

## Statement Regarding Updated 'Bid Convention Clearinghouse' Document

The undersigned Worldcons and bids for Worldcon include this joint statement with our responses to the 'Bid\_Convention Clearinghouse' prepared for SMOFCon 37 in preparation for the "Fannish Inquisition/Question Time" event.

The number of questions included in the questionnaire increased from twenty-one (21) in prior years to seventy-one (71) questions in the current version, significantly increasing the workload to respond.

The notice of the new questionnaire was published by SMOFCon 37 on November 18, thirteen (13) days before the deadline to respond of December 1, 2019. The initial notice was sent to the list of the members of SMOFCon, and to the general SMOFs list. It was announced at that time that efforts to contact seated Worldcons and bids would take place afterwards, i.e., those who did not see the original announcement would have even less than 13 days to respond.

During this time, this was further problematised as over half of the standing chairs and bid chairs were attending an event in Chengdu (hosted by the Chengdu bid team) or taking part in extensive international travel during most of this time. Immediately following this was a national holiday in the USA.

In the spirit of fairness, we object to the fact that the format of the questionnaire was released in a manner that is completely inaccessible to one of the declared bids. Google Docs are not able to be accessed in China.

The attached submission represents the best effort that each Worldcon or Worldcon bid was able to coordinate in such a short time and with the understanding that all of us are volunteers.

Signed:

Norman Cates and Kelly Buehler, Co-Chairs, CoNZealand  
Bill Lawhorn and Colette H. Fozard, Co-Chairs, DisCon III  
Helen Montgomery and Dave McCarty, Co-Chairs, Chicago in 2022 Bid for Worldcon  
Cliff Dunn and Kate Secor, Co-Chairs, Memphis in 2023 Bid for Worldcon  
Chengdu in 2023 Bid for Worldcon  
Esther MacCallum-Stewart, Chair, Glasgow in 2024 Bid for Worldcon  
Katharine Bond, Chair, Seattle in 2025 Bid for Worldcon

# Smofcon 37 in Albuquerque

## Fannish Inquisition Questionnaire

Who will represent your convention at Worldcon 76 and how can they be contacted?

Kelly Buehler; [kelly@conzealand.nz](mailto:kelly@conzealand.nz)

What are the dates for your convention?

29 July – 2 August

Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb?

Wellington City Centre

If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city center? How far is the site from the city center?

N/A

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as Auckland, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Dublin, Helsinki, London, Los Angeles, Melbourne?

Auckland	\$80 NZD
Boston	\$950 USD
Chicago	\$780 USD
Dallas	\$925 USD
Dublin	755 €
Helsinki	1065 €
London	620 £
Los Angeles	\$715 USD
Melbourne	\$255 AUD

Is your closest airport a hub for a major carrier?

No

Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport?

Yes

If not, where is the closest international airport?

N/A

Which airlines service your airport?

Air New Zealand;  
Qantas;  
Virgin;  
Singapore Airlines;  
Fiji Airways;  
Jetstar;  
Sounds Air;  
Air Chathams;  
Golden Bay Air.

Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

Auckland	Direct.
Boston	Transfer in US. Transfer in New Zealand, or Australia.
Chicago	Transfer in New Zealand, or Australia.
Dallas	Transfer in US. Transfer in New Zealand, or Australia.
Dublin	Transfer in US, Europe, Hong Kong, or Middle East. Transfer in New Zealand or Australia.
Helsinki	Transfer in US, Europe, Hong Kong, or Middle East. Transfer in New Zealand or Australia.
London	Transfer in US, Europe, Hong Kong, or Middle East. Transfer in New Zealand or Australia.
Los Angeles	Transfer in New Zealand or Australia.
Melbourne	Direct.

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from that airport/train station?

Wellington Airport, in town, approx \$25 - \$30NZD by taxi, \$8 - \$11NZD by bus.

Wellington Railway Station, approx \$6 - \$10NZD by taxi, \$2NZD by bus.

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention?

Aspect, Astelia, Boulcott Suites, City Life, DoubleTree by Hilton, Downtown Mercure, Grand Mercure, Ibis, InterContinental, James Cook Grand Chancellor, Novotel, Sofitel, Westplaza, Willis Village.

Credit Card & International Debit Card payments relating to New Zealand hotels incur a merchant service fee of 2.0% in addition to the total amount payable.

