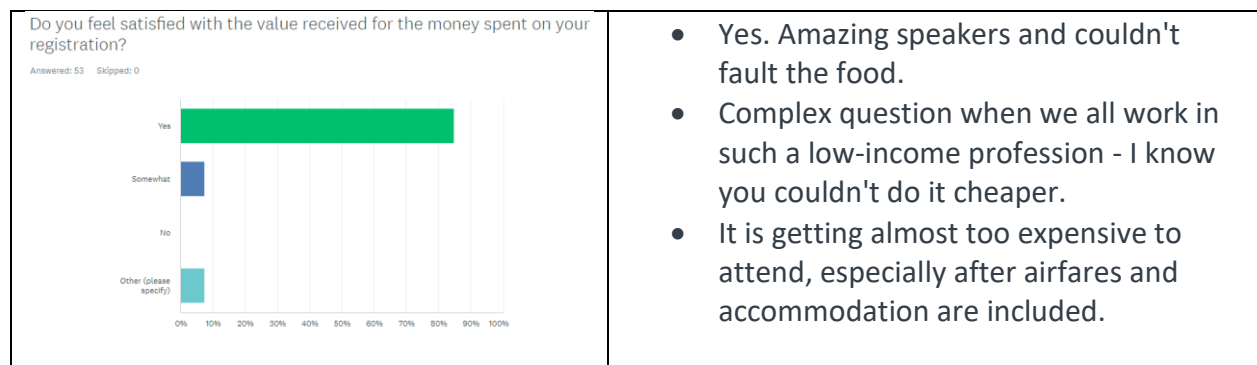


Conference 2023 - Celebrating the Elements - Whakanuia te Taiao
SURVEY - CONDENSED RESULTS

Overall summary

- 53 replies, all **very positive!** Speakers and workshops were outstanding.
- Event format was widely loved. The venue was loved, approval rating of 92% overall. Catering was great, 96% overall.
- Most people were from the Southland branch, next Auckland, then Wellington.
- 63% traveled on their own to the conference, 23% with celebrants, 13% with family/friends.
- Speakers did a great job of helping people feel connected, an average of 91% approval.
- Reasons for coming were varied, but in general having some connection to the creation of the event, proximity to the event, a wish to support, an interest in the programme, having interest in the location, and various financial helps were all key bits that helped people get across the line to attend.
- No one had any current issues with the AGM not being part of the event – though some did reserve the right to make a full judgement until the AGM has happened.
- Overall, people felt the value for money was exceptional (85%).
- Nearly everyone felt we delivered on the theme. A few felt it was more about celebrating diversity than celebrating elements, though.
- 89% enjoyed the communications before the conference, with a few wishing there had been more, and few wishing maybe a little less.
- Suggestions to improve communications: A few wished to find their workshop choices more easily, and wished they could have switched them. Most people felt it was great. A couple presenters wished their presenter comms were more robust.
- 80% are looking forward to the conference recordings.
- 85% prefer workshops and plenaries, as opposed to only one or the other. Having plenaries can be good if they are widely appreciated by all. Having BDM as a plenary may not be great for those doing only funeral ceremonies (a couple said this).
- There was a high level of satisfaction with the plenary speakers and workshop presenters with many people commenting extremely positively on Dr Rev Wayne Te Kawa's and Sir Ian Taylors sessions.
- Discussion time was widely felt to be great.
- A cost of \$450 for a conference had 28% saying they may go, 8% saying they could not, and most people as dependent on where a conference was located, how profitable their year was, their interest in the event, and many other factors.
- Overall, 60% prefer conferences in major city hubs for easier travel – but a lot of replies specifically said not to do Auckland.
- 45% are interested in a plenary only conference, but most people prefer workshops, citing workshops as a key part of getting to know fellow celebrants better and being more connected. But if it's significantly cheaper, it could work out.
- If there was a one-day conference, 62% would prefer some social events with it.

- Key topics that are wanted in future conferences are: more cultural learning, discussion on experiences, business elements, ritual, assisted dying, and social media
- GREAT WORK done by all!! Lots of gratitude in further comments.



What topics would you like to see covered at future conferences?

Answered: 40 Skipped: 13

Diverse range of speakers

- Really loved the variety of this year's plenary speakers, loved having speakers who weren't totally celebrant focused but life issue focused.
- I would definitely want to continue with a diverse range of plenary speakers. Doesn't always have to be on celebrant topics and I feel Sir Ian Taylor was a great example of that. Technology is always a great topic as it changes so rapidly. The panel was great on the Sunday and would be happy to see more of that in order to understand cultural differences and values.
- I enjoyed the varied mixed topics that were available.
- Assisted Dying
- Suicide - more speakers along the lines of Sir Ian Taylor –
- More work on inclusivity, whether Rainbow or Cultural communities.
- BDM feedback. Legal aspects required to meet DIA legislation / Registry wedding info
- New happenings in the trade. Diversity in suppliers. CANZ FEEDBACK. Introducing all the CANZ exec if possible and the jobs they do + NE liaisons
- Hold debates on some of the contentious topics. It might be a way to hear the varied views of celebrants on those different topics. It could have some serious topics and other more light-hearted ones for balance.
- Jann Hook has suggestion on G.P she works with and Assisted End-of Life
- Ethics / AI /

Ceremony and ritual

- Public speaking, confidence, organisation and how to deal with challenging situations
- Something on less common ceremonies e.g., naming ceremonies, renewal of vows etc.
- A subset from within the array of course topics covered in a diploma course but covered in more depth. The 2023 sessions I attended did this well.
- Creative Writing

- Practical learning that can be included in our ceremonies and to enhance us as celebrants.
- Mix of ceremony types, diff enactments, workshopping...
- More stuff around ritual, seasons, elements.
- Self-care, collegial support (discussion around our table was new starters struggle with what to charge as 'business sensitive' area)
- Inspiring, spiritual, related to celebrancy, Advanced Care Planning workshop
- Ritual and ceremony around cremation; different cultures and their ceremonies and culture around those ceremonies (e.g., Chinese, Pasifika etc.).
- Challenging Scenarios as a Celebrant / Learning from each other - experiences of being totally out there, off the cuff or caught out totally. Experiences and adaptation or coping experiences that we can all learn from.
- Maybe some case studies and firsthand experience from experienced celebrants Maybe 2 or 3 in a session, both weddings and funerals or 'other' (memorable ones) I think there is nothing better than listening to someone who has ' been there' .

