

# **Philip Patston**

**Managing Director at Diversity New Zealand Ltd**

Auckland, , NZ

Leading diversity, creating change

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## **Biography**

An alumni of the New Zealand Social Entrepreneur Fellowship and Leadership New Zealand, I'm a passionate believer that, individually and collectively, we have a powerful opportunity to significantly change our social fabric ? simply by creatively reimagining diversity. I began my career as a counsellor and social worker. Over the past 15 years I've combined working with people, entertaining and running a consulting business to create innovative ways to work with diversity, creativity and change. I became self-employed in 1998 after getting into comedy, somewhat by accident, while working at the Human Rights Commission. I made regular appearances on Pulp Comedy and had a brief but acclaimed role in Shortland Street. In 1999, I received the Billy T Award for my commitment and contribution to comedy in New Zealand. I established my company, Diversity New Zealand Ltd in 2001. Four years later I founded Diversityworks Trust as a vehicle to create social change. When labels are called for, I identify as gay, disabled, white and male. I live and work in beautiful Westmere, Auckland.

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## **Availability**

Keynote, Workshop, Corporate Training

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## **Industry Expertise**

Staffing and Recruiting, Training and Development, Social Media

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Executive Mentoring, Strategy, Diversity, Leadership, Social Change

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## **Affiliations**

NZ Social Entrepreneur Fellowship, Leadership New Zealand, Winston Churchill Fellowship

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## **Sample Talks**

**The Label Libel, A New look at Diversity**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hNUgOhJiQZc>

### **The Label Libel, A New look at Diversity**

The session will allow participants to reframe and expand their understanding of and attitudes towards diversity. They will explore and deconstruct current notions of categorisation, labeling and representation. They will identify what creates misunderstandings and misinterpretations of diversity; and how these work against inclusion. Finally participants will learn how to overcome these barriers and the advantages of embracing diversity in the context of their work.

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### **Event Appearances**

**The Label Libel**  
TEDx Auckland

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### **Education**

**Leadership NZ**  
Fellowship Leadership

**University of Auckland**  
Diploma of Applied Social Studies Social Work

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