## Aspect

22 Brandon St, Wellington 6011

One of the Village group of hotels. The discount code gives you 15% off any available rate, ranging from non-cancellable to fully cancellable, with the terms explained for each rate. If the room rate doesn't list cancellation explicitly, then it's a one week cancellation. The code is good until a week before the convention. Shoulder nights (26-28 July, and 3-5 August) are included.

There are no accessible rooms.

All rooms have kitchen facilities.

## Astelia

156 Willis St, Te Aro, Wellington 6011

One of the Village group of hotels. The discount code gives you 15% off any available rate, ranging from non-cancellable to fully cancellable, with the terms explained for each rate. If the room rate doesn't list cancellation explicitly, then it's a one week cancellation. The code is good until a week before the convention. Shoulder nights (26-28 July, and 3-5 August) are included.

There are some semi-accessible rooms.

All rooms have kitchen facilities.

## Boulcott Suites

5 O'Reily Ave, Te Aro, Wellington 6011

One of the Village group of hotels. The discount code gives you 15% off any available rate, ranging from non-cancellable to fully cancellable, with the terms explained for each rate. If the room rate doesn't list cancellation explicitly, then it's a one week cancellation. The code is good until a week before the convention. Shoulder nights (26-28 July, and 3-5 August) are included.

There are some semi-accessible rooms, however the entrance to the suites is too steep for mobility scooters and there is a small lip at the entrance.

All rooms have kitchen facilities.

## City Life

300 Lambton Quay, Wellington 6011

\$229/night— studio, with one queen bed and a kitchenette

\$259/night— one bedroom executive, with a queen bed and full kitchen

\$309/night— two bedroom executive, with one queen bed in each bedroom and full kitchen

\$309/night— two bedroom executive with a queen in one bedroom and two singles in the other and full kitchen

\$369/night— two bedroom Director Suite, larger than Executive, with two ensuite bathrooms (with two queens, or with a queen and two singles) and full kitchen

Deposit is full payment at time of reservation, and rooms must be cancelled at least 7 days in advance or the entire stay will be charged.

To cancel a reservation, contact the hotel 7 days prior to the date of arrival to avoid a cancellation fee. Should a cancellation be received after or within 7 days a charge equal to the entire stay will be levied.

## Doubletree

28 Grey Street, Lambton Quay, Wellington 6011

Rooms in Hotel: 106

Rooms in Block: 80 rooms per night

The discount code gives 15% off Best Available rate. The rate is good from Friday 24 July up to Friday 7 August.

The hotel has an extremely narrow elevator which means it is not accessible to mobility scooters or wider wheelchairs. This hotel is suitable for those with only a mild mobility impairment (eg cane/ crutches/ walker) or possibly a narrow wheelchair, but unsuitable for standard width wheelchair/ mobility scooter users. Rooms are otherwise semi-accessible. Bookings will close on 29 May. All bookings must be paid in full at the time of booking, and are not cancellable or amendable.

## Grand Mercure Wellington

345 The Terrace, Te Aro, Wellington 6011

Rooms in Hotel: 114

Rooms in Block: 40 rooms per night

\$249/night— superior king or twin room

One of the Accor group of hotels. Payment must be made in full at 60 days in advance, and no cancellations are possible after that.

Some accessible rooms are available; however, this venue is not particularly close to the TSB Arena/Shed 6 or MFC.

## Ibis Wellington

153 Featherston St Wellington 6011

Rooms in Hotel: 200

Rooms in Block: 50 rooms per night

\$199/night— standard queen or twin room

One of the Accor group of hotels. Payment must be made in full at 60 days in advance, and no cancellations are possible after that.

Accessible rooms are available.

## Intercontinental

2 Grey Street, Wellington 6011

Rooms in Hotel: ?

Rooms in Block: 140 rooms per night

\$279/night— standard room

\$369/night— deluxe room

\$459/night— club level room (includes access to their lounge)

\$536/night— city view club king

Non-club rates are room-only (club rates have breakfast in the club). Breakfast is generally available for, currently, \$27/person.

The booking period at the Intercontinental ends 60 days before CoNZealand starts. Rooms can be cancelled up to 30 days before the con.

Some convention programming will be in this hotel, including panels and workshops. Some convention organisation will also be based here. This is the closest hotel to the TSB/Shed 6 complex.

