

The 4th Waikato/Bay of Plenty Young Geotechnical Professionals' Symposium is happening on 13th November 2025. The event provides a great networking opportunity and a supportive environment to learn from each others' experiences.

What is it?

A one-day event where the young people of the local geotechnical industry gather to share and learn from each other. Hopefully you will not only learn but leave more enthused and motivated for your career. It is a shortened, local, less formal version of the highly successful ANZ YGP conference.

Who is it for?

Young members of the NZGS (under 35 and / or less than 10 years' experience) based in the Bay of Plenty and Waikato regions. No matter what your discipline or background, come along to learn, connect and have some fun.

What is required of me?

To register you need to provide a 100 to 200 word summary of a geotechnical topic which you can commit to making a 10 minute presentation on at the event. The topic should be something that your peers can learn from. This could be:

- a. A project in which you have learnt something
- b. An original investigation or examination of a topic
- c. A resource or paper you find valuable for your work
- d. An item of research
- e. Other it just needs to be something geotechnically relevant that others can learn from.

The presentation should be at your level of experience. No written paper is required.

There will be a short question time after each presentation. There will be two friendly senior mentors present on the day to provide advice and feedback.

Will everyone present?

Yes! Everyone will be required to present, so everyone gains the same experience and opportunities.

What is the due date?

Registrations including presentation summary (abstract) are due by end of day Friday 27th October 2025.

Please email your presentation summary (abstract) to taurangaygp@gmail.com.

Don't forget to put down, your name, occupation, and company /university within the abstract.

We will be in touch with everyone who registered in early November to share further details.

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What will the day look like?

An anticipated schedule is set out below:

Start	End	Item
8:15 am	8:30 am	Arrival/Registration
8:30 am	8:45 am	Welcome/Introductions/House Keeping
8:45 am	10:15 am	Session 1 - Presentations
10:15 am	10:45 am	Morning Tea
10:45 am	11:45 am	Session 2 - Presentations
11:45 am	12:00 pm	Activity 1
12:00 pm	12:30 pm	Sponsor Presentation
12:30 pm	1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm	2:30 pm	Session 3 - Presentation
2:30 pm	2:45 pm	Activity 2
2:45 pm	3:30 pm	Session 4 - Presentation
3:30 pm	4:00 pm	Afternoon tea
4:00 pm	4:30 pm	Mentor talks
4:30 pm	5:00 pm	Prize giving and Wrap Up
5:00 pm	Dinner	For all attendees

Where will it be held?

University of Waikato Tauranga Campus, 101 Durham St, Tauranga 3110

What is the cost?

The cost is \$200 + GST per person. This includes catering on the day, and dinner after the event.

Is there a prize?

The person who gives the best presentation (as selected by the mentors) will be awarded \$1,500 towards professional development.

There will also be a 'people's choice' award so it's worth your time practising your presentation in advance.

Presenter Declarations

If your presentation is related to a project you have worked on, you should get approval from your employer and the client prior to the event. You will be asked to complete a presenter declaration form indicating that you have obtained all the necessary permissions. Feel free to contact us if you need some help with this.

Presentation Guidelines

For the day to be successful your presentation needs to be of a high quality. We expect you to have spent 5 to 10 hours ahead of the event preparing and practicing your presentation. We recommend you:

- Be clear of a few key points that you are sharing, make sure they are clear to the audience
- Don't clutter your slides, you only have 10 minutes - pictures and graphs with a few words are best. Good presenters don't just read from their slides.
- 3. Don't have too many slides.As few as 7 or 8 may be adequate more than20 is probably too many.
- 4. The audience hopes to be informed, inspired and entertained. Try and include a good mix of examples, factual evidence, illustration and personal stories where possible.

- 5. Practice your presentation by yourself to hone your timing. The presentation time limit will be strictly enforced on the day and you don't want to be cut short of your punchline!
- Practice your presentation to a few others and improve it based on their feedback.



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