



News release  
5 October 2020

### **Business events given green light across New Zealand**

Auckland's move to Alert Level 1 is great news for the business events industry and will give decision-makers confidence across the country, says Conventions and Incentives New Zealand (CINZ) Chief Executive, Lisa Hopkins.

Auckland will join the rest of New Zealand in Covid-19 alert level 1 from 11.59pm on Wednesday 7 October.

"Today's announcement by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern dispels all confusion about who can meet and where. We have been given the green light to meet, with the country fully opened up to domestic groups, and Aucklanders again welcome to any region," she says.

"Now is the time to rebuild the industry, and deliver confidence back to organisers who have been holding off planning and booking their events. Our message is it is safe to hold a conference, seminar, workshop, or team recognition event. We want people to understand that business events are the safest type of event that can be held, backed up by the World Health Organisation itself."

CINZ has opened registrations for [BE Reconnected](#), a free industry exhibition and networking day in Auckland on 1 December aimed at throwing the spotlight on this \$5 billion sector and rekindling vital industry relationships.

"BE Reconnected will be an essential platform to support the sector now and beyond. It is imperative for the good of the country and for the industry that we now move forward safely, and with assurance," Lisa Hopkins says.

ENDS

**Note to editors:**

Media are invited to attend [BE Reconnected](#) in Auckland at Aotea Centre on 1 December.

For further information and to register interest, please contact:

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**About Conventions and Incentives New Zealand (CINZ)**

- CINZ [www.conventionsnz.co.nz](http://www.conventionsnz.co.nz) is the official, membership-based association of New Zealand's conference and business events industry with more than 460 members across a broad range of sectors.
- CINZ takes a leadership role in increasing meetings, incentives, conference and events business for the benefit of its members, principal stakeholders and the New Zealand economy.
- CINZ works to actively promote the sector, providing advocacy with central government and offering assistance, information, professional development and real business opportunities to its members.
- CINZ manages New Zealand's only national annual trade show MEETINGS, which generated over \$64 million during its two days in Auckland in 2019. MEETINGS 2021 will be held in Christchurch.
- CINZ will host BE Reconnected on 1 December 2020 as a proactive way to support the industry to reconnect with customers and each other.