



**New Zealand
Newcomers Network**
Connecting People



**New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils
Immigration Symposium &
28th Annual General Meeting**



**Date: Friday 30 June – Sunday 2 July 2017
Venue: Burns Lodge, 89 Church Street, Dunedin**



Introduction

New Zealand is a country built on Immigration. In the past few years new migrants have been at the heart of our economic growth as the government had lead the economic growth strategy. As New Zealand continues to become culturally, ethnically, linguistically and religiously diverse with almost 1 in 4 people living in New Zealand were born overseas, and smaller ethnic and religious communities continue to grow. These trends are expected to continue over the next twenty years and the need for integration, social inclusion and cultural competency skills will increase alongside these changing demographics.

Come with this rapid demography transformation with increase in emerging communities; New Zealand's immigration policy is under increased public and media scrutiny and is setting up to be one of the key political issues as we head towards the 2017 general election.

Immigration is being linked to New Zealand's housing issues, our economic prosperity, national security and our broader social development. Internationally too, immigration is a highly topical issue that is seen as having a large influence on the US presidential election and the UK's decision to leave the European Union.

Multicultural NZ welcomes you to participate in the Immigration symposium to discuss the following questions and more:

What are New Zealand's current immigration policy settings and how do they compare historically and internationally?

- Where do immigrants to New Zealand come from?
- What are the economic costs and benefits for New Zealand?
- What are the social costs and benefits for New Zealand?
- Is immigration really responsible for housing unaffordability?

Our aim for this Immigration symposium and 28th Annual General Meeting is to objectively explore New Zealand's immigration policy from a number of viewpoints and disciplines so that New Zealanders are better informed about immigration in New Zealand. Gaining a genuine understanding of immigration issues can be difficult in an age of sensational media coverage and heated opinions.

**Alexis LewGor, National President,
New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils Inc.**



Programme

Immigration Symposium & 28th Annual General Meeting

Theme: New Zealand's Immigration Policy

Friday 30 June 2017

5.00pm - 7.30pm

Arrival of AGM delegates

5.00pm

Mihi Whakatau

5.30pm

NZFMC 28th AGM

NZFMC President, Alexis LewGor declares meeting open – the AGM adjourned till Saturday afternoon

5.35pm

Discussion topic: Regional Multicultural Councils' Intelligent Sharing – Creating Strong Regions – Discussion, Fact, Sharing, Creating

7.30pm

Women's Council Cultural Evening and General Dinner

Saturday 1 July 2017

8.30am

Arrival & Registration

Immigration Symposium Begins

9.00am

Welcome / Housekeeping

Paul MacDonald Gourlie, President, Dunedin Multi Ethnic Council

9.10am

Welcome Speech – Cr Marie Laufiso, representing His Worship the Mayor Dave Cull

Keynote Speaker – Dr Bryce Edwards, Political Commentator and Analyst

Political Parties Views on NZ Immigration Policy:

- Mr Iain Lees-Galloway MP, Spokesperson for Immigration, Labour Party
- Ms Metiria Turei MP, Co-leader, Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand
- Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi MP, National List MP | Chair of Law and Order Select Committee

Acknowledgement / Merit Awards Presentation –

Alexis LewGor, National President MNZ

10.30am

Morning Tea



Saturday 1 July 2017 continued

11.00am

Panel Session: Views and Perspectives on Immigration Issues in New Zealand: Questions for the panel are:

- What are New Zealand's current immigration policy settings and how do they compare historically and internationally?
- What are the costs and benefits for New Zealand from immigration?
- Is immigration really responsible for housing unaffordability?
- Who is responsible for helping to settle new immigrants in New Zealand – central government, local government, communities, immigrants themselves?
- Is there a clear framework for who does what?