Business

- Small business accounting; the key topic I would encourage is a detailed session on all of the financial considerations that those members who run a celebrant business need to take into account when setting their ceremonial fees. In my view Celebrants undervalue the work they do by not reflecting the true cost of the work we do in our community which is reflected in the vast pricing differences that we see by Celebrants across the country. For me personally understanding our value that we bring to those in our care is critical in financial terms. In my experience The Celebrant School deliver an excellent detailed cost analysis session that is extremely helpful for Celebrants to reflect their value fiscally. I appreciate that this topic could be seen as conversational from the range of celebrants that do this work, nevertheless as CANZ strives to be more professional in the approach to our work I believe this topic has to be broached sooner than later.
- How to 'do', 'manage' 'attend' Zoom Meetings. Social Media - how to create original posts on CANVA how to set up your Facebook Celebrant page
- Voice training. Accessing worthwhile and varied resources. Ideas for creating alternative ceremonies.
- Topics around building your celebrant business and how to market or present yourself / advertising. Topics around technology and how some technology can help us i.e. the use of microphones etc. / How to grow my business / Levels of Social Media support
- Perhaps have a stylist speak at one of the workshops covering clothing, colours and shapes suitable for celebrants.
- Performance critiquing would be great as we normally wouldn't see other people's work so don't have an idea of different styles.

Cultural

- Māori culture, rituals and the right way of doing things.
- VCANZ/CPD process update or refresh.
- More Cultural Topics as NZ is definitely becoming a melting pot of different culture /
- I like the practical topics perhaps an embalmer explaining their processes. Perhaps

- More cultural aspects (Maori and Pacifica) and tikanga.

Structure and overall impressions

- Potentially no or less workshops and all plenary
- At the time of announcement, no need to give full programme, but would like to know start and end times to help when sorting travel.
- Shorter breaks on final day so people can get on the road a bit earlier.
- Love a little more time for breaks to connect with people.
- I thought that this conference had all the necessary elements. Time for whakawhanaungatanga, listening, thinking, laughing, and some hands-on activities. One thing I would suggest is that if we invite local mana whenua to welcome us let them do so first rather than keep them waiting.
- Perhaps having what region celebrants were from would have made it easier for me to help identify where they came from
- Please check the MC's values and style beforehand to ensure good fit
- Does it now need to be 2 days when the AGM is not included? Revert to the Education Forum style which minimises travel costs if at a main centre and fly-in/out is readily possible.
- Two roving people with microphones for delegate comments/questions
- Perhaps accessing sponsorship could be broadened out to across the country not just local. We may be able to get more money that way.
- Perhaps billeting at fellow celebrants' homes could lower the cost for some.
- Maybe an attendees pre- conference zoom so we can meet each other prior to the weekend.

Please let us have any suggestions for conference improvements in the future:

Please let us have any suggestions for conference improvements in the future:

Answered: 38 Skipped: 15

Catering

- Catering was delicious and plentiful (perhaps too plentiful....?). I think money could be saved by offering no food at afternoon tea (just beverages).
- More variety in food; less food! / Some fresh fruit at morning and afternoon tea.
- In terms of food, the catering at the Museum was amazing, I knocked off 5 points for the Saturday dinner at the Lesiure Lodge. I feel the standard could have been better for that.
- Less carb heavy food-it was delicious, but I feel most people like lighter options like protein with salads.
- Ensure water is supplied on the tables, important to hydrate.
- Catering was delicious but maybe a little too carb heavy. There seemed to be lots left over. I think we didn't really need such a big afternoon tea. To save money there could be fewer things.

Venue

- The venue got quite noisy at times. Not sure this could be rectified though.
- It would be ideal if the whole event was in the same venue, if possible
- The speakers should be principally focused on learning, although connection is a relevant outcome too for the overall conference. It's impossible to rate them all on one scale. I prefer not to be expected to pack 'glad rags' for the dinner, especially if not staying at the venue - which entails more packing and more travel to and fro to get changed. I like ceremony to be demonstrated within sessions, as it was this year - well done.
- Otago Museum was an excellent venue, my only complaint is that all my events were in the one room including the meal breaks which became a bit stifling, so I went out for breaks to get fresh air and peace and quiet.
- Only issue was the AC on and made the air dry.
- All conference rooms should be under one room. We were very lucky that it wasn't pouring with rain when crossing the quadrant to other rooms.

Suggestions

- I think the structure was good. I like that we can choose from a variety of speakers.
- Would like to suggest that maybe there are CANZ branded products to purchase, or order, at future conferences.
- More resources and product to buy from those in the trade. Books, ideas, etc
- I was disappointed I had to leave midday to get home in the winter given fog and wintery conditions, it is a tricky one, with so many attending with flights and by car in the winter to cater for everyone. Purely my own personal circumstances!
- Better seating arrangements for the evening meal. To get in and out for drinks and for the next course, was an inconvenience to people at the table. A larger venue would have been better for the dinner and entertainment.
- Lynne you and your team have set the bar high for future conferences...your kindness generosity your welcome and planning of every detail is to be aspired too.
- Table set out in the workshops especially in the conservatory was a bit restrictive.
- Name of workshop we were attending on our name tags rather than the coloured dot or a notice board to indicate which sessions were hosted where.
- Whilst the speaker for the Rainbow movement provided a well-researched presentation, this should have been offered as a workshop NOT as a conference general presentation.

