

1.5 hours CPD event on **Mediating between and with Asian parties in disputes Conference**

CVs of speakers attached and Runsheet below:

5:15pm	CT welcome
5:20pm	Mervin Singham CEO of Ministry for Ethnic Communities says a few words about why this conference is important
5:25pm	Dr Mai Chen President of NZ Asian Lawyers thanks CT and MEC and MOJ and AMINZ and explains the purpose of this conference and what she has asked the speakers to address
5:35-5:55pm	Hon Kit Toogood KC former High Court judge and expert mediator speaks for 10 minutes, followed by Dr Mai Chen fielding questions from Slido for 15 mins;
5:55 - 6:45pm	Panel Discussion chaired by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Fuiava (Partner at Denham Bramwell Lawyers, AMINZ 2023 Determinative Scholar) with: • Mark Kelly, • Daniel Kalderimis KC, • Dr Heida Donegan, • Margaret Chen, and • Yvonne Mortimer-Wang - Barrister and Co-Chair of NZBA's Advocacy Committee and member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, NZBA –join on stage
6:45-6:55pm	Clayton Kimpton - CEO of The Law Association of New Zealand <i>Conference wrap up - Improving dispute resolution for Asian Communities</i>

Those registered at present include:

DCH Capital Partners, Crimson Education, Dinesh Khadka MNZM, JP from the New Zealand Consulate of Nepal, MinterEllisonRuddWatts, Meredith Connell, Wotton Kearney, Ministry of Health New Zealand, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Ministry of Justice, Public Defence Service, Auckland Community Law Centre, Auckland High Court, KooTelle Lawyers, New Zealand Council of Sikh Affairs, Age Concern Auckland, YWCA Auckland, Together Mediation Limited, Focus Medication, Sheer Negotiations, Peace Consulting Ltd, Nepalese Cultural Centre New Zealand Inc, New Zealand Tamil Engineers Association, Asian Council on Reducing Crime Charitable Trust, Chinese Senior Community Inc, Otowa New Zealand Trading Co Ltd, St John, Intax Chartered Accountants, Emerging Potential Services, Impactdev360, Social Wealth Ltd, Asian New Zealand Leaders, Terra Group, Bank of India (NZ), Auckland University of Technology, Dean Welfare Trust, SM Advisory, Statecraft Strategies, Auckland Pilipino Trust, Peas Project, China Travel Service (NZ) Ltd, MZL3D Ltd, MYT3 Ltd, Dulux, Kpdesign, Stephenson Law, Hong Hu Lawyers & Notary, D. And K. Tailor Ltd / Darji Mandal of Auckland (New Zealand) Inc, CWC Partners Group Limited Chartered Accountants, Wong & Lim LLP (Singapore), Hong Consulting Limited, WinMac Solutions Ltd, Supreme 9 Limited, Johnston Legal, Heritage Law, McDonald Vague, Multicultural Council Whanganui Rangitikei, Legal Associates and more.

Who should attend

Lawyers who advise Asian parties, mediators and those wanting to train as mediators, Asian parties who have legal disputes

There is also an ability to attend online

Speakers' Bio - Mediating disputes between and with Asian parties contemplating court action

Mervin Singham



Mervin is a vastly experienced public servant and previously led the Office of Ethnic Affairs.

Prior to becoming the new Ministry's first Chief Executive he was appointed Executive Director, Royal Commission of Inquiry into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions in 2018.

From 2012 to 2018 he held a number of executive leadership roles at the Department of Internal Affairs, including Deputy Chief Executive, Stewardship and Organisational Sustainability and Deputy Chief Executive, Strategy and Governance.

Between 2000 and 2004 he was Chief Mediator at the Human Rights Commission.

He was Complaints Manager at the Office of Race Relations Conciliator from 1997 to 2000.

Mervin holds a Master of Laws (1st Class Honours), Auckland University and a Bachelor of Laws (Honours), University of Canterbury.

Mai Chen



Mai Chen (LLB(Hons)(Otago)), (LLM(Harvard)), (HonLLD(Otago)), (CMIInstD), barrister, is a leading constitutional and administrative law expert and was previously:

- Founding and Managing Partner, Chen Palmer Public and Employment law Specialists, New Zealand, NZ's first public law specialist firm she founded with the Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Palmer KC.