Arihia Bennett, Ngai Tahu

Dr Gautam Ghosh, University of Otago

Cr. Jimmy Chen, Christchurch City Council

Cr. Marie Laufiso, Dunedin City Council

Richard Kyte, NZ Dairy

Pancha Narayanan – Pathway to Treaty Based Multicultural Community

Chair: Kamil Lakshman, IDESI LEGAL Limited

Immigration Symposium Ends

12.30pm

Lunch and Networking

1.30pm

Government Agencies' Strategic Updates:

New Zealand Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy by Judi Altinkaya, National Manager Settlement, Immigration NZ

2.30pm

Afternoon Tea

3.00pm

Annual General Meeting

- NZFMC President, Alexis LewGor declares meeting open
 - Attendance / Apologies
 - Minutes of last AGM
 - Matters arising from the minutes
- Presentation of the President's Report
- Presentation of the Performance Report 2017
- Presentation of the Executive Director's Report and Resolutions
- Recommendation from Executive Committee
 - Appointment of an Auditor
 - Appointment of a Legal Advisor



Saturday 1 July 2017 continued

- Election Process and Presentation by Nominated Candidates
 - Election of Executive Committee 2017-18
 - General Business
- Meeting adjourned until Sunday morning

5.30pm

Closing Karakia

7.00pm

Sightseeing, Cultural Event and Dinner: at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints – 14 Fenton Crescent, Dunedin, Otago

Sunday 2 July 2017

8.00am

Special Councils Annual Meeting

- Senior's Council
- Women's Council
- Youth Council
- Executive Meeting

9.30am

AGM continues

- NZFMC President declares meeting open
- Special Councils Reporting / Sharing

10.00am

Morning Tea

11.00am

Review the 2014 Policy Proposal by Joris de Bres
Community discussion on MNZ's Policy Proposal for the 2017

12.30pm

Meeting Ends / Brunch

Speakers



Paul MacDonald Gourlie, President, Dunedin Multi Ethnic Council

Ravensbourne Irish on my mother's side, Mornington Scottish on my father's, a Dunedinite through and through.

Dunedin is about education, health, enterprise, employment, environment and public - private partnerships.

Dunedin City Council needs to take a lead role in ensuring we are the education and health capital of New Zealand with a secure international reputation that attracts quality and creative thinkers.

Currently serving as Chair of the Dunedin Multi Ethnic Council, member of the Interfaith Council, and President of the NZ World Peace Bell Chapter. My current work is largely in the pastoral care of local and international students and new migrants. I continue a passionate entrepreneurial interest in local, national and global education and environmental issues.

I enjoy working with people from all walks of life and political views, looking at each issue on its own merits and what ultimately best serves Dunedin, its population and growth.



Dr Bryce Edwards – Keynote Speaker

Bryce joined the Politics department of University of Otago in 2007 as his first academic position, teaching New Zealand politics, public policy, and public management. His other research interests include political parties, elections, social inequality, class, political movements, political finance, political communication, e-politics, and sociology.

Prior to teaching, Bryce worked as a policy analyst in government departments in both New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

His PhD, completed in 2003, was on Political Parties in New Zealand: A Study of Ideological and Organisational Transformation.

Bryce has extensively researched political finance in New Zealand, and is currently working on a book about the history of political finance in New Zealand up to and including the first year of the Electoral Finance Act in operation.



Mr Iain Lees-Galloway MP, Spokesperson for Immigration, Labour Party

Iain believes in the power of people working together to create stronger families, a stronger community and a stronger economy. His priority is to enable opportunities for Palmerston North to make the most of its many strengths. Iain is passionate about creating a healthy, sustainable future for children born today.

Iain has been the Member of Parliament for Palmerston North since 2008 and is an experienced advocate and campaigner for his city and for the issues that matter to his electorate. Previous roles with the NZ Nurses Organisation and MedLab Central have made him passionate about healthcare, the largest employer in Palmerston North. Iain is married with three children and enjoys rugby, football, singing and theatre.



Ms Metiria Turei MP, Co-leader of the Green Party, Aotearoa New Zealand

Metiria has worked hard all her life to speak up for those who have struggled to be heard.

Whether as a young mother, an advocate for the unemployed, or an MP, she has stood up, fought for what she believes in and brought about real change.

Her passion is building a more equitable society; reducing unemployment, ending child poverty, ensuring all Kiwis live in warm, healthy homes and protecting our rivers and oceans for future generations.

