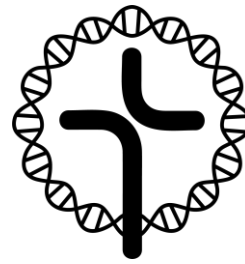


InterChurch Bioethics Council



Exploring the spiritual, ethical, cultural, technological and evidential dimensions of bioethics and its consequences in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The InterChurch Bioethics Council (ICBC) is an ecumenical cross-cultural body supported by the Anglican, Methodist, and Presbyterian Churches of Aotearoa New Zealand. The ICBC followed on from the “InterChurch Commission on Genetic Engineering” that was formed in 2000 to provide a Christian response to the Royal Commission on Genetic Modification. Following the governmental Royal Commission, the InterChurch Commission was renamed the “InterChurch Bioethics Council” in 2002 and was given a broader brief to raise issues relevant to the cultural, ethical, spiritual, and theological issues in the use of biotechnology in New Zealand.

Biotechnology relates to biological, medical, environmental, and agricultural technologies derived from science. Bioethics is an interdisciplinary category of ethics that provides the framework for policy and decision-making with regard to scientific research and resulting technologies; including future consequences, legal, political, commercial, theological and social aspects. The ICBC members have expertise and knowledge in science, ethics, theology, medicine, education and mātauranga Māori. The mission statement of the ICBC is:

To increase the knowledge and understanding of church members and the wider community around the spiritual, ethical, cultural, technological and evidential issues relating to bioethics. To enable and encourage citizens to take action on these issues.

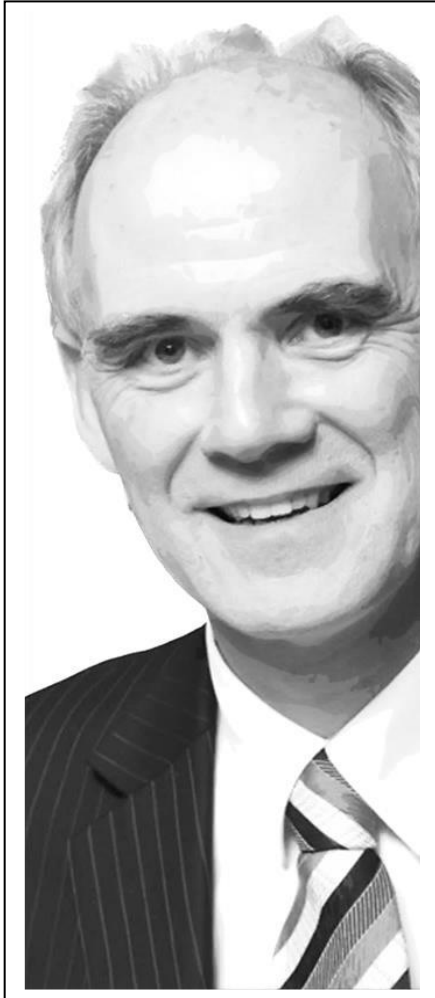
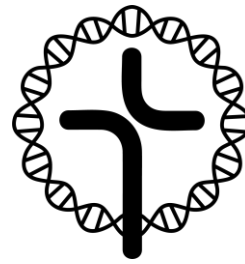
2023 represents a milestone year for the ICBC, being the **21st anniversary** of the formation of this unique ecumenical body. To commemorate the work of the ICBC, we are hosting a public lecture in Wellington on Friday October 6, with guest speaker Emeritus Prof Jonathan Boston ONZM, on the topic:

Keeping Hope Alive in Challenging Times: Confronting the Climate Crisis

- Location: St Paul’s Cathedral, Wellington.
- Time: Drinks and Nibbles from 5.30pm (Loaves and Fishes Hall); Lecture and Q&A at 6pm (in Cathedral, finish 7pm).

Any questions please contact Joy McIntosh (irjak.mcintosh@extra.co.nz)

InterChurch Bioethics Council



Jonathan Boston, ONZM, is Emeritus Professor of Public Policy in the School of Government at Victoria University of Wellington. His research interests include: climate change policy (both mitigation and adaptation); child poverty; governance (especially anticipatory governance); public management; tertiary education funding (especially research funding); and welfare state design.

He has served at various times as the Director of the Institute of Policy Studies and the Director of the Institute for Governance and Policy Studies at Victoria University of Wellington. In the early 2000's he served as a member of the Tertiary Education Advisory Committee and helped design and implement the Performance-Based Research Fund in New Zealand's tertiary education sector.

During 2012-13 he co-chaired the Expert Advisory Group on Solutions to Child Poverty for the Children's Commissioner. In 2021 he was seconded to the Ministry for the Environment to contribute to policy advice on various aspects of environmental policy, including resource management issues. He is currently a member

of the Expert Working Group on Managed Retreat for the Ministry for the Environment, and has also been assisting the Environmental Defence Society with their current project on climate change adaptation. Over the years he has served on the boards of various non-governmental organizations, such as Oxfam Aotearoa (2013-22).

Recent books and major reports include: *Child Poverty in New Zealand* (with Simon Chapple) (2014); *Governing for the Future: Designing Democratic Institutions for a Better Tomorrow* (2017); *Safeguarding the Future: Governing in an Uncertain World* (2017); *Foresight, Insight, and Oversight: Enhancing Long-Term Governance through Better Parliamentary Scrutiny* (with David Bagnall and Anna Barry) (2019); *Transforming the Welfare State: Towards a New Social Contract* (2019); *Funding Managed Retreat: Designing a Public Compensation Scheme for Private Property Losses: Policy Issues and Options* (2023). He is the editor of *Policy Quarterly*.