

# The Federation of NZ SeniorNet Societies Inc. 2026 Symposium

The Federation of NZ SeniorNet Societies Inc. (The Federation) annual Symposium is being held at the JetPark Airport Hotel, Hamilton, on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2026.



Our Symposium this year brings something for everyone. You will hear from external experts and our own people as we reflect on our history and plan our future; look to understand AI and its role in the future of technology; and provide support to committees. At a personal level we will better understand our rights when buying online or in person. There will be plenty to share with your members in your own learning centre.

This event provides you with a wonderful opportunity to **network**.

You will benefit from hearing how other Learning Centres are working to deliver services to their members. and how they are addressing challenges that many of you are facing.

You will be able to **share your ideas and experience**. This is often cited as a major benefit attendees get from coming to the Symposium.



regulations  
Growing Membership  
Money  
Courses vs. one-on-one  
Helping up to date  
Communication  
Finding Tutors  
Administration  
Marketing  
Finding Committee members

## Why attend

- Learn from sector experts
- Network with other Learning Centre members
- Discover new strategies and tools
- Share and exchange ideas

### Day One

#### 09:30 am Registration and mingling

Tea and coffee, and a chance to mingle, will be available from 09:30am. This is a great time to network.

#### 11:00 am Annual General Meeting

The Federation Annual General Meeting will start at 11:00am, followed by a lunch for registered Symposium attendees.

The agenda for the AGM will be available [here](#) after the 11<sup>th</sup> of March.

#### 12:00 pm Light lunch & networking

A light lunch will be provided for people registered to attend the Symposium.

#### 1:00 pm The future of the Federation

The Symposium will kick-off at 1:00pm with a discussion about the role and future of the Federation. Including:

- Is the Federation meeting the needs of its members?
- Does it have a use-by date?
- What would the closure of the Federation mean for Learning Centres?

#### 2:00 pm Marketing your Learning Centre

A mix of presentation and workshops led by a professional facilitator, will provide Learning Centres with the tools and knowledge they need to effectively promote their Learning Centre to new members and tutors.

There will be a break for afternoon tea and general discussion at 3:00pm

#### 5:00 pm Symposium drinks and dinner

At the end of the day attendees can get together to renew and build new relationships across the network of Learning Centres. Partners are welcome.

Note: Symposium registration does not automatically include the dinner and capacity is limited. Registering to attend the dinner is an option on the Symposium registration form.

Please note there is a **hard deadline of 26<sup>th</sup> April** to register for the dinner.



### Day Two

Day two of the Symposium will start at 09:00am.

#### 9:00 am Presentation from Google



**Craig Whitaker** Senior Platforms Consultant, Google NZ

Curious about Google, its origins, and where it's heading? Craig will provide a high-level overview of the history of Google, the various technologies Google has created and touch upon recent advancements in AI, driverless vehicles, drone delivery and more.

##### About Craig

Craig heads up the enterprise advertising and measurement platforms business for Google New Zealand. He works closely with local brands, agencies, and tech consultants to help them get the most out of Google's enterprise tech stack.

#### 11:00 am Presentation from Consumer NZ



Jessica Walker Communications and Campaigns Manager, Consumer NZ.

Do you know people who have had bad experiences buying tech, either new or second hand, online or in person? Unsure of your rights if something goes wrong with your purchase whether in NZ or from an overseas website? Jessica will provide an overview of the work of Consumer NZ including their advocacy and campaigns, applicable NZ law and how to get help when something goes wrong.

#### 12:00 pm Light lunch

#### 1:00 pm Service delivery panel

Panel discussion to highlight the different ways Learning Centres are delivering service to their members and streamline their administration.

#### 13:30 pm Meeting madness



Angela & Lee-Ann, Twocan

Twocan is a cheeky consultancy that helps people have better conversations, braver meetings, and way less "why-are-we-here-again" energy. They specialize in untangling meeting chaos and building practical tools for humans who want to get things done and enjoy themselves while doing it!

They promise: No boring lectures. No death-by- slide-deck. Just engaging, useful stuff, delivered with warmth, wit, and a few colourful birds (literally)

## Registration

Registration to attend the Symposium is made using the registration form available at <https://seniornet.nz/agms-Symposiums/2026-agm-Symposium/>

**Registration closes 26 April 2026**

## Timetable

### Wednesday (6 May)

Topic	Start
Member sign-in, Tea & Coffee	9:30
Welcome & Introductions	10:45
Annual General Meeting	11:00
Light Lunch	12:00
The future of the Federation	13:00
Marketing your Learning Centre	14:00
Drinks	17:00
AGM Dinner	19:00

### Thursday (7 May)

Topic	Start
Presentation from Google	9:00
Morning Tea Break	10:30
Presentation from Consumer NZ	11:00
Light Lunch	12:00
Service delivery – Panel discussion	13:00
Presentation from Twocan - Meeting Madness	13:30
Symposium Close	14:30
Conclusion	14:45