“My dream is every New Zealander, no matter what ethnicity, religion, sex, age or background, being treated with dignity and respect.”

Raised in a working class Māori family in Palmerston North, Metiria’s parents were “always generous, no matter how sparse the resources”.

After becoming a single Mum at 22, Metiria realised she needed a career that would set her up well to care for her daughter.

Using a training incentive allowance, she put herself through law school, graduating in 1999 from Auckland University and going on to work as a commercial lawyer at Simpson Grierson.

Her passion for education comes from her own experience of just how important it is.

She joined the Greens in 2000, then entered Parliament in 2002, breaking Parliamentary rules in her maiden speech by singing ‘There is no depression in New Zealand’ in Te Reo. “I can still remember the translator being deadly serious through the entire thing!”

In 2009 she became Green Party Co-leader, a task she initially approached with trepidation – “you don’t know how you’re going to lead until you’re doing it”.

Turns out she needn’t have worried. She co-led a fantastic election result in 2011: 11% of the vote, meaning 14 Green MPs in Parliament.

Within the Party, Metiria strives to encourage participation from Māori and women, two groups that can easily be underrepresented in New Zealand politics.

She remains very aware of why she is in Parliament, and for whom.



Judi Altinkaya, Immigration NZ

Judi Altinkaya is Immigration New Zealand’s National Manager responsible for migrant settlement. In this role, her key delivery priorities are leading the all-of-government implementation of the New Zealand Migrant Settlement and Integration Strategy; strengthening support for retaining skilled migrants in regions throughout New Zealand; and developing high quality information to support new migrants to settle into their work and local communities.

Prior to joining Immigration New Zealand, Judi was Chief Advisor at Adult and Community Education in the Tertiary Education Commission, and the inaugural Chief Executive of English Language Partners. She worked as a skilled migrant in Greece for eight years.



Kamil Lakshman, IDESI LEGAL Limited (Panel Chair)

Kamil Lakshman is IDESI LEGAL Limited's Principal Lawyer, with years of experience in Immigration Law.

Mrs Lakshman holds a prominent position in the extended Wellington community. She is often asked to serve on Governmental consultation groups on migrant and refugee matters. She is an influential member in many Refugee and Migrant communities and has chaired many boards.

Mrs Lakshman is long standing member of the New Zealand Law Society's Wellington Immigration and Refugee Law Committee, she is now the committee Convenor for the last two years and her membership of the National Immigration and Refugee Law Reform committee has been renewed for another term. She is also a member of the Wellington Chamber of Commerce, the New Zealand Association of Immigration Professionals, and the New Zealand Association for Migration and Investment. She also represents the New Zealand Law Society on Immigration New Zealand's reference group ,which consults on wider Immigration issues.

She writes regular columns and articles regarding immigration related issues and hosts a weekly radio program "Koffee with Kamil", discussing pertinent issues in relation to New Zealand Immigration Law.

Mrs Lakshman initially completed a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Education from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. After which she worked for many years in the Ministry of Education as a Divisional Manager. At this stage she commenced and completed her Diploma in Corporate Management and Masters in Business Administration in International Management.

She then went on to complete her LLB from Victoria University of Wellington. She was admitted to the New Zealand High Court as Barrister and Solicitor in 2000.

She is often involved with various issues arising in Immigration related areas and has a passion for representing those that have been wronged. Mrs Lakshman has organised multiple humanitarian appeals to aid Fiji relief efforts. She has a spiritual bent including enjoying yoga, meditation.

As co-coordinator of "Mamta", an Asian Women's group she has successfully lobbied the New Zealand Government on many migrant issues. Te-Papa, the New Zealand National Museum has benefited from her input in regards to the "Aainaa - Indian Wedding in New Zealand" exhibition and also in a series of ongoing lectures and forums.



Alexis LewGor: National President of New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils

Alexis LewGor: National President of New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils.

