



Newsletter

Edition 8 | June 2026

Congratulations

CCG Founding Chair

Joe Hollander

Receives King's
Birthday Honour



[CanConstructNZ](#)

[Membership Spotlight](#)

[Welcome to our New Member](#)

[Last Quarters Event](#)

[Site Visits](#)

[Events Programme 2026](#)

[Wrap Up & Survey](#)

National Chapter Co-Chair Update



Kia ora kōutou,

As Matariki approaches, this edition feels like a fitting moment to pause and take stock of a busy and rewarding quarter for CCG.

We start with some wonderful news. Our founding Chair, Joe Hollander, has been recognised in the 2026 King's Birthday Honours, appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for his services to the construction industry and the community. Joe's vision more than 20 years ago helped establish what CCG is today, and it is a real pleasure to see that contribution recognised at a national level. Congratulations, Joe.



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Newsletter

Edition 8 | June 2026

National Co-Chair Update Cont.

This quarter also brought one of our strongest seminars to date. In April, public sector clients, suppliers and advisors gathered in Wellington to discuss "2026 and Beyond: the future of government construction." The messages from speakers were clear and consistent: better client capability, better pipeline visibility, and standardisation are the levers that will help us deliver more value from every construction dollar. There is plenty for us all to act on.

Members have also had the opportunity to get on the tools, so to speak, with site visits to the Kenepuru Science Centre in Porirua and the Avenues development in Whangārei. Both are compelling examples of what thoughtful, collaborative delivery looks like in practice.

Inside this edition you will find a sector article from CanConstructNZ on improving data and visibility across the construction pipeline, a membership spotlight with Rob Mowat from the Department of Corrections, a warm welcome to our newest member GHD, and details of what is still to come in the 2026 events programme.

Finally, our annual member survey is now open. Please take a few minutes to share your feedback. It directly shapes what we do next year.

Ngā mihi maioha,

Helen & Alan

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Newsletter

Edition 8 | June 2026

CanConstructNZ



TE KUNENGA KI
PUREHUROA
MASSEY
UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF NEW
ZEALAND

SCHOOL OF BUILT
ENVIRONMENT

Proposal

In summary

CanConstructNZ proposes as a nation we need to better understand and support the construction economy to improve its stability and outcomes, and to do so we need to collect and process data that is currently missing. We have developed a strategy, process, and tools to create system-level visibility and a national decision-enabling capability and we are seeking government, client and sector buy-in to make this happen.

Background

The construction sector is beset by boom-bust cycles with business failures and poor delivery of projects. Stakeholders lack visibility of current and forward workload and of construction capacity and capability, hindering strategy, planning, and delivery.

CanConstructNZ asserts that this does not need to be the case. If we understand the situation and dynamics of construction demand and supply, we could reduce those cycles and their direct and societal costs. In time balance and stability in the sector will improve.



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Our work

We set out on our MBIE funded programme to create a smart tool to compare the pipeline of project demand against sector capacity and capability of supply, including shocks and stresses which can impact both, a tool for visibility. We quickly found that useful information is seriously lacking in either the demand (project) or supply (sector) side and we have therefore directed part of our focus to defining the information that would be needed, consulting with stakeholders and developing data models for projects and sector organisations to allow the collection of useful information.

For projects the model is not just simple identity, location and value labels, but a set of a dozen identifiers that allow the project to be anonymised into broad generic types, within a region, with an order of value and a sub-set of status details that will allow tracking over time as the project becomes progressively designed, funded and approved. That is, demand information which allows forward projections over practical periods of project evolution.

For each construction sector organisation be it constructor, supplier or designer, we have established a related set of identifiers including the type of work conducted (in broad categories that match project types), the service or role provided, maximum project size undertaken, approximate turnover, and details such as turnover proportions self-delivered, sub-contracted or contracted to others, all of which are anonymised into the system. This is data that does not exist at present.

These data models deliberately do not require exhaustive or commercially sensitive details but are broad measures which can be fully anonymised, freeing up any natural reluctance of disclosure.





CanConstructNZ Cont.

Smart system

At the same time as creating these models we have developed the tool to enable targeted comparisons within the data, for such as work types expected within a region compared with sector capacity to deliver that work from within the region or a wider range.

We have incorporated a feature for disruptions from shocks and stresses and have extended that to include forecasts of wider exogenous changes which can impact project creation or delivery over longer times. The outputs of what we now call a smart system are therefore a combination of findings from data comparisons and forecasted impacts from a wider range of possible events.

