

In This Newsletter:

- Registrations open - PIA 2026 Conference

- Theme
- Format
- Email to register
- Pricing
- A sneak peak at a few of our speakers
- Discounted conference accommodation
- Thanks to our 2026 conference sponsors

- PHSLG meeting update

- Exec meeting
- PCANZ update - industry support needed!
- 2026 Safeguard awards
- Grant Wilson Memorial Award
- 2026 AGM
- Encouraging colleagues to sign up for the PIA newsletter

Registrations open - PIA 2026 Conference

THEME: Charting the Course: Threats, Opportunities, the Future of the Port Sector



New 1.5-day format (+ Subcommittee meetings day)
- based on feedback from 2025's post-conference survey

Registrations are now open for this year's conference at Rydges Latimer Christchurch on Sept 29 - 30th, delivered in partnership with Lyttelton Port Company (LPC).



Tues Sept 29: 1pm start = afternoon of conference presentations, evening networking drinks

Wed Sept 30: Full day of conference presentations, conference dinner at new One NZ Stadium

Thurs Oct 1: Subcommittee meetings, held offsite from Rydges Christchurch (no port tour)

Email eo@portindustry.co.nz to register, providing each attendee's name & each attendee's email address

**PRICING: PIA members \$525 pp (+GST) | Associate members \$900 pp (+GST)
Non-members \$1,550 pp (+GST)**

(Pricing covers the entire Sept 29 - 30 conference, not changing if you choose not to attend some elements.)

Conference Dinner at Christchurch's New One New Zealand Stadium

(pictured at right, interior view of dinner venue overlooking the playing field below)



A Sneak Peek At Some Of Our Speakers

Further details about speakers and the agenda will be provided soon.



Speaker:
**Associate Transport Minister
James Meager**



Speaker:
**MD Mediterranean Shipping Company NZ (MSC)
Leonard Bentley**
(Re-scheduled from 2025 due to illness)



Speaker:
CE Business Leaders' Health and Safety Forum
Francois Barton



Speaker:
University of Canterbury Associate Professor & Director of Future Forge Ltd
(focus on enabling organisations to develop and deploy AI and automation pipelines)
Elsamari Botha



Panel member, 'Predictable Surprises' panel discussion:
CEO National Emergency Management Agency (NZ) & former CEO
Pike River Recovery Agency
David Gawn



Panel member, 'Predictable Surprises' panel discussion:
CEO Christchurch International Airport Limited
Justin Watson

Discounted Conference Accommodation:

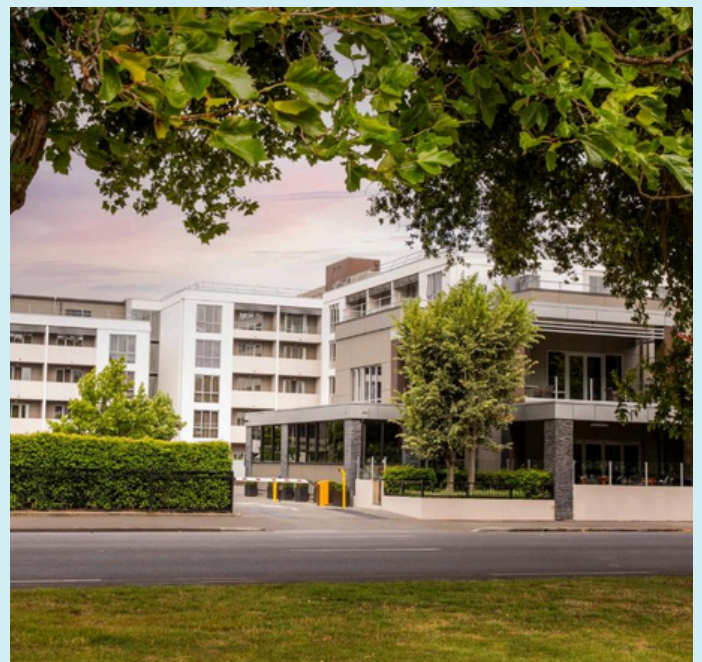
Rydges Latimer Christchurch is offering discounted event accommodation pricing, available until August 14th, when the link to access it will disappear.

Until 11:59pm August 14, you can book a Deluxe King room for \$259/night (includes breakfast), on a 'first come, first served basis, via:

[Ports Industry Association Conference | Rydges Hotels & Resorts](#)

NB: Make sure you've selected the number of guests/room you want.

Once the link expires you'll need to book accommodation directly via the hotel, subject to availability and at the best available rate.



