

Evaluation—Making it Real in Aotearoa New Zealand: Leading by Example, Leading by Association

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The second Aotearoa New Zealand Evaluation Conference, sponsored by the Auckland Evaluation Group, will be held 18-20 July, 2005 at the Tauhara Centre, Acacia Bay, Taupo.

This year's conference follows on from the very successful 2004 Auckland Evaluation Group Conference, at which evaluators and others from various parts of the country came together and shared their challenges around evaluation practice in New Zealand. In many respects, the theme for this conference builds on that work.

The theme "Evaluation—Making it Real in Aotearoa New Zealand" is about evaluator roles and what we actually do as evaluators. We will explore what is unique about those roles in the New Zealand context, particularly how we work in partnership with Maori and how we work with other cultures like Pacific peoples, Asians and refugees.

"Leading by example" means that as practitioners we are prepared to subject our practice to reflection, and to the scrutiny of others. It is about openly striving to understand, respond, learn and evolve in our work.

"Leading by Association" means that we take active steps together to grow professionally, and to develop our profession. We organise to gather about us

critical friends and supportive colleagues, to create a space for sharing skills, mistakes, insights, motivations and possibilities, and we create structures and systems to promote safe professional practice in evaluation.

Key aspects of this theme are evaluation as a profession, accountability, rigour, consciousness and relevance to New Zealand.

Charmaine Pountney and Dr. Te Kani Kingi will be the keynote speakers. Dr. Te Kani Kingi's talk will be entitled "Evaluation and the measurement of cultural outcomes." He will examine the process and practice of evaluation as well as the requirement to measure activities and outcomes that are culturally derived. Charmaine Pountney's address will be entitled "Doing evaluation: From magic marks to vital values." She will provide provocations and challenges on two key themes of the conference—what are the essential features of evaluation work across a range of settings? and what are the necessary attributes of a professional association which will promote effective and ethical evaluation while avoiding the risks of becoming a professional clique?

Further Information

If you have any queries, please feel very welcome to contact any of the organizing committee:

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