Friday night meet and greet

- Friday night may have been a bit ambitious/in need of a little more planning.
- For those who aren't connected to others, a bit more of a mix and mingle would have helped on the Friday.
- Possibly a speaker on Friday night- like Sir Ian Taylor, or another motivational speaker, to set the scene.
- A good plenary on the Friday evening

What did you think about the event format?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

What did you think about the event format?

RESPONSES (53)

WORD CLOUD

TAGS (0)

- Excellent (x6) / Great (x6) / Outstanding / It was really good / I liked it (x2) / Loved it / Fantastic / Great event, well-spaced out / great really enjoyed it all / Informative and friendly / Enjoyed the format / well organised, good content / It all ran very smoothly / not too rushed, flowed nicely / It was perfect thank you / Great variety to hold my interest / Magnificent / I was very happy with everything /Awesome professional. / Great to be face to face again / good ratio of guest speakers to workshops / Well thought through / a wide range of interests represented / Same format as previous conferences /
- Friday night could have been a bit more organised, otherwise it was great.
- Very good, enjoyed the slightly longer workshops and no AGM.
- The days were very full, but I felt that each session I attended was well worth it.
- Excellent - enjoyed the mix of plenary speakers and workshops plus social activities.
- I thought it was very inclusive with good timing and speakers.
- I thought it was amazing, thank you. It ran very smoothly with lots of humour! As always, I would love more time around the coffee and food to mix and chat and meet/connect with colleagues! Excellent format!
- It was great. I needed to book flights well in advance to keep costs down. My suggestion for future reference is when you are sending a Save the Date you note on that the times the conference will be starting and finishing so that it makes it clear for booking flights. Don't need the programme details at that stage, just start/finish time.
- Thought it was excellent. from the plenary speakers to workshops was well planned. interesting enlightening inspiring people and event
- The format worked very well with plenary sessions interspersed between workshops. There were a lot of learning opportunities and very little formal business which was good. Also, good opportunities for networking.
- I thought it was a great venue with excellent speakers/workshops.
- Easy to access and great main forum for connection. The main forum was a little cold and I noticed several celebrants with jackets on.
- Extremely well run and not too hectic it was the perfect pace. Thanks Dunedin - pretty awesome.
- Loved the whole thing from beginning to end. Lots of time to socialise and catch up over Friday and Saturday nights.
- Generally, all good however Friday night was a little ambiguous. My preference is for there to be a 'formal' session OR it opens on Saturday.
- Outstanding! Well organised supported by topical subject's, speakers and presenters.
- Good mix of plenary speakers and workshops. Didn't attend Friday night.

- Excellent. This conference was incredibly well run - hats off to the team! Great to have Edward Ellison do the mihi whakatau.
- I thought it was a great mix. It gave attendees the option of which events to attend and how much to spend. It was great to have the extra workshop session available with the AGM moved to another time.
- Fantastic variety and choice of plenary speakers - very impressed and inspired
- Excellent format well thought out and planned. The variety was great, and refreshingly original for an oldie like me!
- I think you all did an amazing job on a tight budget. I truly appreciate the effort of the Committee. You were all wonderful.

Please tell us what got you across the line to attend conference this year?

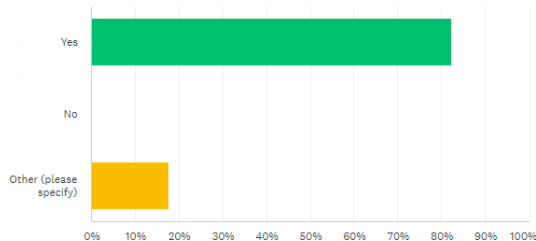
Answered: 48 Skipped: 5

- It was in my home town / A conversation with Kathrine / Being part of the organising committee ;-)/ My first attendance / Being run in our area / Family in Dunedin / Guest speaker and workshops / Committee or NE members
- Not only was I a plenary speaker at conference, I was looking forward to the programme.
- Being a new celebrant it seemed important to start off right and attend conference
- I realised it was on during a week's holiday I had already planned to take off.
- Support CANZ as first face to face, I love face to face! An excuse to stay on in the South Island for a few extra days! Fantastic place to visit!
- I had airpoints and I stayed at Mosgiel at my mothers house and had the use of her car, otherwise it would have been an expensive exercise. It was well worth it.
- Previous conferences I've been to have had excellent speakers and I've always come away refreshed, inspired and having learned some more wisdom. So pleased to meet in person again.
- Connecting with members of the southern branch and those from around the country and also CPD points
- The Presenters and their topics. AMAZING Claire Turnham MBE and Liz Maluschnig's workshop ' Rites and Rituals and Resources in Home Death Care And Darcie Prices "Mataariki Hunga Nui- Mataariki And then the Cultural Panel W
- This is my first celebrants conference that I attended. I have only recently re-registered as a celebrant (did my training some years ago) and I wanted to connect with other celebrants.
- Great venue, fantastic fanatic food..Wayne Te Kaawa, Ian Taylor Darcey price
- It was local for me. I doubt that I would have travelled out of the area incurring travel and extra accommodation expenses at this time.
- It was my first chance to attend in person so was keen. Marg Palmer!!!!
- Am a member of the southern branch and wanted to return the hospitality given @ other branch
- Collegiality and the chance to update professional development.