Alexis was born in Fiji and is of Fijian, Chinese, German and Samoan ancestry. She is in her third term as National President of Multicultural New Zealand (NZ Federation of Multicultural Councils). She was instrumental in the establishment of the Rotorua Pacific Islands Development Charitable Trust and the Rotorua Ethnic Council, (now Multicultural Rotorua). She recently stepped down as President of her local Rotorua Multicultural Council after 10 years. Alexis currently works at Pumicelands Rural Fire Authority in Rotorua as Business Support. In view of the importance of what culture places on maintaining a balance between the spiritual well-being of migrants and the quality of life, she is passionate about community and that each person is readily settled into the social, educational and economic fabric of urban and rural centres' across the district and nationally. She is a recipient of the Sir Peter Blake Leadership Award, Rotorua District Community Award and recently was named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.



Arihia Bennett, Ngāi Tahu

Arihia Bennett MNZM (Ngāi Tahu – Ngāi Tūāhuriri, Ngāti Waewae, Ngāti Porou) has been in the role of CEO since 2012. She is married to Richard and together they have a son Piri. She lives in Tuahiwi with three generations of whānau and is an active participant in her papatipu rūnanga.

The wellbeing of tamariki, whānau and communities is the motivation behind Arihia's long career in social services initially as a social worker, and a trainer/educator for Child Youth & Family and then as regional manager Te Waipounamu for Barnados NZ. In 2011, Arihia was appointed Chief Executive of He Oranga Pounamu, the iwi mandated organisation responsible for health and social services in Te Waipounamu.

A passion for enabling and empowering whānau and communities to take control of their own lives, find their own voice and be the best they can be is a key driver for Arihia in her current role as she leads the organisation to develop the programmes and initiatives that will grow papatipu rūnanga and create a better tomorrow for Ngāi Tahu whānui.

Arihia has held advisory positions to government, including Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Commissioner (CERC) following the September 2010 earthquake. She has also held governance roles within Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, including as a director for Ngāi Tahu Development Corporation from 1999-2002, and chair from 2002-2005. Other former Boards roles include Barnados NZ and the Christchurch Women's Refuge (now known as Aviva) . She is a current member of the Global Women's Network and the Tuahiwi Māori Women's Welfare League.

In 2008, she was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to Māori and the community.



Dr. Gautam Ghosh, University of Otago

Gautam's research is an anthropological engagement with political theory, history and the philosophy of the human sciences. He examines the intersections among (i) liberal ideologies of popular sovereignty, (ii) understandings of time and (iii) collective agency, grounding these three broad concerns in materials related to South Asia and the South Asian diaspora.

Gautam has studied and taught at the top anthropology departments in the U.S. including the University of California-Berkeley, the University of Chicago and the University of Pennsylvania. His research has been funded by the Fulbright, Guggenheim, MacArthur and Rockefeller Foundations, as well as by the Davis Center of Princeton University. He has given invited lectures at the University of Chicago, Harvard University, Oxford University, Stanford University, Columbia University, University of California (Berkeley), Heidelberg University, Kings College London, the University of Amsterdam, the University of British Columbia, University of New York at Binghamton, Victoria University Wellington and Michigan, among other institutions. His forthcoming article 'Nobility or Utility?' has been selected as a showcase piece by *Modern Asian Studies*, Cambridge University Press.

Service on editorial boards includes *Anthropological Quarterly*, *SITES: A Journal of Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies*, *Expedition*, *the International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology*, and *Peace and Democracy in South Asia*. From 2008-2011 he was an elected officer of the Society for Urban, National, and Transnational/Global Anthropology and, from 2002-2008, Faculty Adviser for the Center for the Advanced Study of India. Current involvement with research networks includes the New Zealand India Research Institute, the New Zealand Centre for Human Rights Law, Policy & Practice (as editor), Asian Migrations Research Theme (steering community) and the South Asian Digital Archive Expert Group.

Gautam has been named among the top ten teachers at the University of Otago and was selected to represent the Humanities Division at the University's Careers Day in Wellington. He has served as the department's Liaison Officer for Māori students. He has been quoted in major U.S. newspapers, appeared on National Geographic television, featured in an Otago Daily Times article and been interviewed on the radio.