Outcomes

We are now confident that this integrated information gathering, processing, and reporting will invigorate current dialogue of the amount and timing of up-coming work, and the true makeup of the sector, its constraints, and efficiencies in delivering built environment, and illustrate its importance in the broader economy. Put simply, rigorous collection of information to measure work demands and sector supply, with disruption allowances, will enable informed dialogue on a shared understanding of transparent facts, leading to sound strategy and planning of client and sector aspirations and needs and a better understanding of the construction economy.

We also believe that the adoption of our proposals will allow the construction sector to progressively move into a more stable state of balance of demand and supply with resulting stability of employment.





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Newsletter

Edition 8 | June 2026

CanConstructNZ Cont.

Feedback

As our work draws to a close, we have buy-in of a range of providers and deliverers but recognise our research, development and recommendations need a mandate to make them happen, a transition to an operational environment, and a process owner.

We therefore seek engagement and ideas from the broad experience of the Construction Clients Group.

We are partnering with the CCG to hold a workshop on 29 July 2026 (at 12.00 noon) and we hope to see you there.

July's workshop starts here – watch the preview



Programme leaders

- Professor Monty Sutrisna - Head of School of Built Environment, Massey University
- Professor Suzanne Wilkinson - Dean and Pro Vice-Chancellor, Faculty of Design and Creative Technologies, AUT
- Rod Cameron FIEAust - Co-leader CanConstructNZ
- Sponsors, supporters, and contributors

The institutions shown below have provided funding, researchers, or support. We have developed our concepts in consultation with Te Waihangā, The Infrastructure Commission.



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CanConstructNZ: Smoothing the Construction Pipeline



CanConstructNZ
Building a better pipeline for New Zealand

Better data → better visibility → better decisions →
a more stable construction sector.



WHY THIS MATTERS

New Zealand's construction sector continues to experience significant boom–bust cycles—shifting rapidly between under-capacity and overload. These fluctuations create inefficiencies, increased costs, and uncertainty for both clients and industry.

A key issue is visibility:



Project demand is fragmented across disconnected workstreams



Funding and approvals vary across sectors and over time



Industry capability and workload are poorly understood

The result is a sector that struggles to plan ahead and operate sustainably.

WHAT IS CANCONSTRUCTNZ?

CanConstructNZ is a national research programme developing a smart system to improve visibility of construction demand and supply across the full project pipeline.

The system brings together three core elements:



PIPELINE OF
PROJECTS
(DEMAND)



SECTOR CAPACITY
AND CAPABILITY
(SUPPLY)



EXTERNAL SHOCKS
AND DISRUPTIONS



Together, these enable comparisons and forward-looking insights to support better planning and investment decisions.



THE PROBLEM WITH CURRENT DATA

Existing sources (e.g., infrastructure pipelines, commercial databases, council plans) are:



Partial and inconsistent



Not aligned across project types or formats



Missing key information about sector capacity

As a result, no single source provides a complete, usable picture of construction activity.



A NEW APPROACH: A SHARED MINIMUM DATASET

CanConstructNZ proposes a simple, standardised dataset for all projects, built around a small number of practical identifiers:



Project type (e.g., housing, commercial, infrastructure)



Location (local authority level)



Stage (concept → completion)



Delivery approach



Indicative value (order-of-magnitude)



Timing and priority



Critically, **monetary value** is used as a common comparison measure, enabling a shared language across clients and industry.



WHAT THE SYSTEM WILL ENABLE

The CanConstructNZ system will provide:



Real-time visibility of future workload



Better alignment between demand and sector capacity



Early identification of risks and disruptions



Improved project sequencing and prioritisation

Over time, this can help:



Reduce boom–bust cycles



Improve productivity and delivery outcomes



Enable more stable workforce and investment decisions



WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE

To deliver this vision, several system-level shifts are required:



Regular reporting of project pipeline data into a central system



Standardised formats and identifiers across the sector



Registration of **both** projects and sector organisations



Ongoing updates to reflect project evolution and market conditions



Importantly, the research indicates that **voluntary approaches** are unlikely to be sufficient, and some form of **regulatory support** will likely be required to ensure complete and reliable datasets.



THE OPPORTUNITY FOR INDUSTRY

For industry players, CanConstructNZ offers:



Greater confidence in forward work pipelines



Better strategic planning and investment decisions



Reduced uncertainty and risk exposure

For clients and policymakers, it supports:



Smarter project timing and funding decisions



Improved national infrastructure delivery



Stronger sector resilience



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

This publication focuses on the project pipeline.