- To meet colleagues and new celebrants. As stated cannot beat face to face. Te tangata te tangata te tangata. The people the people the people.
- The opportunity to connect face-to-face after a Covid hiatus since my first conference in New Plymouth.
- Opportunity to network in person and have hand on workshops
- Being on the organising group, being face to face for networking. Knowing I wanted some new motivation for myself to re energise my role as the celebrant.
- Otepoti - my home town and the programme
- Supporting my sister and interest in the world of celebrants
- I needed a kick start to get my business moving and to meet like-minded people
- support of the organisers
- The great range of speakers/workshops - the educational extension worked for me rather than a wellbeing focus
- Sponsorship and desire to support Southern Branch, although this has been a huge commitment for our team
- Timing, price and proximity to Queenstown, and a need to reconnect after covid.
- I think the fact that we hadn't had a f2f hui for a couple of years.
- Because I am a new Celebrant I wanted to attend to gather resources and make connections with other Celebrants
- My commitment to attend a f2f conference.
- It was the opportunity to see friends I hadn't seen since Covid - the programme description didn't blow me away.
- Really wanted to get back in touch with people. Have missed the face to face element.
- my branch, needing to connect with colleagues
- I was on the organising committee and involved in many ways but also, I was really keen to see a face to face event again.
- It was my first conference and seemed like it would offer opportunities to network and upskill.
- Invited to attend with my Celebrant School colleagues. And I love Dunedin.
- To help with VCANZ renewal. Sir Ian Taylor was an amazing drawcard.
- The inclusion of funeral and death specific workshops which weren't simply about writing or getting work. Claire Turnham and Liz M's workshops provided practical and useful life skills beyond celebrant practice.

This year, the AGM was not held within the conference, further to this being put to members in the 2021 survey. The conference will be held separately in August by ZOOM. Did this work well?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

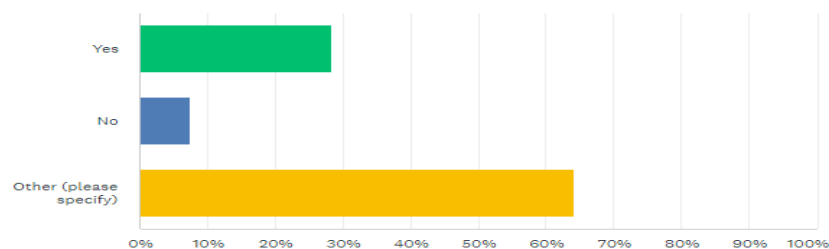


Responses:

- In my extensive experience of other professional bodies incorporating an AGM into a conference, it was apparent that people would often fly out during the AGM or wag the session, especially if they thought there would still be a quorum.
- Yes, I do think it went well having the AGM separate. Was this when we had to pay to attend via zoom though? That would be my only negative feedback in terms of the AGM.
- Too early to tell. The original purpose of Conf was to get people to the AGM, so we've gone a complete circle! Where/when do members get to contribute democratically to decisions of structure, policies etc? Loved ending conf with Lynne's life membership - a touch of class (even if technically it belongs in the AGM).
- I'm concerned that people won't attend in the numbers that usually come to conference.
- Unsure. Probably fine but I will wait to see how it goes via Zoom

This year conference was run on a very tight budget with an early bird price of \$350.00 for members (excluding travel and accommodation). This was achievable due to the HUGE amount of koha gifted to us. Due to a shortfall in numbers this conference has been subsidized for a number of reasons – impact of Covid and the recession. In general, it is the expectation that conferences are run on a cost-neutral basis. It is likely that a Friday night to Sunday afternoon conference will cost a minimum of \$450.00 (excluding travel and accommodation). We are exploring different options for the future. Please answer the following questions to help guide our planning. Will you attend a conference next year knowing it may cost around \$450.00 for a conference with the current structure of Fri evening (informal meet and greet) to closing mid-Sunday afternoon?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	28.30% 15
No	7.55% 4
Other (please specify)	64.15% 34

- Depends how many weddings and funerals I do, and where it is - cost is a major factor.
- It will depend on where it's being held and how far I need to travel as flights and accommodation can add significantly to the overall cost.
- Possibly, especially if it is closer to Auckland / Possibly it will depend where it is
- If the timing works with other commitments then Yes, conference is a highlight.
- Wouldn't be financially achievable with transporting accommodation as well.
- Depends on other costs such as travel and accommodation which all put the price up.
- Yes, I would, however, I wonder if the Friday night is necessary?? Could you have delegates arrive on Sat morning and finish Sun afternoon? This way they registration could be less, and their cost for accommodation is reduced. Otherwise, I would suggest it starts midday on the Friday to allow for more sessions and adds more value to the day and registration cost.
- I would like to but I would have to assess other PD costs over the year.
- Am not sure due to personal reasons. I do respect the need for a cost increase.
- It really depends on how my year progresses and where the conference is held
- It would completely depend on the cost of travel and accommodation on top of the conference cost. Friday evening meet and greet, while a great way to meet up and start connections, is also additional costs (drinks, dinner, taxi).
- Yes, if there was a plenary on the Friday evening
- Happy for it to go from Sat morn to Sunday afternoon

- Yes, but please offer the option to pay it in instalments; and not at the same time as subs are due
- Yes, probably I would. I know how much putting a conference on costs. Audio visual, venue hire, food it all adds up. Anyone who thinks they could provide similar for less is possibly out of touch with current expenses.
- Yes, however my personal view and preference is that if a CANZ member is presenting at conference I would prefer a subsidised conference fee please in lieu of koha ie a 25% fee subsidy would recognise the mahi and be much appreciated
- Would probably attend but would appreciate more input on the Friday night.
- depends on where it is - if it is a main centre (Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch) then I would be likely to attend
- Yes, but I would probably not attend the meet and greet and save a night's accommodation.
- Possibly, depending on where it is held. Not sure the meet and greet is necessarily a conference cost. I could not attend due to work commitments in Auckland and didn't arrive in Dunedin until 8pm.
- Unsure- depends on financial situation and where it is held within NZ
- Unsure. Will depend on my financial situation at the time.
- Not sure / Probably not
- What happened to Ed Forum concept? Conf 10.30 Sat to 3.30 Sunday? Probably not. It would depend on the location and topic relevance.

Did we deliver on this year's theme of "Celebrating the Elements (Whakanuia te Taiao)"?