In general, there are a very few accessible rooms at the standard level. Starting at the deluxe level, the rooms have roll-in showers. Shower stools are available on request.

## James Cook Grand Chancellor

147 The Terrace Wellington 6011

Rooms in Hotel: 268

Rooms in Block: 100 rooms per night

\$250— all rooms

There are no accessible rooms at the hotel at present.

Rooms are cancellable until 30 days in advance. After this date, the full amount is charged. The booking period for the James Cook ends 60 days before CoNZealand starts.

## Novotel Wellington

133 The Terrace, Wellington 6011

Rooms in Hotel: 139  
Rooms in Block: 40 rooms per night  
\$249/night— superior king or twin room

One of the Accor group of hotels. Payment must be made in full at 60 days in advance, and no cancellations are possible after that.

Accessible rooms are available. Specifics have been sent to those who have requested access bookings, or mail [access-hotels@conzealand.nz](mailto:access-hotels@conzealand.nz) for more details.

## Rydges Hotel

75 Featherston St, Pipitea, Wellington 6011

\$249/night— superior room with 1 breakfast (\$279 with 2 breakfasts)  
\$279/night— city view with 1 breakfast (\$299 with 2 breakfasts)  
\$309/night— deluxe harbour view with 1 breakfast (\$339 with 2 breakfasts)  
\$329/night— superior king suite with 1 breakfast (\$359 with 2 breakfasts)  
\$369/night— deluxe king suite with 1 breakfast (\$399 with 2 breakfasts)

Convention rate bookings must be made before 60 days before the convention. Cancellation is free prior to 60 days, and any cancellation after that will incur a fee equal to the whole stay.

## Sofitel Wellington

11 Bolton St Wellington 6011

Rooms in Hotel: 129  
Rooms in Block: 40 rooms per night  
\$319/night— classic /superior queen

One of the Accor group of hotels. Payment must be made in full at 60 days in advance, and no cancellations are possible after that.

Accessible rooms are available.

## West Plaza

110 Wakefield St, Te Aro, Wellington 6142

Rooms in Hotel: 106  
Rooms in Block: 60 rooms per night  
\$185/night for 4 nights or fewer  
\$175/night for 5 or more nights

There are some accessible rooms.

Reservations here can only be made by emailing or calling the hotel directly. There will be no booking link on the CoNZealand site, but we will list the code needed to get the convention rates.

West Plaza will charge the credit card initially for one night's deposit. Rooms cancelled between 30 and 60 days before the stay will be charged one night's booking. At the 30 day point, the charge is for the entire reserved period.

## Willis Village

142 Willis St, Te Aro, Wellington 6011

One of the Village group of hotels. The discount code gives you 15% off any available rate, ranging from non-cancellable to fully cancellable, with the terms explained for each rate. If the room rate doesn't list cancellation explicitly, then it's a one week cancellation. The code is good until a week before the convention. Shoulder nights (26-28 July, and 3-5 August) are included. There are no accessible rooms.

The Willis Village is not accessible for wheelchairs or mobility scooters. There is not a reception.

All rooms have kitchen facilities.

**How many rooms?**

Our block includes 650 rooms/ night.

**How many Singles/Doubles/Kings?**

See above.

**What other types of rooms are available? How many are handicap accessible?**

See above.

**Are there any accessibility issues?**

Wellington is not as ubiquitously accessible as the US. It has made great strides lately, and is easy to get around. Some businesses, including restaurants are not accessible. We will have a restaurant guide that will let people know how accessible a restaurant or bar is before reservations are made.

**What are your hotel room rates?**

See above.

**Do these rates include breakfast?**

See above.

Do they include internet in the room?

See above.

What is the distance from the main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site?

	Inter Continental	Michael Fowler Centre	TSB Arena
Aspect	240 metres	900 metres	350 metres
Astelia	700 metres	550 metres	750 metres
Boulcott Suites	600 metres	500 metres	700 metres
City Life	180 metres	700 metres	400 metres
DoubleTree by Hilton	100 metres	800 metres	300 metres
Downtown Mercure	750 metres	300 metres	750 metres
Grand Mercure	1400 metres	1100 metres	1500 metres
Ibis	170 metres	850 metres	300 metres
InterContinental	0 metres	650 metres	200 metres
James Cook Grand Chancellor	200 metres	700 metres	400 metres
Novotel	250 metres	750 metres	450 metres
Sofitel	800 metres	1400 metres	950 metres
Westplaza	600 metres	110 metres	600 metres
Willis Villoge	650 metres	500 metres	700 metres

What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

There are mobies, taxis, uber, zoomy (local uber competitor). We are looking into shuttles, but it is not yet certain.