We look forward to seeing you at conference and know you'll join us in thanking those fantastic corporate sponsors who have committed to sponsoring our 2026 conference to date:



Other PIA Updates

General Updates:

Over the past three months, the PIA and its subcommittees have continued to actively represent the sector through submissions on the proposed Health and Safety at Work Act amendments and the Maritime Security Act Review.

It was pleasing to see approximately 90% of member organisations participate in the recent Fatigue Risk Management workshops, demonstrating the sector's ongoing commitment to Fatigue Risk Management.

The Health & Safety Committee welcomed lawyer Stacey Shortall (pictured to the right) of MinterEllisonRuddWatts, who provided an overview of the proposed Health and Safety at Work Act amendments, while ACC shared industry data showing a continuing downward trend in harm and injury rates, alongside discussion on musculoskeletal injury prevention initiatives. The Education & Training Committee also welcomed new Industry Skills Board CEO Samantha McNaughton for an introductory discussion on future industry training and workforce development priorities



PHSLG Meeting Update

PIA Chair Dave Wakelin and Executive Officer Jacqui Ramsay attended the recent Port Health and Safety Leadership Group (PHSLG) meeting, hosted by Qube Ports.

The meeting included a discussion session with Minister James Meager and Bay of Plenty MPs Tom Rutherford and Sam Uffindell, providing an opportunity to discuss current industry challenges and priorities. Key meeting discussions also focused on how charterers and cargo owners can better understand and meet their health and safety responsibilities for vessels operating in New Zealand.

Exec Meeting

The Executive Committee met in Tauranga in June, with thanks to C3 for hosting. Discussions focused on current industry priorities, workforce training pathways, conference planning, and updates from Maritime New Zealand and the Port Health and Safety Leadership Group (PHSLG). The Committee also reviewed preparations for the 2026 PIA Conference in Christchurch and commenced planning for the Association's 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2027.

The Executive remains focused on supporting industry-led initiatives in safety, workforce capability, and advocacy, while continuing to monitor developments associated with the proposed Health and Safety at Work Act amendments and other regulatory changes.

A vacancy currently exists on the Executive Committee for a Port Representative. Members interested in contributing to the future direction of the Association are encouraged to submit an Expression of Interest to the Executive Officer.

Remind Colleagues To Sign Up for The PIA Newsletter

PIA newsletters are the primary way we communicate with our members, informing them about conference, courses and important developments.

We can't post everything to our website as some of it is meant for a specific audience only; hence the importance of our newsletter.

Members and associate members join the PIA at an organisational level and we aren't given email addresses for everyone in those organisations.

Please remind your colleagues and cohorts that if they want to stay up-to-date with PIA news, they should sign up to our newsletter using the simple two-field sign-up form at the bottom of our website's home page

<https://portindustry.co.nz/>

People can easily unsubscribe using the link at the bottom of any newsletter.



PCANZ Update - Industry support needed!



PCANZ remains the port sector's industry-owned training provider, jointly owned by the Port Industry Association and the Crane Association of New Zealand. As shareholders, we have a direct role in supporting its success and ensuring the sector retains access to industry-led training pathways.

Current learner enrolments are lower than required, placing future funding opportunities and programme delivery at risk. We encourage all members to review the training programmes and micro-credentials available through PCANZ and identify suitable learners where possible.

Industry support through enrolments is critical to maintaining a training provider that understands our sector and can continue to develop the workforce capability needed for the future.



The 2026 Safeguard NZ Workplace Health and Safety Award results were recently announced at a gala dinner.

Last Year the Supreme Award was won by the Port Industry Fatigue Working Group (PIFWG), for a major cross-industry initiative to reduce the risks associated with worker fatigue in the port sector. The PIFWG brings together representatives from the port sector, Maritime NZ, the Rail and Maritime Transport Union (RMTU), Maritime Union of NZ (MUNZ) and Merchant Services Guild.

This year the Supreme Award was won by BESIX Watpac (winners of the Leadership Category) for the successful completion of Christchurch's One New Zealand stadium, early and on budget and with no lost-time injuries.

We congratulate all port-related finalists, who included:

- Lyttelton Port Company, who won the Safety category having deployed drone technology across eight safety use cases, removing personnel from critical risks including working at height and near water.)
- Qube Ports NZ (in the Wellbeing category)
- Megan Elmiger, CentrePort Wellington (in the Leader category)

Grant Wilson Memorial Award 2026

We'll be sending information about how to nominate people for this award, the winner of which will be announced at the PIA 2026 Conference, in a separate email newsletter in the near future.

Coming up in mid-August - PIA 2026 AGM

The 2026 PIA AGM will be held online on Wednesday 19 August 2026, from 11:00am-12:00pm. We'll sent every PIA member who has subscribed to the PIA newsletter an invitation soon, followed up with the necessary paperwork.

Jacqui Ramsay, PIA EO