

15/04/2025

Briefing Paper

Schedule NZ Consultation

Stakeholder engagement

The New Zealand Registered Architects Board (NZRAB), in collaboration with Ngā Aho, is consulting stakeholders on the introduction of new and expanded performance criteria as a benchmark for professional registration. These new competencies have a particular focus on Te Ao Māori (Māori worldview) perspectives, Indigenous knowledge and cultural responsiveness. They also aim to ensure that architects meet evolving and ethical requirements to practise in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Background

The architectural profession is undergoing significant change due to technological advancements, sustainability imperatives, and evolving societal expectations.

Your input is essential to ensure the standards are relevant, inclusive, and practical.

This consultation invites views and ideas from all and any interested individual and organisations to help us shape our approach before we consider implementing it.

This will be an interactive process and we'll only be able to set out more detail once we understand the needs of our stakeholders.

Consultation meetings

We will hold three in-person and two online consultation meetings over the next three months. Dates are as follows (with **venues** to be confirmed):

28 April — Online Introduction and Briefing Session (12pm-1pm via Teams video conferencing platform)

7 May — In-Person Meeting in Auckland (10am-1pm)

4 June — In-Person Meeting in Wellington (10am-1pm)

10 July — In-Person Meeting in Christchurch (10am-1pm)

30 July — Online Wrap-Up Session (12pm-1pm via Teams video conferencing platform)

Facilitators

The sessions will be facilitated by Judith Taylor (CE, NZRAB) & Matt Ritani (Lead Facilitator) with support from Elisapeta Heta, Jade Kake, Whare Timu, Keri Whaitiri, Fleur Palmer, Te Marino Lenihan & Jeremy Porima-Bell.

Focus areas

The **key focus areas** we are seeking your views on are:

1. How can we move beyond symbolic representation of te iwi Māori me onā tikanga (Māori culture and society) in architecture and create spaces that genuinely embody Te Ao Māori (Māori worldview) values and principles, influencing spatial organisation and user-experience?
2. In what ways can Mātauranga Māori (Māori ways of 'knowing') inform sustainable design practices in Aotearoa, considering the interconnectedness of te taiao (the environment) and the responsibility of kaitiakitanga (custodians)?
3. What strategies can be employed to ensure that Indigenous knowledge is respectfully and ethically integrated into the design process, fostering meaningful partnerships and empowering Māori communities to shape the built environment?

Your participation

Attend your preferred meeting date to have your say, share your views and engage in the discussions.

Register online [here](#) by completing and submitting your details by **12 noon** on **Thursday 24 April**.

Programme

ONLINE HUI via Teams video conferencing

To join the meeting, please click on the 'meeting ID' link provided and wait in the meeting lobby. The facilitator will admit you when the hui is about to start. If we could ask participants to have their audio muted that would be much appreciated. If you have a question or want to respond to any of the talking points during the session, please use the 'raised hand' emoji icon and wait for your turn to speak. Avoid interrupting others and background noise. NGĀ MIHI!

12:00pm-12:10pm: **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

12:10pm-12:50pm: **BACKGROUND & CONTEXT**

12:50-1:00pm: **FINAL THOUGHTS & NEXT STEPS**

IN-PERSON HUI with venue locations to be confirmed

Please arrive on time to the venue. If you have any questions for the facilitators, you can email them ahead of time to info@nzrab.org.nz with 'Schedule NZ Hui' in the subject line.

10:00am-10:20am: **MIHI WHAKATAU, WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

10:20am-10:40am: **MORNING TEA**

10:50am-12:35pm: **BACKGROUND, DISCUSSION & SUMMARY OF KEY THEMES**

12:35pm-1:00pm: **LIGHT REFRESHMENTS**

1:00pm: **IN-PERSON HUI CONCLUDES**

Outcomes

Our consultation will close on 1 August 2025, and a summary of the feedback gathered will be published on the NZRAB [website](#). This ensures transparency and keeps stakeholders informed about how their input is influencing decisions.

Explanatory Notes

Feedback from these hui will also form the basis of an *Explanatory Notes* compendium, which will sit alongside the National Standard of Competencies for Architects (NSCA) that the NZRAB licenses from the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia.

Opportunities for further feedback

Stakeholders can provide additional feedback through written submissions via email to info@nzrab.org.nz. NZRAB will host a follow-up session to discuss outcomes from the initial consultation process and next steps.

