

CDAO New Zealand





Connecting you to what's next in data and Al

	MONDAY 3 RD NOVEMBER				
	DAY ONE				
08:20	Register; grab a coffee. Mix, mingle and say hello to peers old and new.				
09:00	Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei - Mihi Whakatau Te Aroha Grace				
09:05	Welcome remarks by Corinium & Chair's opening remarks Chair: Peter Gavin GM, Data & Analytics ANZ				
09:10	Speed Networking – Making new connections at CDAO New Zealand! During this 5-minute networking session, the aim of the game is to go and meet three people you don't already know. Have fun!				
09:15	Keynote Headliner: Transforming Business with Generative AI: Data-Driven Strategies for Success Speaker: Mike Parsons Data & AI - Tribe Lead and Chapter Area Lead Air New Zealand				
09:40	Improving Al Accuracy with Al-Ready Unstructured and Structured Data Speaker: Hilton Rosenfeld Senior Solution Engineer-DataStax IBM				
10:05	The Data & Al Journey at Fonterra Speaker: Helius Guimaraes Chief Data & Al Officer Fonterra				
10:30	Morning Coffee and Connect				
11:00	How to Create Al Agents and Influence Everything Speaker: Jonathon Bowring Global Field Engineer Informatica				

11:25	Keynote Panel: CDAO Dilemmas in 2025 - What Are the Top Strategies for Balancing AI, Governance & Business Demands?
	 Al vs. Governance: How can CDAOs drive Al innovation while ensuring quality? Ethical and regulatory considerations: just because you can, does it mean you should? Talent & Skills Gap: How do you attract, retain, and upskill teams in a rapidly evolving landscape?
	Moderator:
	Penelope Maxwell Data Analytics Manager Fisher & Paykel Healthcare
	Speakers:
	James Beech Chief Analytics and Insight Officer Westpac
	Graeme Jackson GM Data & Analytics – Enterprise Vector
	Tony Aitken Group Manager – Al & Advanced Analytics Auckland Transport
12:00	Keynote Panel: Exploring the Impact of Al and Data Democratisation in Modern Enterprises
	 How are Al and data democratisation reshaping business operations through real-time insights and improved operational efficiency?
	• In what ways can enterprises effectively measure the ROI from AI initiatives alongside data democratisation efforts?
	What are the ethical implications of deploying AI within a democratised data framework, and how can organisations navigate them responsibly?
	What is one exciting Al development that you have deployed or is currently in production?
	Moderator:
	Xanthe Sulzberger Head of Data - Operational Excellence Fonterra
	Speaker:
	Armon Petrossian CEO & Co-Founder Coalesce.io
	Angela Zhao Head of Data and Al Governance Genesis
	Adam Courtier Head of Data & Digital Workplace Mitre 10
12:35	Lunch Break! Connect and Converse. Private Data Leader's Lunch – Hosted by IBM
13:35	Top Tips to Get Your Data Al-Ready
	Speaker:
	Sam Darmo Senior Sales Engineer Precisely
14:00	Transforming Data Insights into Actionable Revenue: A Step-by-Step Approach
	Speaker:
	Hayden Tuffery Head of Data Enablement NZ Post
14:25	Delivering a Sustainable Al Outcome for the Business
	<u>Speaker:</u>
	Mike Congdon Head of Data & Analytics Southern Cross Healthcare
14:50	Providing Safety in Turbulent Times – Data Governance in Action
	<u>Speaker:</u>
	Mira Bradshaw Head of Data Governance SkyCity Entertainment Group
15:15	Afternoon Coffee and Connect

15:45	Advance Al Adoption with Purpose and Permanence Speaker: Sean Narayan Artificial Intelligence & Business Intelligence Lead Bidfood New Zealand
16:10	From Vision to Value: One NZ's journey to the Agentic Enterprise Speaker: Neeharika Chowdhary GM Al Product & Value One New Zealand
16:40	Closing Remarks by the Chair
16:45	Close of Day One
16:45	Cheers with Peers: CDAO Drinks Reception Continue the conversations.



