

22 August 2024

Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient 2024: Andrew Buckingham MRICS #1206529

It is an absolute honour to stand before you this evening as we celebrate an extraordinary individual who has dedicated nearly four decades to the commercial property profession across Australia and New Zealand. Tonight, we will present the RICS Lifetime Achievement Award to a leader whose impact on our industry is both significant and far-reaching.

This year's recipient is a true leader, a leader whose name has become synonymous with excellence in leading teams in the development and delivery of large-scale commercial projects. If we were to take a trip across the city of Auckland today, we would see firsthand the landmarks that bear their exemplary contribution—a testament to their unwavering commitment to providing leadership that brings out the best in people and delivers outstanding commercial projects. From the city of Auckland's waterfront and retail precincts to Wellington's government centre to vibrant communities across the country, their leadership is etched into the very fabric of our commercial property profession.

Since becoming a Chartered Member of RICS in 2004, this individual has not only been a proud ambassador of our institution but also contributed to the driving force behind its growth in New Zealand. Their leadership on the regional Australasian Board and within the New Zealand Member Engagement Group has ensured that the voices of our members here continue to resonate across the governance boards of RICS. As Chair of the Australasian Board, they were a steadfast advocate for our region, always ensuring that New Zealand's unique perspectives were heard and valued.

Beyond their impressive professional achievements, this year's recipient is known for their generosity of spirit and their ability to connect people. Whether hosting the launch of Matrics in New Zealand, sharing their insights on market outlook panels, or simply lending their expertise at RICS events, their contributions have enriched our community and left a lasting legacy.

Now, it's time to reveal the name behind these remarkable achievements. Many of you may recall seeing our recipient in photos from the openings of various commercial developments—often standing in the back row, perhaps due to their modesty and stature. But tonight, we are placing them front and centre, where they truly belong.

So, without further ado, I kindly ask everyone who is able to please stand and join me in applauding our 2024 RICS Lifetime Achievement Award recipient — ANDREW BUCKINGHAM.

Andrew, please join us on stage for the presentation and, of course, that all-important photo.

[Speech delivered by Professor Robyn Phipps FRICS, 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient at the RICS NZ Awards on Thursday 22 August 2024, held at the Hilton Hotel, Auckland]