



# Professional Skills Update

## Learning and Development Events and Activities

### for the first quarter of 2015

**16 January 2015 - V.5**

Dear Owen

Welcome to our first Professional Skills Update for the year. This issue details our upcoming events and activities for the first quarter of 2015. We expect to be adding more events to the quarter's calendar - updates will be available in our [Event Calendar](#).

We also welcome Natalie Stevens, our new Manager, Learning and Development. Natalie started with us on the 5th of January and will be driving our LGLearning Programme. If you would like to get hold of Natalie her email is [natalie.stevens@solgm.org.nz](mailto:natalie.stevens@solgm.org.nz).

### **Content Shortcuts:**

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**What: Systems Thinking Workshop - Solving multi-stakeholder problems**

**When:** 11 February 2015

**Where:** James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor, Wellington

**Who should attend:** Central and local government strategic decision makers, managers and planners, relationship managers, policy makers, operational staff and those interested in community outcomes.

**Cost:** \$300 +GST (Members) or \$350+GST (Non-Members)

Systems Thinking is a scientific approach and set of tools that enables organisations to solve complex, multi-organisation problems. This workshop will introduce 'systems thinking' as a tool for helping central and local government work more effectively together and address complex problems collaboratively. Led by Professor Kambiz Maani, an internationally renowned expert and author in systems thinking and complexity management, you will learn how to use systems thinking as a tool for multi-faceted, multi-stakeholder decision making at local and national levels.

Find out more [here](#).

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## **What: Risk Management Forum**

**When:** 19 - 20 February 2015

**Where:** James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor, Wellington

SOLGM is excited to present a reinvigorated Risk Management Forum in February 2015. The Forum, divided into four modules, will cover key topic areas across Local Government where councils need to be aware of operational and process risks.

**Who should attend:** Anyone working in Local Government with risk management responsibilities should attend this forum including Chief Executives, LG lawyers, those with finance, corporate and governance roles, LG environmental and strategic planners and regulatory managers and staff.

**Cost:** This Forum is priced by module - you can choose to attend 1, 2, 3 or all 4:

- 1 module** = \$325 + GST (Member), \$350 + GST (Non-Member)
- 2 modules** = \$575 + GST (Member), \$625 + GST (Non-Member)
- 3 modules** = \$800 + GST (Member), \$875 + GST (Non-Member)
- 4 modules** = 1,075 + GST (Member), \$1,175 + GST (Non-Member)

The topics of the four modules are:

- 1.** Managing Insurance Related Risk - Thursday 19 February, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
- 2.** Building & RMA Controls, Property Response & Managing Post Disaster Health & Safety Risks - Thursday 19 February, 2:00 pm - 5:05 pm
- 3.** Managing for RMA Process Risks - Friday 20 February, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
- 4.** Decision Making Risk Management - Friday 20 February, 1:15 pm - 4:15 pm

Find out more [here](#).

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## **What: The Art of Deliberate Success for Local Government Managers**

**When:** 2 - 3 March 2015

**Where:** James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor, Wellington

**Who Should Attend:** This two day course is of benefit to all local government managers. In particular the

workshop is ideally suited for:

- New employees, first-time managers and emerging talent.
- Employees in management development and leadership programmes.

**Cost:** \$1,400.00 + GST (Members) or \$1,500.00 + GST (Non-Members)

This unique learning opportunity has been created by international thought leader Dr David Keane. It is built on over two decades of research and practical experience and attended by thousands of people globally from all walks of life. The workshop, which includes one hour of one-on-one coaching, is based on the finding that all organisational success is dependent on individuals within it firstly taking responsibility for their own personal success. In essence, Dr Keane discovered that people who are excellent at self-management have developed superior skills of self-discipline across a number of areas of their lives. As a result, they achieve a consistently better performance and get more done with less. This two day highly practical workshop will show you, as a local government manager, how you can do the same.

Find out more [here](#).

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## **What: Local Government EAs & PAs Forum**

**When:** 12 - 13 March 2015

**Where:** Chateau on the Park, Christchurch

**Who should attend:** All Executive or Personal Assistants working for Mayors, Chairs, Chief Executives and Senior Managers. Other administration professionals within the sector who have responsibilities that include working closely with management and stakeholder relationships.

**Cost:** \$860.00 + GST (Members) or \$920.00 + GST (Non-Members)

This annual two day Forum brings together local government Executive and Personal Assistants from around New Zealand to share experiences and develop professional knowledge and skills. The programme this year is an outstanding mix of plenary sessions that address broader work issues of the council administrative environment and interactive workshop sessions focused on knowledge and skill building.

Find out more [here](#).

