He Iti Nā Motai report launch at Te Ara a Tawhaki on Sunday 28 April 2019

Almost sixty iwi members met at Te Ara a Tāwhaki on 28 April to launch the He Iti Nā Motai oral history report.

The report took two years to complete and is made up of four parts that describe the origins and experiences of the iwi over the last 180 years. Arini Loader (Ngāti Maiotaki) and Rewa Morgan (Te Ātiawa) begin the story with who Ngāti Raukawa were as a people in the early 1800s.

Project supervisor, Dr Whatarangi Winiata says “In this first chapter, we see evidence of the sustained efforts of the Crown to assimilate Ngāti Raukawa at the cost of our own rich and unique Raukawa view of the world.”

A Te Hono ki Raukawa project team supported 23 hapū research groups to work on individual hapū chapters. The project team included Dr. Fiona Te Momo (Ngāti Whakatōria); Manurere Devonshire (Ngāti Manamano); and Dr. Wally Penetito with connections to Ngāti Tuakorehe.

The hapū research groups included 108 researchers, interviewers and writers. They completed 101 interviews and held wānanga with 303 participants across the district. The teams recorded participation by at least 512 iwi members.

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This report has been written by Raukawa, for Raukawa, of Raukawa. The Crown Forestry Rental Trust provided resourcing for the project. Hundreds of Ngāti Raukawa people were involved as researchers, writers, interviewers, interviewees, organisers of hui, ringawera, readers, reviewers, planners, and managers. Historian and project leader Dr Wally Penetito says that “these people are the kaitiaki of mātauranga and they have served the iwi well.”

Each participating hapū received multiple copies of the two-volume report. Copies have also been distributed to public libraries within the Waitapu ki Kukutauaki area, Te Wānanga o Raukawa library and Māori faculties within the Nation’s major universities. Each group also received 45 copies of their individual hapū report for distribution to their members. The report can be downloaded from either the Te Hono or Waitangi Tribunal websites.

E tū kōhikohiko mai rā Matangi e, nāu e whakapipirī i a tātou e, tau mai rā.

Te Hono ki Raukawa Trust

Te Hono ki Raukawa Trust welcomes Robyn Richardson (Ngāti Parewahawaha) and Barb Rudd (Ngāti Maiotaki) to its governing body. Te Hono Chairman Dennis Emery says that “the inclusion of Robbie and Barb is significant as it brings the voices of hapū in the west and south to the meeting table.”

Te Hono was established by a Hui-a-iwi in 2008 to support hapū and iwi of Ngāti Raukawa to prepare and present their Treaty of Waitangi claims to the Waitangi Tribunal.

The Trust is made up of three closely related iwi: Te Reureu, Ngāti Kauwhata and Ngāti Raukawa. They are each represented on the Te Hono Council by two representatives from both Te Reureu and Kauwhata and three from Ngāti Raukawa.

Current members are Dennis Emery (Chair) and Tā Tahiākuri Durie for Ngāti Kauwhata, Hare Arapere and Bruce Smith for Te Reureu with Whatarangi Winiati, Mereana Selby and now Barb Rudd for Ngāti Raukawa. Rachael Selby and the late Pita Richardson were co-opted in 2008. Robbie will now assume her father’s seat.

Te Hono Council is supported by a small communications team including Whare Akuhata, Queenie Rikihana and Phiriha Tukapua who work closely with the Council and research teams. Checkout our website www.tehonokiraukawa.maori.nz or www.facebook.com/tehonomiraukawa. Send us an email at thkr.trust@gmail.com or give us a call on 06 364 8598.

Upcoming Events

- Whakamana Whenua Whakato Tariaki event for Kaumātua—Horowhenua. On 13 July 2019 at Ōtaki College from 9.00am
- Wai-113 Claims Forum meeting 15 July at TROR, 3 Keepa St, Levin from 7pm.
- Ngāti Parewahawaha WAI 113 Whakapapa Hui—21 July at Parewahawaha Marae, Bulls from 10am-5pm
- Marine & Coastal Area (MACA) Hearing Week 2 in Wellington begins 31 July
- 2nd Hearings wānanga - 10 August at Kereru Marae, Levin
- Raukawa District Māori Council meeting 11 August—venue tbc
All Ngati Raukawa ki te Tonga Waitangi Tribunal Claimants have been invited to take part in a series of Wānanga in preparation for the hearings in February 2020. The first wānanga took place at Kauwhata Marae on 22 June with almost 60 claimants, whānau and hapū members attending.