Upcoming outputs will address:



Sector capacity and capability data



Disruption modelling and forecasting



The full smart system and governance model



JOIN THE CONVERSATION

CanConstructNZ is now engaging stakeholders across the sector to shape:



Ownership and governance of the system



Data collection and reporting mechanisms



Implementation pathways



BETTER DATA



BETTER
VISIBILITY



BETTER
DECISIONS



A MORE STABLE
CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

canconstructnz.org.nz



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Newsletter

Edition 8 | June 2026

Membership Spotlight



by Rob Mowat
Manager Project Delivery – Asset Management

What made you join the CCG, and has it delivered on that expectation?

We joined the CCG because we're always looking for ways to improve how we deliver our projects, particularly given the complexity and importance of the work we do at Corrections. There's a lot at stake in our environment, so learning from others who are also delivering large, complex programmes really appealed.

The CCG has definitely delivered for us. What's stood out is how practical and grounded the conversations are people are willing to share what's actually working (and what hasn't), which makes it far more useful than theory or textbook approaches.

Can you describe a specific moment, event, or conversation through CCG that made a real difference?

It's less about one standout moment and more about a series of really honest conversations. One that sticks with me was a discussion around delivery models for larger projects, it got us thinking more about how we partner and manage delivery.

I particularly like the workstreams that are on offer at CCG, and have a personal interest in the MMC (Modern Methods of Construction) and Client excellence workstreams, where we can dive deep into these specialist subjects and pool our knowledge and practical examples.

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Membership Spotlight Cont.

What does CCG offer that you couldn't easily obtain from other similar organisations?

The big difference is the openness. In government, and especially in Corrections, we're often dealing with sensitive, high-pressure environments, so having a trusted space where people can speak candidly is hugely valuable.

CCG feels less like a formal network and more like a community of peers who genuinely want to improve outcomes. That level of trust means you get insights that are practical, honest, and immediately usable.

4. What would you say to an organisation that's considering joining the CCG but hasn't yet taken the step?

I'd say you get out what you put in and if you lean in, it's absolutely worth it. If your organisation is serious about improving delivery and open to learning from others, CCG gives you a great platform to do that.

It's not about having all the answers, it's about being willing to share, listen, and adapt. That mindset is where the real value comes through.

5. As a regional co-chair of the CCG Wellington Chapter, what does that role involve, and what do you get out of it personally?

The role is about helping bring people together, shaping the conversations, creating a space where people feel comfortable sharing, and making sure what we're discussing is relevant to the challenges we're all facing.

Personally, I get a lot out of staying connected to a broad range of perspectives across the sector. It keeps me grounded and continuously.



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Newsletter

Edition 8 | June 2026

Welcome to Our New Member

We are delighted to welcome GHD as a new member of the Construction Clients' Group (CCG).

GHD is a global professional services company with expertise across engineering, architecture, environmental services, digital solutions, project management and advisory. With a long history of supporting infrastructure, water, energy, transport and community projects, GHD brings a wealth of knowledge and experience that aligns strongly with CCG's commitment to improving outcomes across New Zealand's built environment.

We are excited to have GHD join our growing network of clients, consultants, contractors and industry leaders. Their participation will help strengthen collaboration, share valuable insights, and contribute to the conversations that shape the future of our industry.

On behalf of the CCG community, we extend a warm welcome to GHD and look forward to working together.



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Last Quarters Events

Date 1 April 2026

Regional Seminars

Hosted at Department of Corrections

Sponsored by Rubix



Seminar: **2026 and beyond for government construction**

Public sector clients, suppliers and advisors gathered in Wellington on 1 April 2026 for the Construction Clients Group (CCG) seminar "2026 and Beyond: the future of government property and construction". CCG National and Regional Co-Chair Helen Womersley hosted, with a video introduction from the Hon Chris Penk, Minister for Building and Construction opening the event.

Infometrics' Brad Olsen took attendees through a sector where recovery momentum has been stunted by war, non-residential private construction continues to drag, and infrastructure investment remains a key positive, while recent severe weather highlights that the demand for resilient infrastructure remains strong.