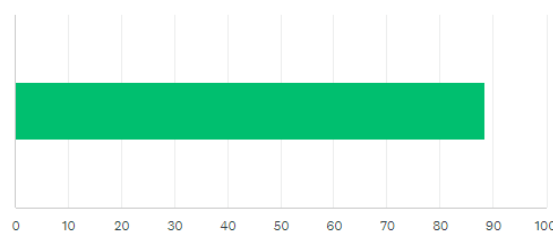
Answered: 50 Skipped: 3

- Lots of yes's to this (20) / 100% / Absolutely / Definitely / I believe so
- I wonder whether a 'theme' is necessary? I wonder if it could hamper rather than enhance decisions on what to offer? I think having a conference in itself without a theme is fine.
- The conference was extremely diverse and covered a range of topics relevant to the theme; especially with having the Matariki workshop
- I didn't get the connection. I'm not sure that all of the conference speakers connected with that theme. I loved Ian Taylors talk. One of the best speakers I have ever seen-but I didn't get the connection there! It didn't matter though because the story was fab.
- Speakers and breakout groups were amazing. So proud to be from Southern Group to have such talented members organise such an outstanding weekend!!!
- Exceeded my expectations / Job well done! / Hopefully / Totally
- I have a much better understanding of connections between people and the land, sea and sky
- I think this could have been more present... the speakers didn't tie in with this and a few of the workshops did. I was expecting to see more
- Felt this could have been brought in a bit more but the whole conference was fabulous.

- The theme had a nice ring to it. Overall, it seemed to be more about Diversity. As an aside, Matariki provided a missed opportunity to link to the theme of "Celebrating the Elements" and demo out-of-the-ordinary ceremonial enactments, and connect participants - would have been a great opening plenary with each half day opening with an invocation or similar reflecting an element (but don't let this refinement detract from what was a great occasion regardless)
- Loved the connection running through the conference
- I did find myself wondering how the theme related to some of the plenaries and workshops...so, No, not really. The Matariki workshop was clearly related- perhaps we could have explored other elements?
- I didn't feel there was a particularly big focus on celebrating the elements, but it didn't worry me.
- There was a lot of learning available.
- Darcie Price's Matariki Hunga Nui was a delight and very powerful.
- The conference certainly celebrated a theme of diversity and inclusion though!

How were our communications leading up to the conference?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



(Shown as average 89 – lowest score was 50%, highest was 100% satisfactory)

How could we improve our pre conference communication in the future?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 22

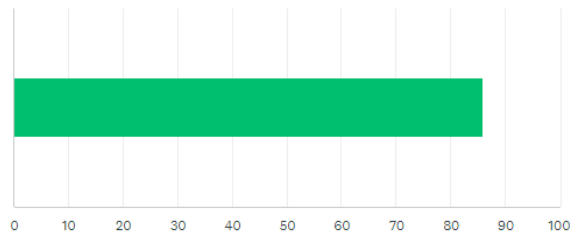
In general members felt communication was good and to keep it the same. Some felt a little more or a little less, so on balance it hit the spot. The Ne were aware we promoted the conference intensively to ensure it went ahead.

- From an attendee point of view the comms were great, from a plenary speaker/presenter point of view this could be improved.
- I couldn't work out how to find where my choices for sessions were. An app to download with all relevant information on it would have been useful. Or did I just not realise there was one?
- Actual week of there could have been perhaps a better way to confirm the workshops booked/successful to attend and what to bring and a list of attendees (even if that was just CANZ members registered)
- Emails to delegates out about 2 weeks prior, with their chosen sessions listed - many couldn't remember their choices and then wanted to change.

- For workshop presenters an indication of group numbers and attendee names.
- Maybe ask for members to give some suggestions on the topics/speakers they would like to see during the lead up of organising.
- If Covid tests are a pre-conference requirement explain what the expectation on the day is, to acknowledge a negative test.
- Can I suggest a list of delegates (approval obtained) is made available post conference.
- Some people didn't receive the comms - so sending them from a known email address would reduce the risk of them being classified as spam.
- I think you did well. In that last week in particular with reminders and any things to know before you go was great.
- I had no pre-conference communication difficulties.
- Only thing is we could possibly have had accommodation options a little earlier.
- Keep all communication simple, easy to read and just enough.
- Perhaps some videos of venue, workshop leaders etc.

How are our communications post conference?

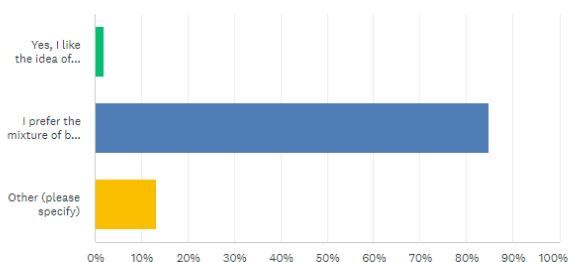
Answered: 49 Skipped: 4



(Shown as average of 86: 50 was lowest score, 100 was highest)

In the future, would you prefer workshops only, and no plenary sessions?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, I like the idea of workshops only	1.89%	1
I prefer the mixture of both plenary and workshops	84.91%	45
Other (please specify)	13.21%	7

- Definitely the mix of both is good, depending on who the speakers are for the plenary session.
- I like both but do hold the question of why BDM is a plenary if every participant isn't a marriage celebrant.
- Perhaps one or 2 speakers and one more workshop choice
- I like a mixture of both plenary and workshops but I also like "interviews" i.e. the presenter is interviewed. Always enjoy an opportunity for question and answer sessions
- As long as plenary are interactive. BDM session should perhaps be a workshop, so non-marriage celebrants don't have to sit through it.

Your feedback on discussions: was there enough time and did you like how discussions were organised?

Answered: 41 Skipped: 12

In general

- The discussions were thorough and I think long enough There's NEVER enough time for discussions! Could've had slightly more, but overall this was handled well. / All sessions could have been longer by maybe 15 minutes -
- I had been really impressed at the calibre and level of engagement of all of the speakers and workshop presenters.
- Very well organised It all worked like clockwork, thank you to everyone!