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TUESDAY 4 TH NOVEMBER DAY TWO		
08:30	Register; grab coffee. Mix, mingle and say hello to peers old and new.	
09:00	Welcome remarks by Corinium & Chair's opening remarks	
	Chair: Peter Gavin GM, Data & Analytics ANZ	
09:10	Past, Present, Potential: The Evolution of Data and Al at Auckland Council Speakers:	
	Sarah Cawsey General Manager Data Auckland Council	
	Andrew Parkinson Head of Analytics Auckland Council	
09:35	Panel Discussion: The Al Mandate - What the Business Expects from Data Leaders	
	 How can data leaders translate Al potential into tangible business outcomes that align with strategic goals? What role should data leaders play in balancing innovation with governance, ethics, and regulatory compliance in Al initiatives? How can data leaders ensure the organisation has the right data, talent, and infrastructure to scale Al responsibly and effectively? 	
	Moderator:	
	David Thomas GM of Data and Enterprise Architecture NZ Post	
	Speakers:	
	Hamish McEwen Chief Data & Analytics Officer Fire & Emergency NZ	
	Mazen Kassis Head of Data & Analytics Foodstuffs NZ	
	Krishna Pathri Head of Data and Insights thl	
	James Bergin EGM Technology Research and Advocacy Xero	
10:10	Balancing Innovation and Governance in Data Strategy: The CDAO's Pursuit	
	Speaker:	
	Hamish McEwen Chief Data & Analytics Officer Fire & Emergency NZ	
10:35	Morning Coffee and Connect	
11:05	Spotlight Session – DAMA New Zealand: Al Runs on Trust - and Trust Runs on Data	
	Speaker:	
	Anup Singh President DAMA New Zealand	
11:20	Data Storytelling and Communication Skills for Data Leaders in the Era of Al	
	Speaker:	
	Chris Carter Head of Data & Intelligence Financial Market Authority (FMA)	

11:45	Data and Infrastructure Foundations Enabling Better Decisions by Farmers Speaker:
	Mark Neal Head of Data Science Dairy NZ
12:10	Panel Discussion: Unlocking Data Literacy and Making It Part of Everyday Workflows
	 How do you find and tailor the right data literacy strategy to fit your company's unique culture and needs? What are the key steps to creating a practical, actionable data literacy plan for the next two years? How can organisations maintain momentum and keep teams updated with the latest data trends and innovations over time?
	Moderator:
	Prof Leo Paas Programme Director, Master of Business Analytics University of Auckland Business School
	Speakers:
	Stasha Rmandic Senior Manager, FCO Data and Reporting ASB
	Jeff Smith National Data & Analytics Manager New Zealand Couriers
	Jeff Turin Data and Al Governance Tower Insurance
12:45	Lunch Break! Connect and Converse
13:45	Operationalising Al Governance—From Principles to Practice
	Speaker:
	Priya Mathur Head of Enterprise Data Fidelity Life
14:10	Unified Design Governance
	Speaker:
	Jeff Turin Data and Al Governance Tower Insurance
14:35	Beyond the Prototype: Scaling Data & Al from POC to Production
	Speaker:
	Delia Rusu Former Data Science Lead The Warehouse Group
15:00	Closing Panel: Data 2026 - Bold Predictions, Big Bets & Rethinking What's Possible
	 What's one 'unsexy' data trend that you think will quietly dominate in 2026 - and no one is paying enough attention to yet? If you had to kill one overused data buzzword or practice before the year ends, what would it be, and what should replace it? If you were placing a bold bet on where data is headed in 2026 - technology, talent, AI, governance, anything - what would you bet on, and what do you think would make it succeed or flop? What's your most unusual opinion about where data, AI, or governance is headed and why do you stand by it? How do you expand your thinking to meet the challenges of tomorrow?
	Moderator:
	Prof Leo Paas Programme Director, Master of Business Analytics University of Auckland Business School
	Speakers:
	Bryan Ng Chief Data & Analytics Officer New Zealand Trade & Enterprise
	Peter Gavin GM, Data & Analytics ANZ
	Mike Parsons Data & AI - Tribe Lead and Chapter Area Lead Air New Zealand
	Gal Fybish Data Analytics Lead Turners Automotive Group
	Farhein Akmal Product Owner (BI & Analytics) Auckland Council
15:35	Afternoon Coffee! Connect and Converse
16:05	Close of CDAO New Zealand 2025