Peter Nunns of the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission Te Waihangā introduced the National Infrastructure Plan, Mahere Tūāhanga ā-Motu. New Zealand has been the OECD's biggest infrastructure investor as a share of GDP across 2010–19, yet sits in the bottom 10% for investment efficiency. The Pipeline holds 11,925 projects worth \$275 billion, including 44 largely unfunded megaprojects each over \$1 billion. The Plan's recommendations focus on affordability, looking after what we've got, prioritising the right projects and making it easier to build better. Success means a mature and credible Pipeline, Forward Guidance embedded in Government decision-making, and "stronger public sector project leadership and sophisticated central government clients" able to make the case for the long term.

Article continues on next page

Last Quarters Events Cont.

Aaron Matthews, Health NZ | Te Whatu Ora's Head of Infrastructure Planning and Investment, closed the programme. Health NZ's is looking at Building Hospitals Better: using a standardised approach in forecasting future health needs, designing for consistency and quality, using standardised rooms and modular elements, with modular 'kit of parts' and reference designs. A staged delivery aligned to clinical priorities; and strategic partnership with industry through national supplier frameworks.

The seminar set a clear marker for 2026: better client capability, better pipeline visibility, and standardisation as the route to delivering more from each construction dollar.

Thank you to all our excellent speakers, to the Department of Corrections for hosting, and to Frequency for supplying breakfast for this early morning event.



**DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS**
ARA POUTAMA AOTEAROA

frequency





Newsletter

Edition 8 | June 2026

The Avenues Northland

Date 4 June 2026

Regional Site Visit Northland

Hosted Kāinga Ora

by Julia Walkinshaw
CCG Programme Manager



On 4 June, I had the opportunity to attend the official opening of The Avenues development in Whangārei, delivered by Kāinga Ora.

The development provides 95 new homes and is the largest social housing project completed in regional New Zealand. Located close to Whangārei's city centre, the development includes a mix of apartments and standalone homes designed to support a range of housing needs.

What stood out for me was the strong focus on creating a community, not just providing housing. Shared outdoor spaces, accessible homes, and the involvement of local partners throughout the project all contribute to creating a place where people can feel connected and supported.



Kāinga Ora
Homes and Communities

The Avenues Northland Cont.



The opening was well attended and provided an opportunity to hear from those involved in the planning, design and delivery of the project, as well as learn more about the positive difference it will make for residents and the wider community.

Congratulations to everyone involved in delivering this significant project for Northland. It is a great example of what can be achieved when organisations work together with a shared focus on long-term community outcomes.



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Newsletter

Edition 8 | June 2026

Kenepuru Science Centre Project

Date 9 June 2026

Regional Site Visit Wellington

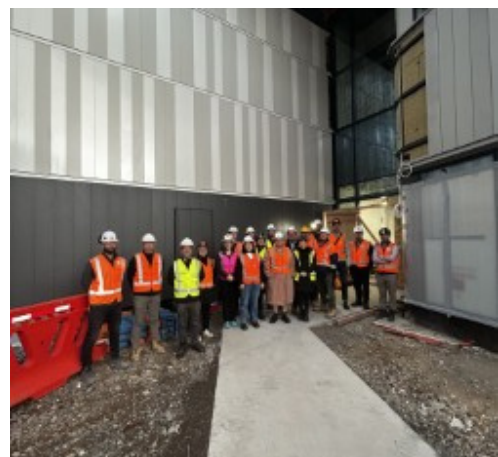
Hosted Rubix & Hawkins



On Tuesday 9 June, Construction Clients' Group (CCG) Wellington members attended an exclusive site visit to one of New Zealand's most complex and compelling laboratory developments currently under construction.

Nestled within the operational Kenepuru Science Centre campus in Porirua, the new facility is being built for the New Zealand Institute for Public Health and Forensic Science (PHF Science) and will span approximately 4,000m² across two storeys. When complete, it will bring together an innovation hub, advanced laboratories, a forensic service centre, and modern office space all designed for PC2 laboratory and workplace functions, with existing buildings on site repurposed to accommodate ancillary facilities.

It was a fascinating afternoon. The tour gave members a real sense of the scale and complexity of the build, gaining real insight into what it takes to deliver a highly technical, multi-stakeholder facility within a live and operational science environment.



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Kenepuru Science Centre Project



Rubix has led the project since 2020, covering every phase from initial strategy and stakeholder engagement through to design management, consents, procurement, contract negotiations, and construction administration. One of the standout aspects of the project is the depth of partnership with Ngāti Toa Rangatira, whose engagement before concept design directly shaped the building's architecture and cultural narrative. It's a strong example of what genuine mana whenua partnership looks like in practice.

A huge thank you to Andrew Haig from Rubix and to James Ainsworth from Hawkins for organising the visit and presenting on site. Your knowledge and enthusiasm for the project made for a truly memorable afternoon.

