



## Christine Allan

### *Tikanga Māori and forensic services*

Christine's talk will begin with an overview of the company she works for, ESR and its main areas of science work. She will describe a project she was involved in that sought to integrate *tikanga* Māori into the forensic practice used by ESR when dealing with scenes involving death. The project developed a set of protocols that is now used by ESR when dealing with death involving Māori and related issues such as the treatment of genetic material.

*Christine of Ngāti Kahu, Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Porou, Rongowhakaata and Tainui attended St Joseph's Māori Girls' College, Napier and Lytton High School, Gisborne. She then went on to study at the University of Auckland, where she was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree (chemistry) in 1996, a Master of Science degree (Forensic Science) in 1998 and later a Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching in Secondary Teaching in 2002. Christine worked as a technician in the Physiology teaching laboratory at the Auckland School of Medicine for three years and then took a year off to study. In 2002, she was to start a teaching career at Auckland Girls' Grammar but instead took an opportunity to work as a forensic technician at ESR where she still works but as a forensic scientist. She is a member of the NZ Forensic Science Society and the Henderson-Waitakere toastmasters club. Christine enjoys reading and catching up with friends and family and tries to get to the gym regularly.*