

MIRIAM R DEAN CNZM QC

Barrister | Independent Director | Reviewer | Arbitrator and Mediator

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A Queen's Counsel and independent director, I bring to clients and boardrooms a persuasive combination of skills:

- Commercial and strategic legal acumen
- Governance expertise across a diverse range of boards
- Mediation/arbitration experience that avoids courtroom disputes
- A proven record in conducting public inquiries.

I have a collaborative style and enjoy being part of a team. I am an original thinker.

LEGAL

My 35 years' experience in commercial dispute resolution, acting for corporates and regulators, shapes the advice I provide and the investigative work I carry out. In both capacities, I take a focussed, sound and practical approach.

Ranked in the top 20 dispute resolution providers at the New Zealand bar (and the only woman) by the Chambers and Partners Survey, I am noted by survey participants for my "terrific brain power", "strength in strategic issues and negotiations" and "smart, measured and easy-to-use [style]".

Present: Queen's Counsel with particular expertise in competition, consumer and regulatory laws. Legal advice, along with dispute resolution that avoids court room disputes, now makes up the central focus of my practice.

Experienced mediator and arbitrator (member of LEADR and AMINZ mediator/arbitrator panels).

2012-2013 President New Zealand Bar Association

2004: Queen's Counsel

1995-2004 Counsel

1987-1994: Partner, Russell McVeagh McKenzie Bartleet & Co

GOVERNANCE

Governance experience is diverse, including membership of Crown entities, non-profit and regulatory bodies. I am capable and dedicated to my board work. I am not afraid to express a point of view, but equally I am an active listener at board discussions.

Present: Chair, the Banking Ombudsman Scheme
Chair, Broadcasting Commission (NZ On Air)
Chair, Legal Aid Advisory Board, Ministry of Justice
Director, Crown Fibre Holdings
Trustee, New Zealand Royal Ballet

Former: Deputy Chair, Auckland Council Investments
Member, Auckland Transitional Agency
Member, Electricity Transition Authority
Member, IANZ Council (International Accreditation New Zealand)
Director, LEADR (Lawyers Engaged in Alternative Dispute Resolution)
Chair, LEADR NZ
Deputy Chair, Commerce Commission

INQUIRIES/REVIEWS

Inquiry work enables me to use my combined skills to manage a team; identify core issues; marshal complex facts; report concisely; and recommend creative but practical improvements.

- Chair of the Ministerial Inquiry into the Whey Protein Concentrate Contamination Incident (WPC80), 2013 – 2014, producing two reports on time, within budget and with all recommendations (29 in the first and nine in the second report) accepted by the Government: <http://www.dia.govt.nz/Government-Inquiry-into-Whey-Protein-Concentrate-Contamination-Incident>
- Lead Reviewer in the Dean/Cochrane Review of the Role of the Solicitor-General and Crown Law Office, 2012: www.crownlaw.govt.nz/uploads/review_2012.pdf
- Member, Ministerial Electricity Review Group 2009: <http://www.med.govt.nz/sectors-industries/energy/electricity>

EDUCATION

- 1982-1983: LLM Harvard
- 1977-1979: LLB (Honours) Auckland
- 1974-1976: Bachelor Social Sciences Waikato

PUBLICATIONS

- Brookers: *Gault on Commercial Law*
- The Laws of New Zealand: *Competition Law*

AWARDS

- 2004 CNZM for services to law and business

- 1982-83 Frank Knox Scholar (Harvard)
William Georgetti Scholarship
Fulbright, Spencer Mason & Butterworth Awards
- 1982 Cleary Memorial Award (lawyer of less than three years' standing showing most promise of service to, and through, the profession)
- 1980 Auckland District Law Society Prize (best law graduate)
- 1977-79 Fowlds Memorial Prize (academic excellence Law III)
Alexander Johnstone Scholarship (academic excellence Law II)
Senior Scholarship/Senior Prize (Law II and Law III)

REFEREES

Simon Allen
Alan Galbraith QC