



National Excellence Awards Beckon For Cooney Lees Morgan

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For the third year running, we are an Excellence Awardee in the Mid-Size Law Firm of the Year category. While our incredible CEO, Cecilia Burgess, is an Excellence Awardee for Law Firm Leader of the Year (<100 lawyers), having been selected on her debut nomination.

Cecilia joined our firm in October 2021 and we are the only Bay of Plenty law firm to officially have a CEO. “Cecilia’s sharp business sense helps us remain focused on the big picture, while her empathy and warmth have dramatically enhanced our workplace culture,” says CLM Partner Paul Tustin. “Her impressive ability to multi-task ensures our firm runs as efficiently, cohesively and sustainably as possible. We

are thrilled that Cecilia is being recognised at a national level at this year's NZ Law Awards. She excels at bringing the right people together to streamline operations without losing the strong culture and identity which has made CLM a success for over 100 years."

Our firm-wide Excellence Awardee is in recognition of the exceptional work we have done for our clients in the past financial year. This includes helping Gisborne District Council take enforcement action in the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle, and our employment law, family law and property and development teams, who are all performing strongly in the face of current economic challenges. We also continue to provide substantial financial support for the wider Bay of Plenty community and charitable causes, and CLM is now a Rainbow Tick-accredited employer in recognition of our commitment to diversity and inclusion.

The winners of this year's NZ Law Awards will be announced at a gala dinner at Auckland's Viaduct Events Centre on 28 November.