BDM

- Could have had more time for the BDM discussions
- Was glad there was time for us to give BDM some brief feedback on proposed changes - and grateful to Pinky Agnew for expressing what I also felt - the whole outsourcing thing (more work for us).

Suggestion

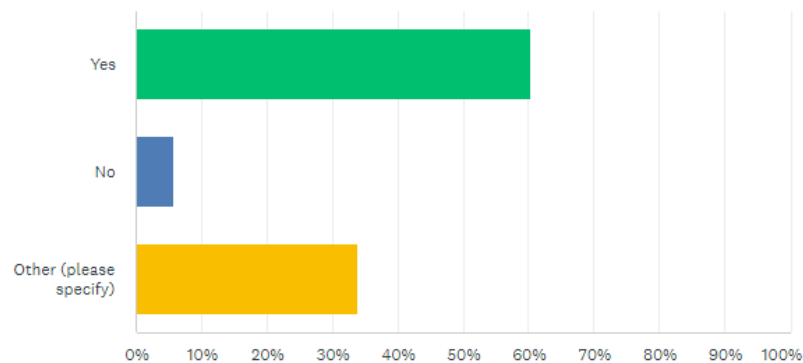
- Encourage people to move tables and sit with different groups for plenaries - the seating lent itself to discussions around tables, but we tended to end up with "reserved" seating. Celebrate randomness - be the bossy MC who shifts people :-) (MC Harriet was good even without much voice)

Panel

- I really appreciated the panel of people who came to share their experiences with us.
- The discussion panel appeared to me to be coming from quite a religious background and would (I felt) be very unlikely to be using an independent celebrant to conduct a wedding or funeral.

If the conference is held, using the current model - would you prefer the conference to be held in a main centre e.g. Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch to make the travel more accessible?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



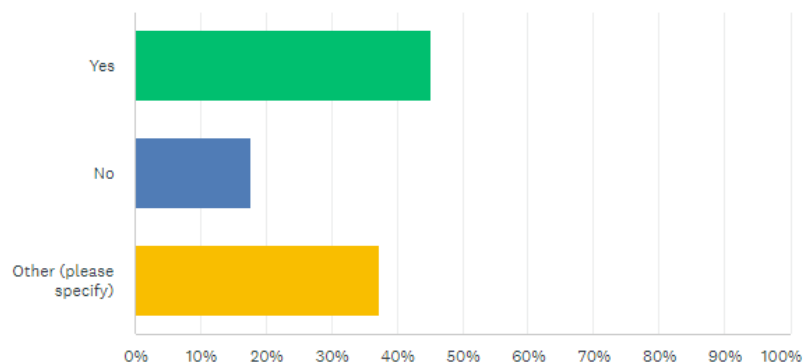
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	60.38% 32
No	5.66% 3
Other (please specify)	Responses 33.96% 18
TOTAL	53

- I think the less central venues are more inclusive too, maybe a balance alternate years
- It is good to share it around the areas, but the cost of travel does make the main centres more appealing.
- I think it is important for all Branches to be given the opportunity to host conferences
- I'm easy providing the city is accessible I think if it was in Auckland or Wellington it would cost even more.
- Tauranga or Rotorua could be considered too
- I have no preference about where the conference is held as travel is accessible anywhere in NZ and there are bonuses wherever we go.
- BUT NOT IN AUCKLAND...I appreciate that smaller centres are hard to get to and costs begin to rack up. Dunedin Christchurch wellington are accessible.
- Most centres have an airline. Often big centres costs go up especially in Wellington and Auckland
- I'm not bothered where it's held / more likely to go if easy to get to
- Travel needs to be available, which is a plus of main route. Past decision was to have conf in main centre and Forum in other places, but I appreciate that many factors impact decision - once again, not an easy equation.
- It's probably sensible but I do know it seems hard on those who live outside of the main centres.

- Main centres are a prudent choice given the travel costs to the remote provincial centres.
- yes, however the problem is the load regularly falls on the same committees. I know YourVA take a lot of the pressure away for branches but you may still get push back from branches who feel it's always up to them.
- Not necessarily - it could be good to go to smaller centres sometimes.
- Logic says yes but we will lose so much of our sense of one family over the whole country if we only move between the main centres. We also miss out on the diversity of other regions.

We are considering offering a conference with plenary sessions (sessions for the whole audience). Would this appeal if it was cheaper from being more streamlined?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2



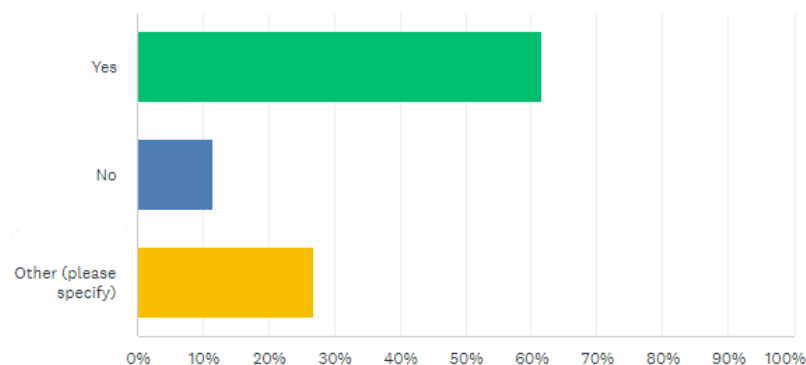
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Yes	45.10%	23
▼ No	17.65%	9
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses 37.25%	19
TOTAL		51

- The content would need to be carefully curated.
- I really like the mix of plenary and workshops
- Yes, but streaming gives more options likely to appeal to a broader audience
- I really like the balance of plenary and break out workshops. It's not about the cost for me, it's about the quality of the speakers and the 2023 conference delivered on all counts in my opinion.
- No, my preference is having plenary sessions and a choice of workshops. I think the workshops offer options which would appeal to celebrants needs. Choice is important.