- Former Adjunct Professor at University of Auckland School of Law and former Adjunct Professor in Commercial and Public Law at the University of Auckland, Business School, and Senior Law Lecturer, Victoria University of Wellington Faculty of Law.
- Chair of the Superdiversity Institute of Law, Policy and Business.
- President of New Zealand Asian Lawyers.
- Former independent non-executive Director, Bank of NZ Board and Chair, BNZ People and Remuneration Committee.
- Securities Commission member.
- Inaugural Chair, NZ Global Women, NZ Asian Leaders, Superdiverse Women.
- Top 10 finalist, 2014 and 2016 New Zealander of the Year.
- Top 50 Diversity Figures in Public Life, Global Diversity List supported by *The Economist*.
- Author of many books and articles including *Public Law Toolbox* (Lexis Nexis, 2nd ed); *Public Law in New Zealand* (Oxford University Press, co-authored) and *Culturally and Linguistically Parties in the Courts: A Chinese case study* (Superdiversity Institute, November 2019).
- Conferred with an honorary Doctor of Laws by the University of Otago in 2023 for her contribution to the legal profession and to Public Law.

When Mai's family emigrated to New Zealand from Taiwan, she only spoke two words of English.

Hon Kit Toogood KC



After 18 years as a litigation lawyer in Wellington firms, Kit Toogood KC joined the Independent Bar in 1990. Following a move to Auckland in 1992, he specialised in civil and commercial litigation; employment, sports, and criminal law; and arbitration and mediation.

Kit Toogood KC took Silk in May 1999.

In March 2011, he was appointed a Judge of the High Court of New Zealand and served also as a member of the Divisional Court of the New Zealand Court of Appeal. Kit was re-appointed as an Acting Judge of the High Court from February 2021 to July 2022. During his judicial terms of over 10 years, he exercised a full range of the courts' jurisdiction in criminal, civil, commercial and other cases at first instance and appellate level.

Since his retirement from judicial office, Kit Toogood KC has returned to practice as a mediator, arbitrator, investigator and consultant/advisor on legal and governance issues.

In January 2023, he was appointed a Judge of the High Court of the Cook Islands

Anna Fuiava



Anna is a partner at Denham Bramwell and heads the Civil Litigation team. Anna first practiced in a commercial top tier firm in Auckland central and then moved to work in South Auckland for a barrister across various areas of law. Anna has been based in Manukau with Denham Bramwell since 2015.

An experienced civil litigator, Anna is also available for appointments as arbitrator. She provides pragmatic advice across commercial, property, estate and employment disputes and undertakes a range of civil legal aid cases. She is an AMINZ member, and was the AMINZ 2023 Determinative Scholar. She sits on the New Zealand Law Society Access to Justice committee and is Chair of the Three Kings School Board.

Mark Kelly



Mark is one of New Zealand's leading commercial mediators, mediating full-time, throughout New Zealand. He has over 30 years of experience in dispute resolution. Mark is a past President, and a Fellow, of the Arbitrators' and Mediators' Institute of New Zealand. He is also a Distinguished Fellow of the International Academy of Mediators. Mark has extensive experience successfully mediating high value disputes involving: general commercial issues, construction, insurance, intellectual property, trusts and estates, property, relationship property, rural and farm debt, sports, earthquake, weathertightness and international issues. Mark won the Mediator of the Year Award at the 2019 and 2022 New Zealand Law Awards. In 2023 and 2024 he was named as one of New Zealand's most influential lawyers. He practices from Bankside Chambers, Auckland.

Daniel Kalderimis



Daniel Kalderimis KC is a barrister at Thorndon Chambers, Richmond Chambers and Twenty Essex specialising in complex commercial and public law disputes. Daniel has appeared at all levels of the New Zealand court system and in arbitrations and mediations in Singapore, London and elsewhere. He is admitted in New Zealand, England & Wales and New York. He is a member of the Rules Committee, convenor of the NZLS Civil Litigation and Tribunals Committee and teaches Civil Procedure and Advocacy at Te Herenga Waka-VUW Law School.

Dr Heida Donegan



Heida is an experienced corporate and commercial lawyer, barrister, mediator and board member, bringing both multi-jurisdictional legal expertise and cultural nuances to the table. She specialises in overseas investment negotiations and cross-border transactions, corporate legal advisory, both contentious and non-contentious, and mediation.

