

IAP2 Australasia New Zealand Symposium Tāmaki Makaurau, 26 - 27 March 2025

Call for Presentation Abstracts

From 30 October 2024, the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Australasia will be accepting abstract submissions for the IAP2 Australasia New Zealand Symposium to be held from Wednesday 26 – Thursday 27 March 2025.

The symposium brings together engagement practitioners, community development practitioners, communications and marketing professionals and academics to explore the diverse and challenging topic of community and stakeholder engagement.

And of course, we aim to present an event that is interactive, experiential, authentic and fun, while addressing the issues that matter in modern engagement practice in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Explore the following themes as you shape your abstract submission, reflecting the primary areas of interest identified through valuable feedback within our profession. Tailor your submission with these central topics in mind, aiming to provide invaluable insights and fresh perspectives.

- Creative and Non-Traditional Engagement Methods
- Youth and Multicultural Engagement
- Working with Māori and Mana Whenua
- Incorporating Cultural Principles
- Trust, Transparency, and Community Dynamics
- Managing Polarisation in Communities
- Technology and Innovation
- Deliberative Engagement in Practice
- Facilitation
- Engagement in Placemaking and Activation
- Infrastructure Projects
- Crisis and Recovery Engagement
- Supporting Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Elevating Best Practice
- Navigating Leaner Communications and Engagement Strategies
- Maximising Impact with Limited Budgets
- Influencing Decision-Makers
- Case Studies and Lessons Learned

We're calling for abstracts that share examples of what's working and what's not working to encourage a rich debate and sharing of experiences at our Symposium.

We invite you to be part of this symposium by applying to present

Presentation abstract submission is open to all professionals and academics working in community and stakeholder engagement; community members and representatives who have participated in engagement and those who are exploring engagement as part of our rapidly changing design, planning, service delivery and policy making environments.

Submissions are especially welcome from community groups and community organisations who can share what works for them, what doesn't, and why their perspective is both different and important. Submissions from all sectors are welcome. Both new and emerging, and experienced engagement professionals are welcome to submit an abstract.

The abstract submissions will be reviewed and selections made by the Abstract Selection Committee.

Submissions will be prioritised based on the following criteria:

- Content reflects current challenges, shows originality and is of interest to symposium participants.
- References case studies to demonstrate effective engagement and challenges rather than promoting the success of a particular project.
- Presentations focus on providing practical "take-home" tips and resources, rather than just theory.
- The presenter can demonstrate the ability to effectively engage with an audience using their preferred presentation method.
- The presenter can outline knowledge, experience and/or research in their subject area.

Submission Guidelines:

Submissions that do not follow the guidelines, are incomplete and those received after the due date will not be considered.

- Submissions open **Wednesday, 30 October 2024** and are to be made online via the [IAP2A NZ Symposium Submission site](#)
- A blind review process will be used. Please ensure that presenter details (name or organisation) are not included in your 500-word abstract outline.
- Submissions close **Monday, 16 December 2025** at 5:00pm (NZDT).
- Abstracts should be concise and no more than 500 words in length, and written in English with no references, figures or tables. Alternatively, submissions can be presented in video format (up to 5 minutes in length).
- Abstracts and presentations must be completely free of commercial bias or promotion.

- Incorporates “lessons learned” in which there is open sharing of current challenges (for example; for the project, engagement team or those being engaged) and failures and “stuff-ups” – we know we learn when we are challenged and also by our mistakes!
- Focuses on providing practical “take-home” tips and resources, rather than just theory.
- An author is allowed to submit a maximum number of one abstract as presenting author but can be co-author in more than one abstract.
- A confirmation email will be sent to confirm your abstract has been received.
- Presenters are required to purchase a ticket to attend the symposium.
- To maintain the integrity and quality of the program, each abstract must be accompanied with a brief outline of presentation experience (up to 200 words). As a blind review process will be used, please do not include your details (name or organisation) in your outline.

To assist in developing your submission, please consider the following feedback from previous participants who indicated they want:

- Deep dives with meaningful dialogue and learning, for example; master classes that take participants through the experience AND the skill building to enable them to effectively engage.
- New tools, techniques and approaches using technology, tools, props or experiences that inspire, excite and most importantly leave participants with an expanded toolkit.
- A choice of sessions from the emerging and new practitioner through to the experienced “old hand”.
- Hands on, practical sessions on planning, with templates, tools, tips and practice – grounded in best practice and evidence-base.

Important Dates for Abstract Submission:

- Submissions open: Wednesday, 30 October 2024
- Submission Close: Wednesday, 16 December 2024
- Submissions Review Notification: by Wednesday, 31 January 2025
- Full Symposium Programme published: February 2025
- Full Presentation Due for review: Wednesday, 5 March 2025

We are also inviting organisations and groups to run site visits in the Auckland area, offering attendees a chance to explore community-focused projects.
Share your ideas at events@iap2.org.au.

FAQs

What is the length of time allocated to each session?

- The program is yet to be defined, a rough guideline would be for each presentation to be 45 minutes in length, with an additional 15 minutes for question and answer.

When and where is the Symposium?

- Wednesday 26 – Thursday 27 March 2025.
- Pullman Auckland, Cnr Waterloo Quadrant & Princes Street, 1010 Auckland

When will I hear if my abstract has been accepted?

- By Wednesday, 31 January 2025

Do I need to purchase a ticket for the Symposium?

- Yes, all abstract presenters are required to purchase a ticket to the Symposium. Co-presenters from community groups and organisations may be able to access a complimentary session-only pass for their presentation, upon request.

Can non-members of IAP2 Australasia submit an abstract?

- IAP2 membership is not compulsory, however non-members will not have access to member discounted tickets. We encourage being a member to show support to IAP2. Learn more about membership [here](#).