



# SOLGM 2015 Gala Dinner NEWS

Including the 2015 McGredy Winder Local Government Excellence Awards®

**26 February 2015**

Dear Subscriber,

## What's New

First an important reminder if you are planning on entering the **McGredy Winder SOLGM Local Government Excellence Awards®** - entries close and must be at our office no later than 5.00pm on 4 March. In fairness to the judges and to all entrants late entries cannot be accepted.

If you are planning on submitting an entry our Manager, Sector Improvement, Raymond Horan would appreciate hearing from you with the name of the entry and the category you are planning to enter. Please contact Raymond at [raymond.horan@solgm.org.nz](mailto:raymond.horan@solgm.org.nz).

Information on entering the Awards can be found [here](#).

We would also like to thank our new Supreme Award sponsor **McGredy Winder & Co** for their support. Director Peter Winder will be joining Lyn Provost, Auditor-General, and Glenn Snelgrove on the judging panel.

McGredy Winder & Co. provides a broad range of advice to the public sector. With the by-line "wise advice, creative solutions", they pride themselves on the ability to tackle difficult assignments, fix problems, and develop innovative, practical approaches to major issues. Find out more on the company [here](#).

## Entries now open for our 2015 Leadership Scholarships

This year we are particularly pleased to be able to offer three scholarships in partnership with The Skills Organisation, the Leadership Development Centre and Opus including, for the first time, a scholarship to the internationally recognised Mt Eliza - Melbourne Business School Leadership in Practice Programme.

The scholarships provide opportunities for local government managers right up to Chief Executive level to develop their leadership skills, competencies and knowledge through our partnership arrangements.

You can find out more [here](#). Please note that applications for these scholarships must be received no later than 31 March, 2015.

## Gala Dinner Update



We are very pleased to announce that journalist and broadcaster Amanda Millar will be our MC for at the Gala Dinner. Many of you will have seen Amanda take part in our 2014 Annual Summit Hot Topics debate around the value proposition for NZ local government, where she bravely agreed to play 'devil's advocate'. Her contribution to that debate made for a thought provoking and entertaining session which we will likely make a regular feature of future Summits.

Amanda Millar hails from Dunedin where she began her career in newspapers. She now has more than 30 years of experience in journalism much of which has been in broadcasting, working for current affairs and information shows such as Fair Go, 20/20 and 60 Minutes. Amanda also has experience as a documentary producer and director, and has owned a production company. She was part of the start-up team at TV3 in 1989 as a freelance reporter, producer and director. She has received numerous awards including Qantas Media Awards Interviewer of the Year, the Supreme Award for Journalism in 2000 and Best Current Affairs Reporter in 2006.

Our Gala Dinner tickets are available to purchase [here](#).

Regards  
Jeanette Bullen  
**Manager, Marketing and Communications**

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Check out what's in our current LGLearning Calendar:

The [Art of Deliberate Success](#) workshop on 2nd and 3rd of March.

The revised for [2015 How Local Government Works Induction Series](#) of five Webinars has started - you can watch live - next webinar in the series is on the 4th of March - or purchase the recordings to view up till 1 April.

A two day [Project Management](#) course on 10th and 11th of March.

The second webinar on [Understanding the New Accounting Standards](#) is being held on the 10th of March.

The [Local Government EAs and PAs Forum](#) on 12th and 13th of March in Christchurch.

The Local Government [Chief Executives Forum and Masterclass](#), timed to coincide with our Gala Dinner is on 16th and 17th of March in Wellington.

A repeat of our very popular [Systems Thinking workshop](#) on 1 April.

The [2015 Microsoft/Koorb SOLGM Strategic Finance Forum](#) is on the 23rd and 24th of April in Hamilton.

We have a webinar on [Effective Advocacy](#) on 22 April.

We have three **RMA training courses** coming up:

RMA Consents Administrator Technicians Training on 20 and 21st of April, RMA Hearing Administrators Training on 4th and 5th of May and Who's Afraid of the RMA training on 16 June. Check out all three along with the full list of upcoming [LGLearning Events](#).

SOLGM is also pleased to support **IPWEA's NZ Local Government Infrastructure Management Forum** being held in Wellington on 30 March - see more [here](#).