Working in London, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Auckland for over 30 years, Heida has been a partner in prominent international law firms in Auckland, Shanghai and Hong Kong, operating at a leadership level with clients ranging from world leading multinational entities to start-up businesses to settle investment projects and resolve complex differences and disputes.

Throughout her career, Heida has been a trusted advisor for multinational entities from Europe and the USA, guiding their overseas acquisition and growth across the Asia-Pacific region. She has also led numerous investment projects for Asian entities into New Zealand. Her deep cultural competency, coupled with extensive experience working with a range of cultures at corporate, industry, and individual levels, allows her to bridge business strategies and legal-cultural differences across jurisdictions. These experiences have honed her ability to mediate disputes involving Asian businesses and individuals and bring parties to the 'win-win' zone.

Heida holds a PhD in Law from the University of Auckland and practices as a barrister and mediator at Princes Chambers.

Margaret Chen



Margaret is a Director of Nolen Walters (New Zealand), and a Senior Consultant at Fred Kan & Co (Hong Kong).

Originally from Beijing, China, Margaret speaks, reads and writes fluently in English and Mandarin. Margaret's mostly services clients from Asia, particularly mainland China and Hong Kong (SAR). Margaret's practice is predominantly in dispute resolution, particularly in family and civil matters. Margaret's family practice includes both contentious matters such as divorce, matrimonial property division, custody, domestic violence and estate disputes, and non-contentious matters such as trusts and corporate structuring. Margaret has experience in a wide range of civil matters, including shareholder disputes, judicial reviews and construction disputes.

As well as being a barrister and solicitor appearing in the courts of New Zealand and Hong Kong, Margaret was also a part-time lecturer at the University of Auckland and Unitec Institute of Technology on Company Law and Business Obligations.

Margaret was accredited as a general mediator by Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association (HKMAAL) and is also a fellow of the Arbitrators & Mediators Institute of New Zealand (AMINZ). Margaret was also the ambassador for New Zealand for the Young Members Group of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb), to which she is also a fellow.

Clayton Kimpton



Clayton Lloyd Kimpton is a highly respected New Zealand business leader with expertise in law, diplomacy, international trade, governance and dispute resolution. He has built a reputation for facilitating connections and resolving complex challenges both domestically and in global markets.

He is the Chief Executive of The Law Association of New Zealand (TLANZ), a role he has held since April 2024. He brings over three decades of experience spanning legal practice, public service, and international representation. A respected advocate for legal excellence and integrity, Clayton applies a strategic lens to advancing the interests of New Zealand's legal profession.

Clayton was previously a Partner and four term Chair at Kensington Swan (now Dentons), one of New Zealand's leading commercial law firms, where his expertise in mediation, alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and employment litigation earned him a strong reputation as a trusted advisor in resolving disputes across commercial and corporate sectors.

From 2013 to 2023, Clayton held senior roles with New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade. His positions included Regional Director for India, the Middle East and Africa, as well as New Zealand Consul-General in Dubai. He was also appointed by the Minister as Special Envoy Middle East and Commissioner-General for New Zealand at Expo 2020 Dubai, showcasing his skill in strategic diplomacy and international engagement.

Clayton combines legal expertise with deep experience in cross-cultural negotiation and conflict resolution, making him a trusted advisor and leader in both domestic and global contexts.

Yvonne Mortimer-Wang



Yvonne has over a decade's experience in litigation with particular expertise in commercial crimes, civil fraud litigation, proceeds of crime, regulatory and professional disciplinary proceedings.

Yvonne acts for clients in criminal and civil proceedings at all levels of courts. She is equally comfortable and experienced with acting as the sole or lead counsel on matters, or working together with senior counsel from across leading sets in New Zealand.

Yvonne has appeared as counsel representing the New Zealand Bar Association and the New Zealand Law Society in notable cases, as well as having been appointed as counsel to assist the High Court and the Supreme Court. She is a senior prosecutor on the Serious Fraud Office prosecution panel.

Yvonne is a co-chair of the Advocacy Committee and a member of the Diversity Committee of the New Zealand Bar Association. She is a board member of the New Zealand Asian Lawyers, and a co-chair of its Litigation Committee.

Born in Shanghai, and raised both there and in New Zealand, Yvonne is bilingual in English and Chinese. She is routinely asked to act or consult on matters where parts of the evidence is in Chinese.