



COMMONWEALTH
ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

The View from Here: Sustainability, Community and Knowledge Systems
Commonwealth Association of Museums (CAM) Triennial Conference
Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand

Tāmaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum
Waikato Museum Te Whare Taonga o Waikato

March 3 - 8, 2024

Call for Contributions.

The **Commonwealth Association of Museums (CAM) 2024 Triennial Conference** will be held in Aotearoa New Zealand, under the title: *The View from Here: Sustainability, Community and Knowledge Systems*. CAM invites the museum community to Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland to explore the role of museums in a world that is changing demographically and environmentally, and to share and discuss their unique perspectives on common experiences and challenges.

The CAM symposium provides a unique opportunity for delegates from across the Commonwealth and beyond to gather and share experiences and discuss issues facing the sector. To facilitate opportunities for wider discussions and debates, the symposium will be formatted around speaker 'provocations', facilitated discussions and feedback sessions. With facilitated discussions as the principal method of sharing knowledge and experience, we hope this will help museums face a challenging future for cultural heritage and climate.

Held under an umbrella theme of *kaitiakitanga* guardianship, workshops will focus on aspects of museum practice relating to:

Sustainability: both institutional sustainability and sustainability in an era of climate change and a changing world.

Community: experience of and potentiality for refocussing museums to address changing populations, including recent migration and diasporas. Enacting social change through addressing decolonisation, reconciliation and community engagement.

Knowledge Systems and Practices: bringing different lenses or non-western perspectives to museum systems. Moving the leadership of the discussion of decolonisation and indigenisation away from ex-colonial powers, and towards First Nations.

The host institutions invite contributors to participate in the programme. Delegates can choose to contribute to a range of activities and roles such as:





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Conference Workshops/Discussions

Each session will begin with a panel discussion comprising up to 3 presenters who will speak to one of the themes and end their talk with a series of questions or discussion points to support the workshops that follow.

- **Presenters (mixture of invitees and proposals)** - to provide 15 minutes long provocations for delegates to explore and discuss during the conference workshops and discussions. These provocations must address a theme, draw on personal experience and pose questions for discussion for the workshop that will follow.
- **Facilitators** - to work with groups of delegates to assist and progress the discussions, including facilitating any mini-presentations within the workshop sessions. To help shape workshop outcomes for the benefit of the group.
- **Scribes** – to record the group discussions and provide a short summary to the conference at the end of each day.

Sharing Space

On the Tuesday evening of the programme, we will have an auditorium available to show short films, performances or other stage event. In our event centre delegates can set up 'stalls' to share posters, projects or information about their work, heritage institution, or membership group. This is an opportunity to share local activities with a global audience.

- Delegates to provide posters, music / dance performances or short films for an evening highlighting engagement with national, local or First Nations collections or communities.
- Bring along information about your place of work, website, research project etc. to share with delegates informally.

Participants wanting to contribute should send a proposal in Word of 250 words, detailing how your work or experience will speak to one or more of the conference themes. If you are interested in contributing to the sharing space, please outline any technical or furniture requirements.

Send this, along with a 100-word biography, to Chantal Knowles or Ian Proctor at CAM2024@aucklandmuseum.com by 30th September 2023.

If you would like to discuss your contribution, the conference programme or letters of support or visa requirements, we will be holding Q&A sessions on Tuesday 5th September. The three, one-hour timed sessions will be advertised shortly.

