



NZDSN conference – Live the Day!

Wednesday 16 to Friday 18 March 2011

Rutherford Hotel – Nelson

Keynote speakers



Hon. Tariana Turia

Co-leader Maori Party
Member of Parliament for Te Tai Hauauru
Minister Responsible for Whanau Ora
Minister of the Community & Voluntary Sector
Minister for Disability Issues
Associate Minister of Social Development
Associate Minister of Health

Hon. Tariana Turia was first elected 1996-1999 as a Labour List MP. From 1999, Tariana became the Associate Minister of Maori Affairs (Social Development); Associate Minister of Corrections; Associate Minister of Health; Associate Minister of Housing and Associate Minister of Social Services and Employment (Social Services).

In 2002, Tariana was given the responsibility of Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector, as well as retaining Associate Ministerials in Maori Affairs, Health, Housing and Social Services.

In May 2004, Tariana resigned from the Labour Government in response to the proposed Foreshore and Seabed Bill. On 27 July 2004, she was re-elected MP for Te Tai Hauauru, the first Māori Party MP elected to the NZ Parliament. She is also the Co-Leader of the Māori Party since its inception in 2004.

In 2008, after forming a coalition Government with National, Tariana is again a Minister of the Crown responsible for the portfolios above.

Prior to her political career, Tariana was Chief Executive of Te Oranganui Iwi Health Authority; Service broker for Te Puni Kokiri; Manager of Whaioranga Iwi Social Services Unit; and Manager of Whanganui Regional Development Board Trust.

Tariana was also a member of an evaluation team for first pilot cervical screening project for Maori women; a member of two task forces to establish kura kaupapa Maori and member of a team that established the Te Awa Youth Trust (the first marae-based training establishment in 1980).

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Lorna Sullivan

Lorna is Chief Executive of Standards Plus, a small national agency working as a community resource to promoting innovation and change in the delivery of services and the development of community for disabled people and families.

She has been a longstanding member of Disabled Persons Assembly (Disabled Persons International) and is the adviser to the national committee of People First New Zealand.

Lorna has worked extensively within the disability sector in New Zealand for the past 30 years. She has held roles in service provision, education, government, training and development and leadership within both the disability sector and disabled community.

Lorna is currently involved in the development and delivery of social role valorisation in NZ. She works alongside families to build leadership and change through family engagement, and is involved in the development and implementation of individualised funding and family governed and self-directed services in NZ.

Lorna is also the coordinator of the International Initiative for Disability Leadership and the NZ representative for the Council for Quality and Leadership

Lorna is recognised as holding leadership and change agent roles in the support of disabled people and families.

Her particular areas of interest are in working alongside of disabled people and families to build services and supports that are genuinely relevant to their needs and their individual pursuit for personally meaningful futures. She uses what she learns to support people with disabilities and their families, advocacy groups, service providers, and governments interested in working for genuine change.

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Philip Patston

“Humour is that which most efficiently recognises that we are living in an imperfect world, with imperfect arguments and things that are insane, illogical, and irrational. And the only way we can live with that fact is to laugh.” — Anonymous

Philip Patston is a social and creative commentator and entrepreneur, with 15 years' experience as an award-winning, professional comedian. He is the founder and director of Diversity New Zealand and Diversityworks Trust. Philip is also the creator of WISE SPECIES, a practical tool for personal and social change.

Philip lives in Auckland, but his work – an eclectic mix of entrepreneurial leadership, consulting and performing – sees him travel regularly around the country, to Australia, the US and Canada, as well as the UK and Belgium.

He holds a diploma in Applied Social Studies and a certificate of qualification in Social Work (CQSW) from Auckland College of Education (now the University of Auckland).

Is diversity the new disability?

Several years ago, Philip began to consider alternative ways to conceive social difference. He published a paper on functional diversity in the international journal of Disability and Rehabilitation in 2007, and spoke about functional and experiential diversity at the Skoll Forum on Social Entrepreneurship at Oxford University in 2008.

He now aims to promote a new understanding of diversity and a reinvention of social structure using different thought patterns, new language and constructive behaviour, reframing the distinction between normal and abnormal as common and unique.

In his keynote, Philip will share his ideas about how understanding of diversity is changing – and indeed must change – for society to evolve and develop wiser ways of interacting. He will talk about ‘dysfunction-phobia’ in the world and why change needs to be led by the disability sector. Philip will ask whether a deepened understanding of functional diversity is a social imperative, and he will also share his vision of a collective ideology that continually delights in the unique characteristics that humanity exhibits.

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Tony Christiansen

Tony is one of the world's leading inspirational/motivational speakers. Humorous, bold and straight-talking, Tony tells a story you'll never forget. He tells of the adversity he's faced since the age of nine, when a horrific railway accident left him with real challenges.

Although it was a terrible thing that happened, Tony has never allowed it to slow him down in any way. In fact, he's achieved more in his life so far than most of us are willing to even try.

Tony is:

- A successful businessman
- A best-selling author
- A qualified lifeguard, honoured by World Surf Lifesaving Federation
- An Olympic Gold medallist in shot-put, discus and javelin
- A second-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do
- A race car champion – the world's fastest amputee
- A qualified pilot, creating New Zealand aviation history
- A qualified scuba diver

In December 2002, against all odds, Tony even climbed Mt Kilimanjaro – Africa's highest mountain!

Tony finds delight in every living moment and shares his passion and enthusiasm with audiences around the world.

Now in constant demand as a keynote speaker to corporations and conferences, he has presented in most countries around the world, leaving his audiences with an insight of what can be achieved with determination, belief, and a burning desire to succeed and accept the challenges in life.

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Tony Christiansen's presentation is proudly sponsored by [Careerforce](#)





Anne O'Connell

Anne O'Connell is the Group Manger for Disability Support Services, National Health Board, Ministry of Health.

Anne has extensive experience in the health and disability sector managing, developing and purchasing health and disability services. This includes supporting and implementing legislative, government and policy changes. She has a particular interest in service improvement and innovation and is well versed in policy development, monitoring and evaluation of services, stakeholder management and procurement.

Anne worked with ACC for 10 years in a variety of policy and purchasing roles, including (most recently) National Manager Rehabilitation Service Development.

Since taking up the role 18 months ago, Anne has focused on service improvement. She has championed the development of a new framework for disability supports, the rollout of Individualised Funding and commenced a review of residential services – all within an environment of increasing budgetary and funding pressures.

Anne has focused on building relationships with key stakeholders and improving contracting processes and believes in an open and transparent approach to managing purchasing responsibilities.

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