

STRICTLY EMBARGOED: UNTIL 10:30PM, FRIDAY 14 JUNE 2024

Wellington's celebrated Tākina convention centre takes category top honours in Property Industry Awards

Auckland, 14 June 2024: At tonight's Property Council New Zealand Rider Levett Bucknall Property Industry Awards, Tākina, Wellington's celebrated new 18,000sqm Convention and Exhibition Centre took top honours in the Warren and Mahoney Civic, Health and Arts Property Award category.

The Property Industry Awards are the most prestigious property awards programme in Aotearoa New Zealand celebrating excellence in design and innovation in the built environment. This year's ceremony – the 34th in the history of the awards – took place tonight at the Spark Arena.

According to Andrew Evans, chief judge, Property Industry Awards this remarkable new civic building stood out for several reasons. He said, "Tākina impressed the judging panel due to its beautiful design, sustainability credentials and its importance to the Wellington region."

Tākina is Wellington's largest built-infrastructure investment since the Sky Stadium 20 years ago. Through exceptional teamwork, it was delivered on time and with a modest budget, despite being a complex civic project built during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The building, developed by Willis Bond and designed by Studio Pacific Architecture, sits on a 5,500sqm site opposite Te Papa Tongarewa. It is an elegant space that can house multiple events, exhibitions and conferences, and is already attracting strong interest from international and domestic visitors. Only six months after opening it had injected approximately \$24 million of spending into Wellington's economy, much more than forecast.

Evans added, "Tākina's elegant architecture, close Iwi involvement in the design narrative, the adaptability of its numerous generous rooms which include the country's largest gallery space, make this a truly remarkable building."

Mana Whenua helped to shape the building's identity, anchoring it in Te Whanganui-a-Tara. A Mouri stone forms a celebrated educational centrepiece that energises Tākina and people within it.

The name Tākina means to "invoke, to summon, to connect, to bring forth" in Te Reo Māori. According to the convention centre's website, the most powerful force that is summoned in Wellington is the wind. Taranaki Whānui gifted the name Tākina to the new Wellington convention and exhibition centre to celebrate the unique Wellington winds and the part they played in shaping Wellington.

Tākina is Aotearoa New Zealand's first convention centre to achieve a 5-star Green Star NZ certified rating reducing carbon emissions and energy use by 60-70%. Screens in the lobby show real-time water and energy-consumption and carbon emissions. The building has been designed to withstand seismic activity.



The convention centre is a catalyst helping to transform the surrounding area and urban environment connecting the waterfront area, retail businesses and the community.

“The property industry does so much more than construct beautiful buildings,” said Leonie Freeman, chief executive, Property Council New Zealand. “New Zealand’s property owners and the property industry are important contributors to the country’s economy – city shapers who create spaces where New Zealanders live, work, play and shop.”

Warren and Mahoney Civic, Health and Arts Property Award

Best in category: Tākina - Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre

- Owner: Wellington City Council
- Developer: Willis Bond
- Construction: LT McGuinness
- Architect: Studio Pacific Architecture
- Structural engineer: Dunning Thornton Consultants
- Service/mechanical engineer: Beca
- Building enclosure engineer: Mott MacDonald
- Quantity surveyor: Rider Levett Bucknall
- Fire engineer: Holmes Fire
- Geotechnical engineer: Tonkin + Taylor

Excellence:

- Hillmorton Specialist Mental Health Services, Christchurch
- New Brighton Surf Life Saving Club, Christchurch
- Newtown Community Centre / Te Whare Hapori o Ngā Puna Waiora, Wellington
- Rotorua Lakefront Redevelopment, Rotorua
- Te Pou ō Mata-Au | Clutha District War Memorial & Community Centre, Balclutha

Merit:

- Bidwill Trust Hospital - Radiology Extension, Timaru
- Queenstown Corps, Queenstown
- Starship Children's Hospital, Auckland
- Te Iwitahi - Whangārei Civic Centre, Whangārei
- Te Kete Aronui Rototuna Library and Public Realm, Hamilton
- Te Whare Whakatere - Ashburton Library and Civic Centre, Ashburton
- Toi Mahara - the Kāpiti District Gallery, Waikanae

ENDS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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Please do **NOT** contact this person prior to the stated embargo (10:30pm on Friday 14 June 2024).

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For media use: images for each of the winning projects are available [here](#). Please credit the photographer where mentioned in the file name.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MEDIA

ABOUT THE AWARDS

The prestigious Property Council New Zealand Property Industry Awards are presented to outstanding property projects, developments or substantive refurbishments across New Zealand.

The Awards are highly regarded for their focus on efficient use of capital. Projects are awarded for meeting a wide range of criteria to provide an outstanding return and/or delivery of service potential on investment of funds and maximum community benefit for public buildings.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Each nominee is assessed against the following criteria:



- Economic and financial criteria 30%
- Project vision and innovation (includes degree of difficulty) 15%
- Design and construction 20%
- Owner and user satisfaction 15%
- Sustainability and efficiency of operation 20%

Visit the [Property Industry Awards website](#) for more information or to download the full list of nominees.

ABOUT PROPERTY COUNCIL NEW ZEALAND

Property Council is the leading advocate for Aotearoa New Zealand's largest industry – property.

Property Council New Zealand is the one organisation that collectively champions property, bringing together members from all corners of the property eco system to advocate for reduced red tape that enables development.

Property is New Zealand's largest industry, making up 15% of economic activity. As a sector, we employ 9% of New Zealand's workforce and contribute over \$41.2 billion to GDP.

A not-for-profit organisation, the Property Council connects over 10,000 property professionals, championing the interests of 570 member companies.

Our membership is broad and includes some of the largest commercial and residential property owners and developers in New Zealand. The property industry comes together at our local, national and online events, which offer professional development, exceptional networking and access to industry-leading research.

Our members shape the cities and spaces where New Zealanders live, work, play and shop.

www.propertynz.co.nz

