

# Threads of Tomorrow Summit

SHAPING THE **FUTURE**

16 June 2026  
Auckland

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NEW ZEALAND

# Welcome to the 2026 programme for Threads of Tomorrow.

For speaker bios and  
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Fashion & Textiles NZ, visit our  
website [fashiontextilesnz.org](https://fashiontextilesnz.org)



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## SESSION ONE

# Place

Grounding the day in who we are and where we stand

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8:45am	Karakia & Mihi Whakatau	Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei
	Welcome to the Day	<b>MC</b> <b>Nicola Turner</b>
	Opening address	<b>Speaker</b> <b>Jacinta FitzGerald</b>
	<b>Keynote</b> Ministers Address	<b>Speaker</b> <b>Hon. Nicola Willis</b>
	<b>Keynote</b> Signals from the Future	<b>Speaker</b> <b>Victoria Mulligan</b>
	<b>Presentation</b> Future of Manufacturing Aotearoa	<b>Speakers</b> <b>Pip Best</b> <b>Gina Morrissey</b>
	<b>Panel Discussion</b> From Land to Market: Creating Value from NZ Fibre	<b>Chair</b> <b>Lisa Portas</b>
	Presented by AGMARDT's The Common Ground	<b>Panelists</b> <b>Sophie Hurley</b> <b>Dr Rangi Te Kanawa</b> <b>Tim Deane</b> <b>Florian Graichen</b>
		
11:00am	Break	

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## SESSION TWO

# Possibility

From ideas to impact, how bold approaches can unlock value

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12:00pm

### Keynote

From Seed to Soil:  
Designing what comes next

### Speaker

**Emma Wallace**

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### Snapshot

Every Product Tells a Story

### Speaker

**Sean Sloan**

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### Panel Discussion

Making Circular Systems Work:  
What's Realistic for Aotearoa

### Chair

**Nick Morrison**

### Panelists

**Ainsley Simpson**  
**Jonathon Mountfort**  
**Emma Ensor**

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### Keynote

The End of Business as Usual:  
What the Next Decade Demands

### Introduction

**Natalie Norman**

Presented by Zentera, the company behind ZQ and ZQ+, the world's leading marks for high-quality wool.

### Speakers

**Mark Little**  
**Sarah Hayes**

**ZENTERA**

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2:15pm

**Break**

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## SESSION THREE

# Momentum

From insights to action and shaping what comes next

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3:00pm

### Keynote

Building Resilient Business in a Changing World

### Speaker

**Dean Werder**

### Panel Discussion

Beyond our shores: Building Brands, Value,  
Competitive Advantage

### Chair

**Paul Gestro**

Presented by ASB



### Panelists

**Megan Welch**  
**Roanne Jacobson**  
**Selina Deadman**

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### Snapshot

Traceability as Market Access

### Speaker

**Santosh Mohanram**

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### Presentation

Future of Fibre Aotearoa

Presented by AGMARDT's The Common Ground



### Speaker

**Kelly McClean**

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### Presentation

Designing with What we Grow

### Speaker

**Sophie Poelman**

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### Snapshot

From Waste to Material: Transforming By-products  
into Value

### Speaker

**Shelley Houston**

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### Closing Remarks

### Speaker

**Juliette Hogan**

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5.00pm -  
7.00pm

### Closing Reception

Networking drinks & canapes in the Innovation Hub

**All Welcome**

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## SPEAKERS

<b>Ainsley</b>	<b>Simpson</b>	CEO, Seamless
<b>Dean</b>	<b>Werder</b>	Chief Financial Officer, Les Mills International
<b>Emma</b>	<b>Wallace</b>	Managing Director, Kowtow
<b>Emma</b>	<b>Ensor</b>	CEO, McDonald Textiles
<b>Florian</b>	<b>Graichen</b>	General Manager Bioproducts, Bioeconomy Science Institute
<b>Gina</b>	<b>Morrissey</b>	Senior Manager - Climate Change & Sustainability Services, EY
<b>Hon. Nicola</b>	<b>Willis</b>	Minister of Finance, NZ Government
<b>Jacinta</b>	<b>FitzGerald</b>	CE, Fashion & Textiles NZ
<b>Jonathan</b>	<b>Mountfort</b>	Creative Director, Autex Acoustics
<b>Kelly</b>	<b>McClellan</b>	Programme Lead, Future of Fibre Aotearoa
<b>Lisa</b>	<b>Portas</b>	Trustee & Nuffield Scholar 2025, AGMARDT & Nuffield New Zealand
<b>Mark</b>	<b>Little</b>	Sr Business Unit Director - Lifestyle Essentials, Patagonia Inc
<b>Megan</b>	<b>Welch</b>	CEO, Kathmandu
<b>Natalie</b>	<b>Norman</b>	Head of Sales and Brand Management, Zentera Wool Company
<b>Nick</b>	<b>Morrison</b>	Founding Director, Go Well Consulting
<b>Nicola</b>	<b>Turner</b>	Speaker and Author, Mainstream Green
<b>Paul</b>	<b>Gestro</b>	Director Growth Markets, ASB
<b>Pip</b>	<b>Best</b>	Partner, Climate Change & Sustainability Services, EY
<b>Rangi</b>	<b>Te Kanawa</b>	Director, Muka Textiles Ltd
<b>Roanne</b>	<b>Jacobson</b>	Founder and Creative Director, SABEN
<b>Santosh</b>	<b>Mohanram</b>	SVP, Sales & Marketing, TrusTrace
<b>Sarah</b>	<b>Hayes</b>	Director Material Development, Patagonia Inc
<b>Sean</b>	<b>Sloan</b>	Commercial and Market Development Manager, Avery Dennison
<b>Selina</b>	<b>Deadman</b>	Vice President Commercial, New Zealand, DHL Express (NZ) Limited
<b>Shelley</b>	<b>Houston</b>	Founder & CEO, KiwiLeather Innovations
<b>Sophie</b>	<b>Hurley</b>	Co-Founder, Honest Wolf
<b>Sophie</b>	<b>Poelman</b>	Founder & Designer, Lof
<b>Tim</b>	<b>Deane</b>	Managing Director, Norsewear
<b>Victoria</b>	<b>Mulligan</b>	Global Foresight Strategist, Design Futures Aotearoa

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