

Wellington Branch Newsletter – September 2021

Kia ora, and welcome to the September edition of the Wellington NZISM Branch Newsletter.

We hope everyone is adapting to life in Alert Level 2. It's great to see that Auckland has now moved down to Alert Level 3. We will continue to host our monthly branch learning session online while in Alert Level 2.

Next Event – October

Māori workers are more likely to be harmed at work compared to the total workforce. While disparities often sway people towards problematising Māori, there is an alternative narrative that illustrates Māori culture as an advantage.

As a former WorkSafe Inspector, Vance Walker started his doctoral research four years ago to reprise and connect mātauranga (knowledge) with conventional health and safety practices. The crux of research involved the modest Kia Tūpato Case Study, which examined the use of traditional values to improve the perception of risk by Māori workers.



In this presentation, the story of Kia Tūpato and other developments in the emerging genre of Māori health and safety will be discussed.

What: The emerging genre of Māori health and safety with Vance Walker

When: Friday 8 October at midday

Where: Webinar - Please register online using this [link](#).

Mental Health Awareness Week



This week, the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand is running its [awareness week](#). It's a good time to look at how mental health is approached in your workplace, or for those who you consult for. Over the next 12 months, Wellington NZISM are planning to run more learning sessions around mental health as it's such a big and tricky part of health and safety to combat, so watch this space!

Remember to take time to kōrero (talk) this week - a little chat can go a long way.

Event Update - September

Greg Cain joined us again to talk about everything legal in the H&S world in NZ and overseas. We hope you all have been able to watch the [webinar](#). Greg covered a large amount of content including the following areas:

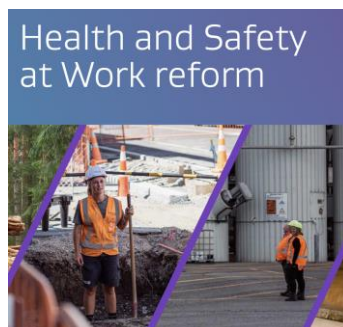


- Recklessness: Worksafe vs Waste Management NZ
- Contractor management in the public sector: WorkSafe v MPI
- First HSWA prosecution outside NZ: Maritime New Zealand v Genera Ltd
- WorkSafe’s review of Talleys
- Impact of COVID-19 on “financial incapability”
- Largest costs order - Pest Control Research Ltd
- Case to watch: Port of Auckland prosecutions
- COVID-19 Vaccinations

If you haven't watched it yet, we recommend that you do. Greg dives into the above subjects and provides some further information in the Q&A section around the charging of the CEO at the Port of Auckland, contractor management, WorkSafe review etc.

Health and Safety at Work Reform

The Government has announced changes to the health and safety regulations, with the intention of providing more clarity and certainty for businesses, and enabling better health and safety for workers. The regulations are being modernised to ensure that they are clear, effective, proportionate, and durable. An early draft of the proposed regulations will be released in early 2022 for further feedback, and to test the detail. The changes are expected to come into effect in late 2022, and businesses will receive guidance to help them prepare.



[Health and Safety at work reform information booklet](#)

COVID-19 Vaccinations in the Workplace

Whether or not to make vaccinations a requirement in the workplace is a hot topic at the moment. Industrial Safety News put out a useful [article](#) this week which explores a lot of the questions which businesses are asking at the moment, as well as guidelines for building a [vaccination policy](#).



WorkSafe has also released a [guide](#) to help assess whether a specific role needs to be performed by a vaccinated worker.

NZISM Website - Tips

Have you visited the members' area on the NZISM website recently? If not, then check it out to see all the [webinars](#) that are available. If you can't make the date of a webinar then don't worry as all webinars are recorded and remain available to members in the [resource section](#).