Richard Kyte, Dairy NZ

As Regional leader for the Science based organisation DairyNZ in Southland / South Otago, Richard leads a team of ten farm systems specialists.

Richard emigrated from the Lake district of England to the Sunny Bay of Plenty in 1988. He is married to Eleanor and has three children all in their teens.

Richard considers himself a KIWI to the extent he really enjoys seeing the English getting a good hiding by the All Blacks.

In his role as DairyNZ Regional leader he is involved in all areas of the business from on farm profitability to environmental policy.

Richard is a Kellogg scholar, has a Dairy farming and consultancy background with his main area of interest being in people and productivity.



Cr. Jimmy Chen, Christchurch City Council

Jimmy Chen was born in Taiwan – his parents were from Sichuan, China. Jimmy and his family (wife and two daughters) immigrated to Christchurch in 1996. In Taiwan, he earned a Bachelor of Science and Master of Commerce. After 21 years in Christchurch, he is well-known in his community. Before being elected as a Christchurch City Councillor, he was a home tutor, tourist guide, interpreter, volunteer with Christchurch Citizens Advice Bureau, Trustee of Burnside High School, Chair of the Christchurch Intercultural Assembly, and a consulting member of the Canterbury Police Office Asian Consultants.

In 2010 Jimmy Chen was elected as a Christchurch City Councillor, and was re-elected in 2013 and in 2016. He is currently Halswell-Hornby-Riccarton Community Board member, Trustee of Royal New Zealand Air Force Museum Trust Board, Trustee of Riccarton Bush Trust Board, Trustee of Hei Hei- Broomfield Community Development Trust Board, Trustee of the Church in Christchurch Trust Board, and a senior Christchurch City Councillor in his third term. He is currently Chair of the Council's Multicultural Subcommittee as well as Chair of the Council's International Relations Working Group.

Jimmy Chen is a strong advocate for the people in the South-West suburbs of the city as well as an advocate for the multi-ethnic and multicultural communities.

As a City Councillor, he has led the Multicultural Working Party to develop the Multicultural Strategy, and the final version of this strategy has been adopted by the Council in February 2017. This strategy is a commitment by the Council to provide a framework and a set of goals and actions to ensure every person in Christchurch feels a sense of belonging. And as new Chair of the Multicultural Subcommittee, he is taking the lead to oversee the implementation of the Multicultural Strategy.

He actively participates in the various communities' events and activities.



Cr. Marie Laufiso, Dunedin City Council

Mauriora, Greetings, Mālo e lelei, Kia orana, Tāloha ni, Tālofa, Mauri, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Ni sa bula vinaka, la orana, Ni hao, Namaste, Hola, Konnichi wa, Mabuhay, Assalaamalaykum, Tālofa lava.

I acknowledge the hapū and whānau of the Kāi Tahu, Kāti Mamoe, Waitaha and Rabuvai nations. As a proud Dunedin-born Sāmoan, I am privileged to come from Brockville where four generations of my family still live.

I am standing because I dream of a Dunedin where this city's vast wealth and resources can be equitably accessed by every child and young person ~ regardless of her or his family's background, ethnicity/ies or social status.

Over three decades of community activism have taught me to value relationships, collaboration and innovation. If elected, I will work hard within the DCC to address challenges facing Dunedin's most vulnerable communities by supporting projects that will enable our city to build a positive, sustainable future.



Pancha Narayanan – Pathway to Treaty Based Multicultural Community

Pancha is the Managing Director of Promac International Limited that provides programme and project management consultancy and services to both the public and private sectors in New Zealand. As a volunteer in the migrant and refugee communities he has, in the past also held the positions of the President of the New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils and the Multicultural Council of Wellington. Pancha is currently the President of the Upper Hutt Multicultural Council. He is also a board member of the Centre for Applied Cross Cultural Research at Victoria University in Wellington.

Pancha enjoys cricket, meditation, swimming and yoga. He is married to his school friend Pohswan with whom he has two (now grown-up) children.

RMC & NZNN Locations 2017