- I do like breaking into smaller workshops you meet people you might not otherwise have met / Most learning was done in smaller workshops / I do like the smaller workshops myself
- Not sure because there would be no choice so if you don't like the look of the plenary sessions could put you off coming.
- Does this really impact the cost? Plenaries have often been too generalised in the past, but this year's were a good standard.
- Workshops are important for interaction and learning. It's the discussion that we have that is best.
- If its cheaper yes absolutely. / I think it would depend on the content
- YES - if well facilitated we could have some great group discussions, maybe also breaking into smaller groups as part of it.
- If digital YES, if F2F no, we need both plenary and workshops
- Do you mean no workshops only plenary speakers? There would be no potential interactive learning. Not keen if it was the only offering each year

If we run a one-day conference with plenary sessions, do you want optional social events wrapped around it?

Answered: 52 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	61.54% 32
No	11.54% 6
Other (please specify)	Responses 26.92% 14
TOTAL	52

- Flights are the same for one or three days. Plus I would still have to stay the night before and possibly miss some of the day to get a flight home. Not sure I would travel to Auckland/Wellington from Central Otago for one day.
- A one-day conference is less value for money if one has to travel.
- More guidance for those of us travelling alone and new would have been good

- Not really interested in the social parts. I get socially tired from being at conference and absorbing all the new info, so want to spend my down time in a quieter space
- Yes, the whole appeal of a face-to-face conference for me is interaction with other celebrants
- If this is a future format, then a dinner could be a nice social event. However it wouldn't be necessary.
- Not necessarily, perhaps a decent lunch break with great food.
- I think an optional dinner that night would be beneficial as most attendees would have to stay overnight for flight connections anyway.
- It really depends when and where it is being held
- Prefer more that one day, if going to the travel and with expense. Workshop choices, plenary speakers are more expensive, celebrants learning from celebrants, is helpful.
- Yes and with capacity to move around and mingle easily
- Yes, I would like a social event but it would mean accom rather than a fly in fly out option. Not keen on the idea of one day as they tend to feel pushed for time
- Ideally yes, dependent on location/travel
- Depends on accessibility

Do you have any further comments about future conferences run by Celebrants Aotearoa?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 14

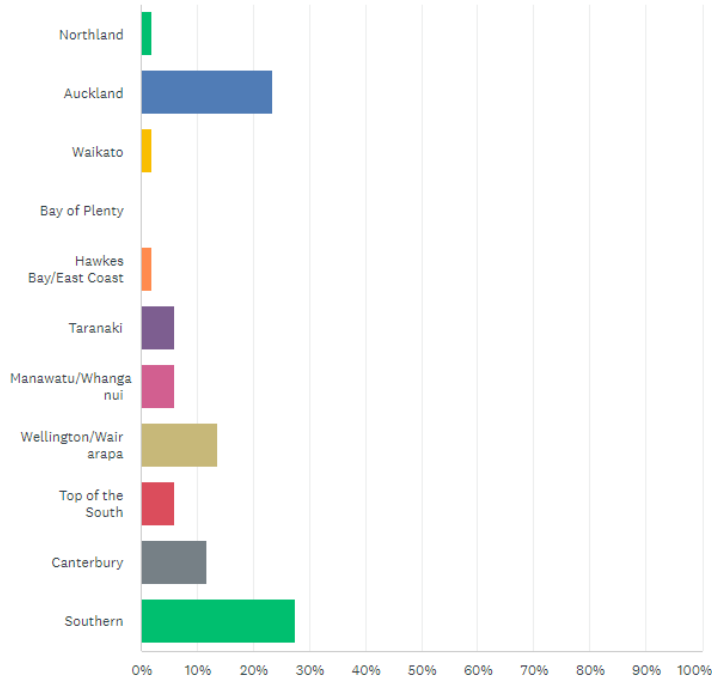
- Prices definitely need to increase, the conference is amazing value, however other conferences cost much more (for way less offered!).
- It really was an excellent event, but the cost is prohibitive for those people who only do a few ceremonies in a year (the majority of members?). I'm not sure what the answer is.
- Celebrants Aotearoa is our national brand. I don't have any statistical proof of whether membership of CA is aligned more closely with the Celebrant School, but having a competing conference a month earlier, sponsored by TCTS would likely have diluted the pool of people attending the CA conference. Geography and travel also factored. Maybe alternating North and South Island venues or running a national in person conference in alternate years and a number of regional, possibly simultaneous conferences? Mind you, conversing in person with other celebrants was most valuable, given that my training was all on line.
- I would like to see these continue to be run in the future :) We need to find a way to bring more younger celebrants into the mix, and to get them excited about both being a CANZ member and attending conference.
- This was my first conference and I was very impressed by the whole conference from the speakers, the workshops, the food, the venue and how smoothly everything ran. I'll definitely come to another
- I was really heartened and inspired by the conference so would be keen to attend them in the future

