

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

Invercargill Central claims another accolade, receives Yardi Retail Award in 2024 Property Industry Awards

Auckland, 14 June 2024: – Invercargill Central has been awarded the Yardi Retail Property Award at the prestigious Property Council New Zealand Rider Levett Bucknall Property Industry Awards tonight. This was one of 11 Excellence and Best in Category awards handed out during the event, which is Aotearoa New Zealand’s most prestigious property awards programme.

Completed in three stages, this project comprises 47 retail tenancies, a childcare centre, five restaurant tenancies, four office tenancies and four levels of parking. An integrated, nine-storey commercial office building is located on a prominent corner adding nine stories of prime commercial space and creating a new landmark on the skyline.

The project was born out of a desire to create a place for the people of Invercargill to connect and to revive an existing city block which had suffered from retail flight and reduced footfall. The motivation for the project was to provide a community hub which represented a new retail model with an emphasis on user enjoyment. What has resulted is a redeveloped Invercargill Central retail centre that is embedded in local context, speaks to the history of the site and welcomes people to return.

Planners had to carefully consider heritage protection, consulting Heritage New Zealand to identify the most efficient way to inform the scale and rhythm of new builds to sit respectfully alongside heritage facades. Due to the scale and complexity of the design, unprecedented in Invercargill, a high degree of rigour was required to align decisions with design aspirations. The project team navigated through a complex, detailed and challenging resource consent process to achieve New Zealand’s first entire-block redevelopment.

The Amalgamated Builders Limited construction team has already taken home multiple awards for their work from the Commercial Project Awards late last month, with today’s win citing the exceptional craftsmanship from the firm.

“Invercargill Central stands as a testament to innovative design and deliberate development,” says Leonie Freeman, Property Council New Zealand chief executive. “This precinct breathes life back into the heart of New Zealand’s most southern city, providing locals with a community hub with public social spaces to enjoy for years to come.”

There has been a notable impact on pedestrian experience and community integration since the final stage of the centre opened to the public in early 2023.

Throughout the development, thoughtful design elements add character, with details inspired by the climate and surroundings of Invercargill. Tactile vertical Kaynemaile and colour changing LED lighting inspired by the Aurora Australis, a natural phenomenon visible in Invercargill. Kaynemaile is also featured internally, forming a profiled ceiling feature artwork inspired by the Southern Alps.

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The development prioritises energy efficiency and sustainability, particularly evident in the comprehensive lighting and ventilation systems. Smart sensors operate high-efficiency LED lighting in both FOH and BOH areas, and ventilation systems leverage natural airflow when possible. Across the build, technical integrated approaches demonstrate a commitment to sustainability and resource efficiency.

Andrew Evans, Property Industry Awards chief judge says, “Invercargill Central has been a high-level operation from start to finish, and it is clear from the big picture details right down to the small-scale elements. The team involved applied years of experience to execute a successfully curated retail hub desperately needed to revive the city.”

ENDS

Yardi Retail Property Award

Best in Category: Invercargill Central

- Owner/developer: Invercargill Central
- Construction: Amalgamated Builders
- Architect: Buchan
- Structural engineer: Lewis Bradford Consulting Engineers
- Service/mechanical engineer: Cosgroves
- Quantity surveyor: WT
- Project manager: Invercargill Central, Cronos Projects
- Fire engineer: Holmes Fire
- Town planner: Bonisch

Other winners in this category were:

Merit:

- Les Mills, Dunedin
- Willis Lane, Wellington

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.

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