

# Event to mark sector diversity

Colin Williscroft - Thu, 2 Feb 2023

An event in Christchurch next month will celebrate diversity and inclusion in the extractives sector.

Organised by Straterra, MinEx and the Aggregate and Quarry Association, the inaugural Komatsu New Zealand Women in Extractives lunch will mark the industry's commitment to workplace health and safety with diversity and inclusion. Three awards are to be presented.

The [event](#), which is open to all, is being held on 10 March, the week of International Women's Day.



## Benefits

AQA and MinEx chief executive Wayne Scott says like many industries, extractives can benefit from broadening the make-up of its workforce and committing to diversity and inclusion in safe and healthy workplaces.

Komatsu NZ managing director Phil Pritchard says the company wants to help bring to the forefront opportunities and challenges for women in the sector.

"Many people are not aware of the diverse roles and career paths available, from apprentices to engineering, sales, and service technician roles, we want to make sure women are given greater opportunities to make their mark."

Straterra chief executive Josie Vidal says Komatsu's enthusiasm for celebrating diversity and inclusion make it the perfect partner for the event.

## Awards

The awards to be presented will recognise a champion for diversity, an emerging star and leadership.

The Kristy Christensen Memorial Award – sponsored by MinEx – will be awarded to [Kristy Christensen](#) posthumously this year in recognition of her valued contribution to diversity and inclusion in the industry.

It will be open to nominations in 2024 and is to recognise people who have been a champion for diversity. A champion is someone who believes in, supports, and fights for a cause. They will be a leader that supports diversity and inclusion in the workplace and who will find ways to make it happen in a way that benefits all involved.

Straterra, AQA and MinEx are accepting nominations for the two other awards until the close of business on 22 February.

The Emerging Star Award – sponsored by MITO, a division of Te Pūkenga – will recognise a young person who over the past year, and during their career, has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills, unwavering commitment to outstanding personal performance, and innovative thinking to provide value for their company, as well as for themselves. In demonstrating leadership, they will show consideration for all their colleagues.

The Leader of the Year – sponsored by Hanga-Aro-Rau, the Workforce Development Council for the manufacturing, engineering and extractives sector – will recognise a leader who has demonstrated vision, dedication, and determination for their team to succeed. They will be a leader who develops their team members through purpose and passion, sharing of experience, and a commitment to teamwork. They will have demonstrated a commitment to diversity and inclusion in their everyday work.

To nominate someone, fill in the entry [form](#) and send it to [team@straterra.co.nz](mailto:team@straterra.co.nz).

Judging will be undertaken by a panel from Straterra, AQA and MinEx.