

## **AIPC ANZ Academy Program Auckland, New Zealand 16-20 February 2026**

**Location:** New Zealand International Convention Centre

**Room:** 502

### **Monday 16 February 2026**

<b>11.45 - 12:00</b>	<b>Cultural Welcome</b>
<b>12:00 - 12:45</b>	<b>Light Lunch</b>
<b>12:45 - 13:15</b>	<b>Introduction &amp; Icebreaker – facilitated by Kurby Court</b>
<b>13:15 - 14:15</b>	<b>Global outlook</b>

**Sven Bossu** | CEO | AIPC

Overview of the global trends in the event industry and the impact they have on the different components of the event value chain.

<b>14:15 - 15:15</b>	<b>Afternoon Tea Break</b>
<b>15:15 - 17:00</b>	<b>Introduction Team Challenge &amp; kick-off</b>

A key element of the AIPC Academy are the team challenges: joint exercises round industry challenges. In this session, the participants will be briefed on their mission

<b>17:00 - 20:00</b>	<b>On-site: Welcome Cocktail &amp; Dinner</b>
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**Tuesday 17 February 2026**

<b>08:00 - 08:30</b>	<b>Arrival Tea and Coffee</b>
<b>08:30 - 09:00</b>	<b>Start of day exercise – facilitated by Kurby Court</b>
<b>09:00 - 10:00</b>	<b>Voice of the Customer – panel session</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rachel Cook, Director, Conference Innovators (PCO)</b></li> <li>• <b>Blair Glubb, CEO, Uno Loco (Event Agency)</b></li> <li>• <b>Kim Mundell, Executive Director, Intelligence Transport Systems NZ (Association)</b></li> </ul>	
<b>10:00 - 10:30</b>	<b>Morning tea break</b>
<b>10:30 - 11:30</b>	<b>View from the C-Suite Panel Session</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prue Daly, General Manager NZICC</b></li> <li>• <b>Scott Taster, Chief Customer Officer at Auckland Airport</b></li> <li>• <b>Lisa Davis, CEO at Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei</b></li> <li>• <b>Kurby Court, CEO of the Calgary TELUS Convention Centre</b></li> </ul>	
<b>11:30 - 12:00</b>	<b>Morning closure: KAIZEN or how to foster innovation – Sven Bossu</b>
<b>12:00 - 13:00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>
<b>13:00 - 15:30</b>	<b>Leadership through uncertainty (leadership track then uncertainty)</b>

**Sandy Kennedy | Strategy Director | Intelligent Growth Solutions**

Uncertainty is the norm, but it also drives growth. This interactive workshop, led by executive Sandy Kennedy, equips leaders with tools to navigate ambiguity, mitigate risks, and turn uncertainty into opportunity. Through discussions and exercises, gain insights to lead confidently, make informed decisions, and inspire your team

<b>15:00 – 15:30</b>	<b>Afternoon tea break</b>
<b>15:30 - 16:30</b>	<b>Leadership through uncertainty - continued</b>
<b>16:30 – 17:30</b>	<b>Preparation Team Challenge</b>
<b>18.30 – 21:30</b>	<b>All Blacks Experience + Dinner</b>

## Wednesday 18 February 2026

08:00 - 08:30	Arrival Tea and Coffee
08:30 - 09:00	Start of day exercise – Kurby Court (Ball exercise)
<b>Sven Bossu   CEO   AIPC</b>	
09:00 - 10:00	Impact of the event industry in Australia & New Zealand
<b>Lisa Hopkins   CEO   BEIA</b>	
10:00 - 10:30	Morning tea break
10:30 - 11:30	Finance

### **Martin Clapham | CFO | ICC Sydney**

In this session, Martin will provide insights into why finance is important to each and every business and how this can help inform in decision making from business planning, business case writing, KPI's and event profitability.

11:30 - 12:00	Morning closure: a different angle to cyber security - a case study
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch Break
13:00 - 15:00	Role Play: Management by Walking Around Exercise

**Ross Steele | General Manager | Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre**

**Kurby Court | CEO of the Calgary TELUS Convention Centre**

**Steve Mackenzie | CEO | Momentus Technologies**

**Sandy Kennedy | Strategy Director | Intelligent Growth Solutions**

In this session, the participants will be broken up into small teams. Each team will receive a case study on a convention center which needs to be “fixed”. Applying the lessons learned so far, each team will come up with a proposal, addressing the challenges faced. Next to the case study, the teams will have access to a President & CEO, General Manager, CFO and CTO to obtain additional information and guidance. Teams will only have 2.5 hours to come up with the solution.

15:00 - 15:30	Afternoon tea break
15:30 - 16:00	Role Play: Management by Walking Around Presentation & Debrief
16:00 - 17:00	Mini-hackathon

<b>17:00 - 18:00</b>	<b>Preparation Team Challenge</b>
<b>18:00 - 21:00</b>	<b>Participant free time</b>

**Thursday 19 February 2026**

<b>08:00 - 08:30</b>	<b>Arrival Tea and Coffee</b>
<b>08:30 - 09:00</b>	<b>Start of day exercise – Kurby Court</b>
<b>Sven Bossu</b>   CEO   AIPC	
<b>09:00 - 10:00</b>	<b>Technology: to boldly go ...</b>

**Steve Mackenzie** | Chief Innovation Officer | Momentus Technologies

Technology has never been as important for convention centres as it is today, whether it concerns the implementation of health & safety protocols, enabling digital events or delivering actionable insights via data mining. This session will give an overview of the market landscape and the latest trends when it comes to technology for convention centers.

<b>10:00 - 10:30</b>	<b>Morning tea break</b>
<b>10:30 - 11:30</b>	<b>Design is how it works, not how it looks like</b>

**Adam Paulitsch** | Design Director and Principal | Populous Kansas City

Good event design is key for delivering successful events and goes beyond the creative elements: it should include a clear strategy, excellent production and analytics allowing for actionable insights. This session will focus on the role convention centers can play when it comes to event design, covering all these elements.

<b>11:30 - 12:00</b>	<b>Morning closure: how to take back control over your yield via pricing</b>
<b>12:00 - 13:00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>
<b>13:00 - 15:00</b>	<b>Excellence in action: Site visit of the NZICC &amp; Future of food</b> NZICC Executive Chef Robert Cullen and Director of Operations Ian Love (AIPC Academy Alumni) to host a tour of NZICC behind the scenes and discuss the future of food.
<b>15:00 - 15:30</b>	<b>Afternoon tea break</b>
<b>15:30 - 17:00</b>	<b>Cultural Session: Connection to place and people</b>

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**Kingi Makoare, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, Eighty Ltd**

Māori cultural consultant and advisor with experience in facilitation, workshops, mediation and project management. Fluent in English and Te Reo Māori with a strong foundation in Māori performing arts. Cultural host, narrator and educator passionate in sharing Māori history and tikanga to gain a better shared understanding leading to great outcomes on key projects that advance Aotearoa.

<b>16:30 - 17:30</b>	<b>Team challenge presentations to be submitted</b>
<b>18:00 – onwards</b>	<b>Dr Rudi's Offsite dinner</b>

**Friday 20 February 2026**

<b>08:00 - 08:30</b>	<b>Arrival Tea and Coffee</b>
<b>08:30 - 09:00</b>	<b>Start of day exercise – Kurby Court</b>
<b>09:00 - 11:30</b>	<b>Team Challenge Presentations</b>
<b>11:30 – 12:00</b>	<b>Morning Tea Break</b>
<b>12:00 – 12:30</b>	<b>Announcement of Team Challenge Winning Team &amp; Certificate Ceremony</b>
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Farewell</b>