Please describe your convention site facilities. For example, the quantity and sizes of function rooms, tech options, accessibility issues, etc.

## InterContinental

Lambton Room	317.42 SQM
#1	115.64 SQM
#2	115.64 SQM
#3	86.14 SQM
Thorndon Room	36.72 SQM
Aurora Room	34.68 SQM
Rosanna Room	78.20 SQM
Featherston Room	108.00 SQM
Wellington Room	68.20 SQM

## TSB Arena

Arena	2,186 SQM
Arcade	407 SQM

There is a range of smaller admin rooms and meeting rooms. There are kiosks that could be used for food & beverage or sales to members or both.

## Shed 6

Room 1	250 SQM
Room 2	145 SQM
Room 3	137 SQM
Room 4	200 SQM

## Michael Fowler Centre

Auditorium	230 SQM
Renouf Foyer	450 SQM
Lion Harbourview	140 SQM
VIP Lounge	20 SQM
Frank Taplin Room	60 SQM

There is a range of smaller admin rooms and a café. There is a large space in the downstairs foyer.

## West Plaza Hotel

Room 1	158 SQM
Room 2	82 SQM
Room 3	45 SQM

Where will your large events (for example the Hugo Ceremony and Masquerade) be held?  
Michael Fowler Centre.

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

There is an extensive range of restaurants. There is a month-long festival called "Wellington on a Plate".

What are the policies/laws regarding smoking at your:

Hotel(s):

No smoking indoors.

Convention Center:

No smoking indoors.

City:

No smoking indoors.

What type of weather can we expect at the time of year your convention is to be held?

July

Avg. High 12°C/ 54°F      Avg. Low 7°C/ 45°F

Avg. Rainfall 30mm Avg. Rainy Days 16

August

Avg. High 13°C/ 55°F      Avg. Low 8°C/ 46°F

Avg. Rainfall 40mm      Avg. Rainy Days 16

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

**Weta Studio**

From Middle-earth to Tracy Island & beyond: The Weta Cave offers licensed sales, informational film, and mini-museum. It is also the starting point for an amazing tour of the Weta Workshop.

**Zealandia**

Just a 10-minute drive from downtown Wellington, Zealandia sanctuary aims to return a 225 hectare section of bush to its pre-human state. Take a walk and hear the songs of the flourishing native bird population, and you can even book a night tour for kiwi spotting.

**Te Papa Tongarewa**

(The National Museum of New Zealand)

Discover New Zealand's unique geological, biological, cultural and social history with innovative and interactive exhibits. Free general admission, although guided tours and some touring exhibitions have an entry fee.

## Wellington Cable Car

An historic funicular, the cable car is a Wellington icon. Starting 2 blocks from the InterContinental, it runs up the hill to a scenic lookout, the Cable Car Museum, and Space Place at Carter Observatory. There is also the option of walking back to town through the beautiful Botanic Garden.

## Wellington Museum

This is the only building between the InterContinental and the TSB Arena/ Shed6. Multimedia displays bring Wellington's history to life in this small, impressive museum housed in a preserved historic building. Informative exhibits and film presentations trace Wellington's maritime history and the city's evolution.

## Te Wharewaka o Pōneke

Located near Michael Fowler Centre, the Wharewaka (Māori canoe house) is viewable from all sides. Inside visitors can see 3 traditionally carved Māori waka on permanent public display.

## The Beehive

The beehive is Wellington's most iconic building and site of New Zealand's parliament. Next door is the more classical building Parliament House, home to The Chamber where parliamentary debates are held. Free one-hour tours of the parliament buildings are held daily between 10 am and 4 pm and trace New Zealand's parliamentary history as well as touring through the important government rooms.

## City Gallery

Located across the square from Michael Fowler Centre and housed in the historic building of the old city library, City Gallery Wellington is one of the leading contemporary art spaces in New Zealand. Devoted to modern visual arts, exhibitions range from painting to photography to sculpture, multimedia work, and art installations. Entry is often free.

