

INFRASTRUCTURE WOMEN IN FOCUS



WIN NZ has been established to increase the visibility of women in the infrastructure sector. Every month we profile a different woman working in a different part of the industry. If you would like to be profiled, or would like to nominate someone to be profiled, please answer the questions below and send your picture through to [Natasha](#).

We'd like to introduce Amanda as our next Woman of Focus.



AMANDA BRYAN

SUSTAINABILITY LEADER -
NEW ZEALAND

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1. What company or organisation do you work for and what is your role there?

My role is Sustainability Lead for Jacobs NZ. My purpose is to grow and develop a Sustainability team for Jacobs NZ in a way that is long-lasting and nourishing so that the team is empowered to improve the environment for future generations.

Jacobs is committed to Sustainability. We're creating solutions to deliver a more connected, sustainable world. Jacobs' definition of Sustainability is ensuring long-term business resilience and success while positively contributing towards the economy, society and the environment.

My role at Jacobs enables me to be engaged in exciting and interesting challenges every day.

2. Tell us about your career background and how you got to this position/role?

I completed a Bachelor of Building Science degree in 2004. I had a strong interest in the Built Environment, energy, daylight and thermal comfort modelling. My first job was working as a Building Scientist for a small company, eCubed Building Workshop in Auckland. In reflection, that position kicked off my career working for engineers.

In 2008 the New Zealand Green Building Council released a voluntary green building rating tool called Green Star. Once that arrived on the market I thought - great!! A tool that helped the industry understand a market in what I had been studying. As a Building Scientist we covered a range of topics such as post occupancy

evaluations, holistic sustainability, indoor air quality, life cycle assessments and climate change adaptation plans...the list goes on.

During my working career, I moved to Australia for 5 years and worked as a Sustainability Engineer. There, I learnt about the Australian market. I also became qualified in a number of other rating tools including; the living building challenge, NABERSNZ, and Infrastructure Council of Australia (ISCA).

Over time I have come to realise the work I do is greater than just a building itself. Sustainability needs to fit within a living system, which has led me on to wanting an influential role.

3. Tell us about a project you are currently working on and why it interests you?

I have the great privilege to be the Sustainability Lead for the Scott Point Sustainability Sports Park. I am also very lucky to have the support of a great team (Elizabeth Garner and Sarah Leggett) to deliver the project's sustainability principles alongside the ISCA Design Rating. If you had told me at the beginning of my career that I would get the opportunity to work on a sports park that creates community value and apply the highest level of sustainability principles, I wouldn't have thought this was possible. This project interests me because it provides variety to how I apply sustainable outcomes alongside a client that is working collaboratively, and is highly enthusiastic about sustainability.

4. What's the hardest job you've ever done and why?

There are moments in all jobs where I have considered them to be hard. However when I started to think about what I wanted, needed and my purpose, the 'hard' turned into a challenge which only bolstered my drive to make a success of it. The hardest jobs I find are the ones that I am expected to be the only person on the team to meet the Sustainability requirements.

5. Can you think of one example where your "diversity" has materially affected the outcome of a work situation or project, either positively or negatively?

To be honest, when I first started my career I didn't really understand or see that I was different (diverse?), I was just there to do a job to the best of my ability. Over time and as the industry became educated about gender balance / diversity etc, I started to see why I might have faced certain challenges in this industry along the way. However I believe if you are good and passionate about your job or career this becomes irrelevant. It's about all of us being professional and working towards the same common goal.

To learn more about opportunities for a career with Jacobs [click here](#).

Or, you can connect with [Amanda on LinkedIn](#).

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