

“Digital Storytelling project”



Now that our oral and traditional history project has been completed, Te Hono ki Raukawa’s project team has turned its attention to digital storytelling. Azriel Ratu (Ngāti Manomano, Muaūpoko) has been tasked with completing a series of short interviews with iwi members engaged in the research and writing of their hapū oral histories as well as those claimants affiliated to Te Hono ki Raukawa. An initiative that began as a project to promote the He Iti Nā Mōtai release is fast blossoming into a major piece of work.

Azriel enjoyed conducting the interviews with her own hapū, Ngāti Manomano where kaumātua Puti Twomey and George Kereama were supported by Jerald Twomey, his sister Awhina and nephew Dylan Kereama. Azriel feels “it was really special being able to interview the whānau inside the whare tupuna which was such a feature of the Ngāti Manomano hapū oral history”.

Since the Manomano interview, Azriel had an emotional visit with Robyn Richardson at the Ohakea home of Robyn’s father, Pita Richardson who recently passed away. The interview footage includes video of many of the lands that are part of the claims interests of Ngāti Parewahawaha. Interviews with Whatarangi Winiata and Ani Mikaere have also been completed covering their work to prepare the two Tino Rangatiratanga chapters of the He Iti Nā Mōtai report.

Initially, the task was to produce a series of small one to two-minute bites for Te Hono’s website and Facebook pages however, we’ve realised that there is a richness to these conversations that needs to be preserved. Once the project is finished, the videos will be loaded to a YouTube channel for all to see.

Forty interviews in total are being planned and will be conducted over the next three months. The project is being supported by the Crown Forestry Rental Trust.

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