Thank you to Rubix for sponsoring the minibus.





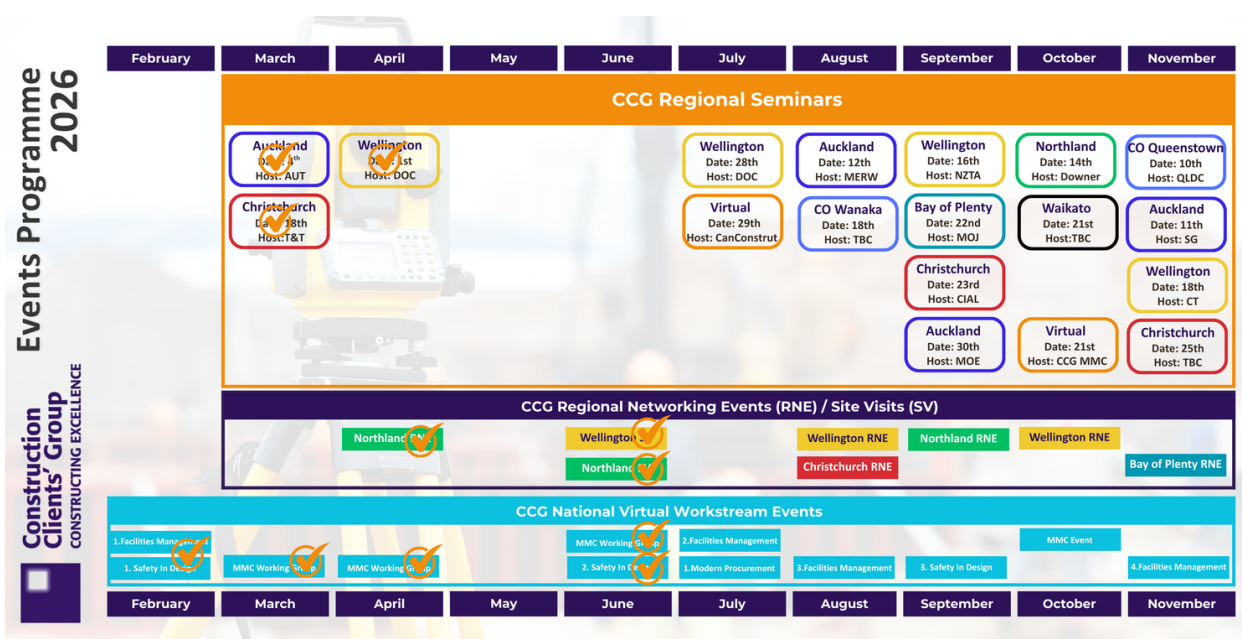
CCG Events Programme 2026

CCG's 2026 event programme continues to provide valuable opportunities for members to connect, learn, and share experiences through regional seminars, networking events, site visits, and national workstream sessions.

Planning for our 2027 programme is already underway, with several events and seminar hosts already confirmed. If your organisation would be interested in hosting a seminar, site visit, networking event, or workstream session next year, we would love to hear from you.

Hosting a CCG event is a great opportunity to showcase your organisation, projects, and expertise while supporting the wider client-side construction community.

To discuss hosting opportunities for 2027, please contact Julia at julia@constructing.co.nz.



Click on image to see larger version of our Events Programme 2026



Wrap up

Congratulations to Joe Hollander MNZM

The Construction Clients' Group extends its congratulations to Joe Hollander MNZM on being recognised in the 2026 King's Birthday Honours. Joe was appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the construction industry and the community, recognising decades of leadership, governance, and contribution across New Zealand.



Joe's role in founding CCG

Of particular significance to CCG, Joe was the founding Chair of the Construction Clients' Group more than 20 years ago, helping establish the organisation and its commitment to improving outcomes across the construction sector.

His vision and leadership played an important role in shaping the foundations of CCG, and we are delighted to see his outstanding service recognised at a national level.

CCG Annual Survey 2026

The CCG Annual Member Survey is now open. We encourage all members to take a few minutes to provide feedback on our events, workstreams, and member services. Your input plays an important role in shaping CCG's priorities and programme for the year ahead. **[Click here to complete](#)**

As Matariki rises, we take a moment to reflect on the year that has been, remember those we have lost, celebrate the people and connections around us, and look ahead with renewed hope for the year to come. Wishing you and your whānau a peaceful and meaningful Matariki.

From the CCG Team