## Matiu Island

Matiu Island (also known as Somes Island) in Wellington Harbour offers up a heady dose of wild New Zealand landscapes. With a history from Māori occupation to use as a quarantine station, internment camp, and military installation until being turned over to New Zealand's Department of Conservation as a nature reserve. For both day-trippers and overnighters, the island has a series of short hiking trails up to its highest point, with World War II gun emplacements, and around its perimeter, all with excellent views across to the

mainland. Regular daily ferries depart from Queens Wharf to the island, and a campsite accommodates overnigheters.

**Do you have a corkage waiver and a forrage waiver?**

No. We do have a contract based on the one used for food shows where samples are given to members. Whether this will include alcohol is up to us and our caterer and has to do with our confidence in upholding the New Zealand Responsible Host Act.

**Do you currently have a code of conduct in place for your bid/convention?**

Yes.

**If so, what is it?**

## Full CoNZealand Code of Conduct

This is a living document and will be updated as required to ensure safe, positive experiences for everyone.

### Purpose

CoNZealand welcomes all of the many facets of fandom. Our mutual experience is enriched by the participation of fans with varied and diverse backgrounds. We are committed to providing a friendly, safe, and welcoming environment for all.

### Fandom Citizenship

Members are encouraged to recognize the relationships between their actions and the effects those actions have on our community. Communities mirror the societies in which they exist and positive action is essential to counteract the inequalities that exists in today's society. Keeping our community welcoming contributes to its health and longevity.

Please be mindful of your surroundings and the people around you. Alert staff or volunteers if you notice a dangerous situation or someone in distress. If you see someone who is making an extra effort to ensure our community is welcoming and friendly to all, please let us know.

### Unacceptable Behaviour

There is a wide range of unacceptable behaviour, and listing specific actions is not practical. Assault and harassment or the encouragement thereof are unacceptable. Assault is any unwanted or threatening physical contact, and harassment is any unwanted or threatening presence, or verbal or written contact.

Harassment can include offensive comments related to appearance (e.g. race, size) or personal identifiers (e.g. gay, genderqueer), deliberate intimidation, following, unwelcome photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or

other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention. Unacceptable behaviour also includes advocating for or encouraging harassing behaviours, as well as falsely accusing others of these behaviours.

## Reporting

Reporting unacceptable behaviour can be upsetting. We will handle it as respectfully as possible, and you can bring someone to support you. You will not be asked to confront anyone and anonymity requests will be respected.

If you are subject to unacceptable behaviour or notice that someone else is being subject to unacceptable behaviour and you feel comfortable making the request, please ask the person in question to stop if it is safe to do so. If you do not want to speak to the harasser directly, or have any other concerns, please visit or email our Listeners ([listeners@conzealand.nz](mailto:listeners@conzealand.nz)) or Ombuds ([ombuds@conzealand.nz](mailto:ombuds@conzealand.nz)) who will take a report and work towards resolution.

All accused parties will have the opportunity to give their side of the story, either with or without the complainant present, as preferred by both parties.

Reports are taken very seriously. We reserve the right to revoke a membership at our discretion at any time. We will act upon every report received and will attempt to mediate a solution. We are also happy to help contact hotel/venue security, local law enforcement, local support services, or otherwise help those experiencing unacceptable behaviour feel safe.

## Consequences

Anyone asked to stop unacceptable behaviour is expected to comply immediately.

If a member engages in unacceptable behaviour, CoNZealand retains the right to take any actions they deem appropriate to maintain a welcoming environment for all, up to and including expulsion without warning or refund. Police will be notified if appropriate.

## Addressing Grievances

If you feel you have been falsely or unfairly accused of violating this Code of Conduct, you should notify SFFCONZ (Science Fiction and Fantasy Conventions of New Zealand) with a concise description of your grievance. Your grievance will be handled by the Council of SFFCONZ in accordance with their constitution.

## Scope

We expect all participants (members, volunteers, guests, and vendors) to abide by this Code of Conduct in all CoNZealand venues—online and in-person—as well as in all one-on-one communications pertaining to CoNZealand business.

## License and Attribution

This Code of Conduct is distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution—ShareAlike license. Portions of text derived from the Django Code of Conduct, the Geek Feminism Anti-Harassment Policy, Open Source Bridge, Dublin 2019 Code of Conduct.

If not, do you intend to have one?

N/A

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for specific groups, such as young adults, military, seniors or families?

Yes.