis Response When the Cargo's Been Nibbled		40 Mins	
Practical AI and automation for in-house legal teams – with the human spark intact		40 Mins	
From National Politics to Local Leadership: Lessons in Law, Crisis, and Governance		60 Mins	

Total CPD hours earned:

Declaration

I confirm that the above records my attendance and participation in the ILANZ 38th Annual Conference.

Signed:

Please retain this entire verification and reflection record as part of your CPDPR.



ILANZ
In-house lawyers
Ngā Rōia ā Roto

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