

# Robust debate tipped at NZ Minerals Forum 2019

*Bernie Napp* - Mon, 20 May 2019

The New Zealand Minerals Forum 2019 is poised to vigorously debate the issues facing the extractives sector, as delegate numbers surpass 300.



Conference organiser Matt Freeman says, "I'm really looking forward to the event as we count down towards the end of the month," to be held in [Dunedin on 27-29 May](#).

Newly-confirmed speakers include University of Canterbury professor [Susan Krumdieck](#) who is presenting in a plenary session on "Meeting the climate challenge".

She says, "Next century's economics will be based on the real values of labour, minerals, land, environmental viability and services."

Professor Krumdieck will join a panel discussion on the [coal user / climate change dilemma](#), which includes Victoria University of Wellington climate change professor David Frame.

Freeman says, "We remain [undaunted](#) by the significant protest action being planned. We will be debating the very issues these people are concerned about in house, and look forward to it."

Forest and Bird CEO Kevin Hague, Regional Economic Development Minister Shane Jones, and National's energy and resources spokesman Jonathan Young will hold a leaders' debate at the end of the conference, facilitated by journalist and commentator Brian Fallow.

Energy and Resources Minister Dr Megan Woods, and Environment Minister David Parker are among headline speakers on the first day.

They will be presenting an update on the Government's approach to minerals, new technologies, the expanding area of minerals to materials science, and "how we can promote this country's leadership in environmental science".

## Other highlights

The Ministerial address will be followed by an industry leaders' panel on "new technologies, smart practices and new markets", facilitated by Straterra CEO Chris Baker.

Panellists are: Bathurst Resources CEO Richard Tacon; president and CEO of OceanaGold, Mick Wilkes; Tasman Mining managing director Mark Le Messurier; and John McGagh, director of McGagh Advisory, who will be speaking separately on the [Internet of Things](#).

Company updates follow including from Bathurst Resources and OceanaGold.

A panel discussion on worker health will be facilitated by MinEx / Aggregate and Quarry Association CEO Wayne Scott.

Panellists are: Paul Feaver (Bathurst Resources), Eamon Moynihan (New Zealand Coal & Carbon), Charlie Gawith (OceanaGold), David McBride (University of Otago), and Philippa Gibson (WorkSafe).

Scott will also facilitate a discussion on urban encroachment on quarry sites, between Ross Aikman (Winstone Aggregates), Richard Fulton (Fulton Hogan), Michael Swap (J Swap Contractors), and David Haines (of Haines planning).

A Ngai Tahu perspective on "Our place in the New Zealand minerals sector" will be given by the chair of the iwi's East Otago Taiapure Committee.

Westland Mayor Bruce Smith, and Dunedin Mayor David Cull are among high-profile local leaders attending.

Also attending are: Tania Constable, chief executive, Minerals Council of Australia; Paul Richardson, managing director, Carina Capital; and John Johnston, investment director private equity, Milford Asset Management.