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A SOLGM SERVICE

## **What: Handling Requests under the LGOIMA**

**When:** 28 January 2015

**Where:** Online from 10am ([Please note](#) that this is a training course and recordings of the Webinar will not be available)

**Presenter:** Kathryn McLean, Senior Associate, Simpson Grierson

**Who should attend:** Anyone who provides information to the public, but especially democracy services staff, those managing public registers and other data sets, those who write reports and other papers, and customer services staff.

**Cost:** \$250 +GST [Per Person](#)

Attending this one hour course will provide you with all the information you need to manage requests, keeping yourself (and your council) out of trouble.

Find out more [here](#).

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## **What: How Local Government Works - Induction Series 2015**

**When:** Five modules starting in late February 2015

**Where:** Online (Please note that we are reverting to providing this series via live webinars and on a regular basis through the year)

**Presenter:** Raymond Horan, SOLGM's Manager, Sector Improvement

**Who should attend:** New managers and staff involved in planning, policy and financial management roles or staff involved with elected members, such as committee advisers. However, those with longer service (from 6-18 months) will also find this very useful especially if they are moving to a team leader or management roles.

**Cost:** \$375 + GST Per Person - please contact [jeanette.bullen@SOLGM.org.nz](mailto:jeanette.bullen@SOLGM.org.nz) if you would like to discuss group discounts.

SOLGM's How Local Government Works induction series is a fantastic tool for introducing new employees to the legislative environment of local government. The course of five webinars provides an understanding of the key things that make local government different from any other sector, including relevant legislation, resulting in new staff being productive in their roles faster.

Registrations for the 2015 series will be available through our [Event Calendar](#) shortly. In the meantime the 2014 course is still available to purchase - more information can be found [here](#).

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## Other Events

### **What: LGMA Management Challenge**

**When:** 30 - 31 March 2015

**Where:** Trentham Gardens, 10 Race Course Road, Trentham, Upper Hutt (If we have enough South Island teams register we will also run a leg of the Challenge in Christchurch on 1 - 2 April 2015)

**Who should attend:** Current and emerging local government leaders

**Cost:** \$4,900+GST Per Team (about \$800 per participant)

This is Australasia's premier forum for current and emerging local government leaders, recognised for its hands-on and real-life approach to leadership development that has been running for more than 20 years. Participants come away with new and practical insights into excellence in leadership and management.

Find out more about the NZ leg of the Challenge [here](#).

Register your team [here](#). Registrations are due to close early February.

Visit the LGMA Management Challenge [website](#).

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## **What: 2015 SOLGM Gala Dinner**

**When:** 16 April 2015 at 6.30pm

**Where:** Hotel InterContinental, Grey Street, Wellington

**Who should attend:** Everyone interested in celebrating outstanding achievements in the sector.

**Cost:** \$150 +GST per ticket

Our inaugural Gala Dinner will celebrate the very best in professional excellence in local government management. Join us to celebrate the announcements of:

- The SOLGM Local Government Excellence Awards®
- The Overseas Manager Exchange Recipients
- Our Leadership Scholarships supported by sponsors The Skills Organisation, LDC and Opus
- The NZ winners of the LGMA Management Challenge (sponsored by Civica)

Find out more [here](#).

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## **What: Road Lighting 2015: Smart City Investment Conference**

**When:** 9 - 10 March 2015

**Where:** Langham Hotel, Auckland

SOLGM is pleased to be supporting this Conference which features two full days of speakers. This provides a professional and business development opportunity to learn first-hand about the digital revolution that is transforming road lighting worldwide. The exhibition will feature suppliers, consultants and contractors from New Zealand and Australia demonstrating a comprehensive range of road lighting products and services as well as associated financing, project delivery and support services.

Find out more at the Conference [website](#).

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## **What: Infrastructure Sustainability Workshops**

**Where and When:** Hamilton – Monday 23 February & Wellington – Tuesday 24 February

SOLGM is pleased to support this one-day interactive workshop, being hosted by The Sustainability Society, which investigates Infrastructure Sustainability (IS) in the New Zealand context. The Australian based ISCA framework will be used as a platform for this discussion. National and international IS trends and live case studies will also be provided for consideration. Senior stakeholders involved in the planning, design, development and management of water, transport, energy and communication infrastructure are encouraged to participate.

This workshop is highly relevant for many members of the SOLGM network and The Sustainability Society is therefore offering this network a 15% discount on the workshop fees.

To book and receive your discount please go to the Societies website [here](#) and use the code 'SOLGM' in the Membership Details section.

More information can be found [here](#) or to enquire about additional organisational group discounts please contact [Sarah@thesustainabilitysociety.org.nz](mailto:Sarah@thesustainabilitysociety.org.nz).

If you work in local government you need to be on LGConnect - the discussion groups that connect LG staff working in related areas around New Zealand. You can find out more, including how to sign up, on the LGConnect website [here](#).

If you didn't see our December issue of Pulse you can find it [here](#). This issue includes a full report on our 2014 Annual Summit.



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