- Well, if finance allows, I shall definitely support further conferences. So great to be amongst the experienced and wise ones! The energy in the room was unbelievable! I could feel it, there were so many stories to share, but not enough time. The energy was quite remarkable! Celebrants are so underrated, I felt absolutely privileged and honoured to be a very tiny part of this. I was just in awe of the places so many celebrants have visited and taken it in their stride! I feel a wiser person having been in your company Thank you 🙏 To help cut costs, maybe, no Friday night? registration on Sat. Morning
- It was extremely well run and kept to time-well done. Name tags looked a bit cheap (easy fix), and I would question the use of anything plastic and consider how the conference can be sustainable and waste free.
- As long as they accessible for all members to make a choice.
- Thank you for all the work you do behind the scenes.
- I think it would be great at the conference if the dates/city for the next years conference was announced.
- I wasn't overly enamored by the style of our MC for the weekend. ... but a good job under the circumstances of her voice.
- It is getting rather costly on top of all the fees we already pay, but I do not see a way around it. We are professionals and therefore we need to be mixing with our peers. Weddings and funerals are ever changing, and we need to keep up with the play.
- I would like CANZ to be congratulated they do a great job More face to face conferences.
- If they are as well curated as the one just been, I would be super keen to be involved again. Very proud of the Conference Team, and to be a CANZ member.
- Thank you to all involved at the coal face and behind the scenes, it was a very worthwhile event.
- To make as affordable as possible, so more celebrants can attend. Discourage other celebrant training opportunities at the same time. Using venues where the accommodation, food prep, facilities are more casual and those attending are more included in helping out. At venues where everything happens at the same place, a lodge or where indoor outdoor activities can be offered, maybe change to a warmer month of the year.
- I would suggest that if 100 delegates are not met, then cancel conference or one day events - must meet costs.
- Important to have spaces to meet and chat with other celebrants.
- To me the purpose of a conference is not only the learning opportunity but linking up with different celebrants around the region what would be good is maybe some getting to know you sessions and a chance to hear what others do.
- I applaud you and thank you for all your hard work. Organising and running these kinds of things are never easy but I enjoyed myself. Thank you!
- Fab, fab, fab and huge ups to the Dunedin conference committee.

- The conference was wonderfully run, thank you to the volunteers! Suggestion for future - give each delegate a runsheet incl. their workshops and where they are, alongside a map.
- Well done to the exec and Southern branch. You sourced some great guest speakers. Would love similar speakers (who aren't necessarily celebrants) to appear at future conferences to share their stories and experiences.
- Conferences seem to be a part of membership - or at least have been in the past. If they don't include the AGM, another option would be to collaborate with TCS and/or CTC to deliver - no idea how that would work, but just exploring possibilities! It could help to avoid calendar clashes. Maybe CANZ underwrites venue as a member-based service in return for lower member price of entry??? Final word - you put together a great conference with heart, relevant learning, and the odd random inspirational projectile. FANTASTIC WORK TEAM! Don't get buried in the minutiae of evaluations, so that the glow of overall success is dulled by suggestions for improvement (been there myself and I know how soul-destroying it can be). I'm really happy I came. You all made it worthwhile. Thank you All!!
- No but about the survey set up! I think putting a comments box at the end of the Y N Other questions might be a good idea if it's doable. As you can see, I chose Other just so I could add my comment
- Congratulations to the CANZ Executive and the Dunedin team for hosting what I thought was one of the best CANZ conferences that I have attended in respect to value for money - simply outstanding!! Well done to you all.
- I hope celebrants see the value in attending - the collegial contacts and support alone is fantastic.
- Extras like spot prizes, the care for us. Arohanui ki a koutou!
- Time to reconsider if there needs to be a conference every year. Thanks to the amazing conference committee for the wonderful conference they delivered last weekend - it exceeded my expectations (but it was darn expensive to get there).
- I appreciate how much work goes into them so maybe it's an unrealistic wish but annual conferences would be great. Just saying!!
- I always enjoy CANZ conferences - feel buoyed up by meeting so many great celebrants. This conference was very Pākeha, middle-aged and older women - would be good to see more diversity. Once again, a huge thank you to everyone involved in organising the conference - it was so smoothly run - great job!
- Keeping them current and affordable.
- I realise the money is a big issue but the benefits to our knowledge and souls is so great with a face-to-face conference. Perhaps alternating between online one year and face to face another.
- It was awesome - thank you!
- Congratulations to the Southern Branch. It was a monumental undertaking. It was excellent.

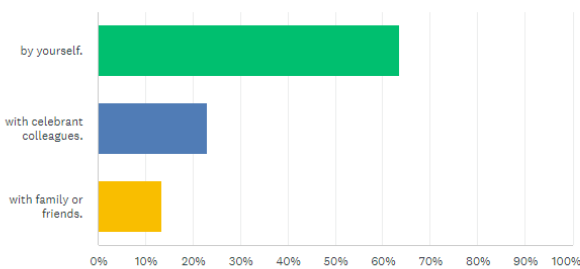
Which branch are you member of? (Celebrants Aotearoa members only need to answer)

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2



Did you travel to Ōtepoti- Dunedin (to attend conference):

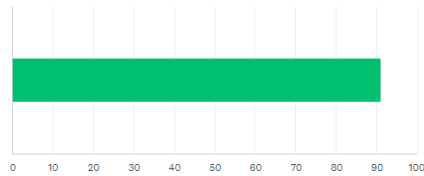
Answered: 52 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
by yourself.	63.46% 33
with celebrant colleagues.	23.08% 12
with family or friends.	13.46% 7
TOTAL	52

On a scale of 1 to 5 how did the speakers do a good job of making you feel connected?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

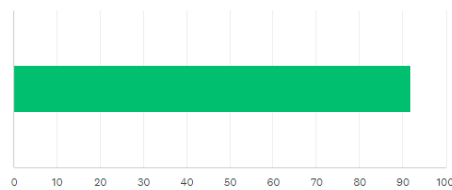


ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
Responses	91	4,823	53

(Shown as average score, individual scores ranged from 70 on the low side to 100%)

How would you rate the venue?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

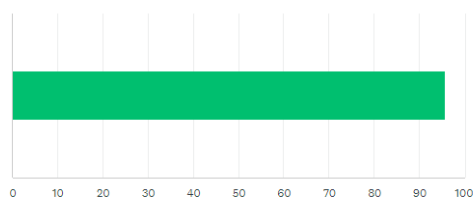


ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
Responses	92	4,875	53

(Shown as average score, individual scores ranged from 72 on the low side to 100%)

How would you rate the catering?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
Responses	96	5,077	53

(Shown as average score, individual scores ranged from 65 on the low side to 100%)