

**STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 10:00PM, THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER 2024**

## **Waikato property leaders shine at Central Property People Awards**

The Waikato property industry celebrated one of its most respected figures tonight as Judith Makinson of CKL took home both the Beca Women in Property Award and the prestigious Colliers Project Leaders Supreme Award at the Property Council New Zealand Central Property People Awards.

With more than 25 years of international experience in transportation engineering, Judith has left a lasting mark on both public and private sectors, establishing herself as Waikato's "go-to" property expert.

The judging panel highlighted Judith's far-reaching influence, saying, "her contributions extend well beyond her formal role. Judith is a tireless advocate for the entire property sector, and her wealth of experience combined with an unwavering commitment to excellence make her a true industry role model."

In other award highlights, the team behind the Marine Parade Coastal Pathway earned the Chow:Hill Urban Design Award for their innovative design and development, while the University of Waikato's The Pā Project Team was recognised with the Veros Best Team Award for their collaborative work on the University's transformational project.

Rising industry talent Ryan Tesselaar of Fosters was named Rider Levett Bucknall Young Achiever of the Year. His rapid career progression and leadership have made a significant impact on both the business and the wider community.

"Ryan's impressive leadership trajectory combined with his dedication to the growth and development of others makes him a standout future leader in the property sector," noted the judges.

The Te Rapa Gateway Project Team secured the Harkness Henry Judges' Choice Award for their role in transforming 60 hectares of farmland into one of New Zealand's most dynamic industrial parks. The judges applauded the team's collaboration and 20-year vision, which has reshaped Hamilton's employment landscape.

"The success of Te Rapa Gateway is a testament to innovation and teamwork, resulting in a large-scale development that will continue to drive economic growth in the Waikato region," said the panel.

The CKL Property Professional of the Year Award was awarded to Miko Brouwer of RDT Pacific, recognised for her leadership in fostering iwi partnerships and promoting sustainability initiatives across both residential and commercial sectors.

The judging panel said "Miko's leadership is setting a new standard for future leaders in our industry, and her work is leaving a lasting legacy."

The Boffa Miskell Excellence in Sustainability Award was awarded to the Fosters Team for their groundbreaking work on Stage 1 of the Metlifecare Somervale Village. This innovative project aimed to construct one of the Bay of Plenty's first mass timber buildings, achieving a 7 Homestar

Built rating while promoting sustainable building practices. The team surpassed their sustainability targets by diverting more than 80% of the 232 tonnes of waste generated, setting a new benchmark for environmentally conscious construction in the region.

Buddy Mikaere, consultant and advocate was honoured with the Fosters Outstanding Leadership Award for his decades of leadership and dedication to unity and partnerships across Aotearoa.

“With boundless energy and a genuine passion for positive change, Buddy has set an exemplary benchmark for leadership in our industry,” said the judges.

The Hawkins Long Service Award saw two recipients this year. In Waikato, Doug Sanders was recognised for his extensive career as a registered valuer and his contributions to communities across Hamilton, Cambridge, and beyond. In the Bay of Plenty, Bill Holland of Holland Beckett was honoured for his dedication to the community, notably through his role in establishing the Acorn Foundation and promoting private philanthropy.

“Bill’s work with local organisations like TECT, Rotary, and Priority One has made him an inspiring leader, motivating others to contribute to lasting, positive change,” said the panel.

Property Council Chief Executive Leonie Freeman closed the night by celebrating the winners: “It’s an honour to recognise the people behind the projects that are transforming our communities. These individuals and teams are creating the spaces where we live, work, and play, and it’s a privilege to celebrate their achievements.”

ENDS

**For all supporting images, [click here](#).**

NOTES TO THE EDITOR

## **About the Central People Property Awards**

The Central Property People Awards celebrate the people in property, recognising excellence and innovation in our region. The Awards are open to all Waikato and Bay of Plenty property professionals from throughout the property spectrum.

<https://www.propertynz.co.nz/property-people-awards/central>

## **Central Property People Award Winners 2024**

- **Colliers Project Leaders Supreme Excellence Award & Beca Women in Property Award**  
Judith Makinson, CKL
- **Rider Levett Bucknall Young Achiever of the Year Award**  
Ryan Tesselaar, Fosters
- **Chow:Hill Architects Urban Design Award**

Marine Parade Coastal Pathway Team - *Tauranga City Council, Boffa Miskell, Fulton Hogan, Ngāi Tūkairangi, Ngāti Kuku, GHD, Veros*

- **CKL Property Professional of the Year Award**  
Miko Brouwer, RDT Pacific
- **Fosters Outstanding Leadership Award**  
Buddy Mikaere, Consultant
- **Veros Best Team Award**  
Te Pā Project Team - *University of Waikato, Colliers Project Leaders, Jasmax, Architectus, Rider Levett Bucknall, Beca, Hawkins*
- **Boffa Miskell Excellence in Sustainability Award**  
The Fosters Team for Metlifecare Somervale Village Redevelopment Stage 1
- **Hawkins Long Service Award - Waikato**  
Doug Saunders, CBRE
- **Hawkins Long Service Award - Bay of Plenty**  
Bill Holland, Holland Beckett
- **Harkness Henry Judges' Choice Award**  
Te Rapa Gateway Project Team - *BCD Group, Burton Partners Lawyers, Chalmers Properties, CKL, Eclipse Architecture, Gray Consulting Engineers, Fosters, Octa Associates*

## 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 10% of New Zealand's workforce and contribute over \$50.2 billion to GDP.

A not-for-profit organisation, the Property Council connects over 10,000 property professionals, championing the interests of approximately 550 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.**

For further comment please contact:

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