According to one of the wānanga organisers, Jerald Twoomey, Ngāti Raukawa have established and retained their settlements in the area from Waitapu through to Kukutauaki; they have fought together, they have worked together, they continue to work together.

As well as the opening evidence on the hapū and their relationships, the Waitangi claims forum is considering how the iwi will make decisions regarding pōwhiri, hearing venues and the general flow of the claims. Hearings will be for a four-week duration so there has been discussion around having the pōwhiri at a marae with the hearings at a public venue. This ensures that everyone is free to participate in the hearings and should eliminate the risk of needing to move the hearings due to a tragedy.

There is a significant amount of work required to prepare for the hearings on behalf of the iwi. It will require coordination by the rohe organising the hearing. Under the current timeline, Ngāti Raukawa needs to start planning, preparing and organising for hosting the hearings, and for delivering their opening evidence. *E roa taihoa, e tata mate.*

The Kauwhata Marae wānanga was opened by kaumatua Brian Emery with presentations by Jerald Twoomey, Te Kenehi Teira, Dennis Emery and others. The meeting discussed the whakapapa connections of the many iwi and hapū that make up the confederation of Ngāti Raukawa, Te Reureu and Ngāti Kauwhata. A group has been established to coordinate the wānanga that will prepare us for the opening presentation.

Further wānanga are scheduled for 10 & 11 August, with presentation rehearsals planned for 19 & 20 October 2019. “We are inviting all confederation claimant representatives from our hapū and claims to join us to wānanga, to share their kōrero.”

**Bridging the gap between two lands**

Australia is the home for many Māori and for some there is a deep desire to reconnect to their tūrangawaewae. Mikkeline Olsen is a clear example and she recently returned home to fulfill that “deep wairua connection”. She lives in Brisbane and calls three countries home. She was born in Denmark to a Danish father, lives in Australia and is of Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Toa and Ngāi Tahu descent through her Māori mother. Her family are the Peratoki’s from Kikopiri and Hikitanga. Over the years Mikkeline has made several trips.

“I am continually reminded of who I am and who my tūpuna were. My drive is to reconnect with my whakapapa, tūrangawaewae and with Māoridom. My journey has been guided by wairua.” Part of her re-connection has been learning about the Treaty of Waitangi and she has a very good grasp of the issues.

Mikkeline has heard Raukawa’s treaty claims will be held over the next two years. “For those overseas whānau or living away from the rohe, it is important they know what is going on and why. They should be informed on how they can contribute and be a part of their hapū and iwi. In terms of a post-treaty settlement future Mikkeline says she would like to see the iwi be more independent and self-sufficient. Mikkeline lives in Brisbane and works for the Good Start preventative health program run by and designed for Māori and Pacific Islander communities in Queensland. She works within the Maternal health pillar specifically with mums and tamariki. She is also a yoga teacher and facilitates workshops and retreats and feels a natural inclination to integrate her knowledge and experience with her passion for her our culture.

Over the next two to three years, Ngāti Raukawa will be preparing and presenting its grievances to the Waitangi Tribunal. A key task for Te Hono ki Raukawa is to engage iwi members in the work that is underway and to support the claimants and hapū who have lodged claims. We have put together a range of communication tools including our website, quarterly newspaper Kōtuitui, a mobile app that iwi members can receive pānui and a newly launched weekly e-pānui. But we need your help.

We currently have veteran journalists Queenie Rikihana Hyland (Ngāti Koroki) and Whare Akuhata (Ngāti Kapu) supporting our communications effort with the preparation of articles and conducting interviews. Azriel Ratu provides technical support in terms of uploading the content to our digital tools and Daphne Luke, Te Hono’s project manager provides editorial support.

The team completed a review of its communications activity over the last year and decided that our efforts would be greatly enhanced with contributions from the iwi. Along the lines of a community newspaper, we are inviting iwi members to submit articles relating to Treaty claims of up to 500 words along with a photograph for consideration. If published in any of our media, we will pay $30 a word and $20 for the photograph to the submitter. We would welcome articles written in either te reo Māori or te reo Pākehā.

Please submit your articles in Word file to thkr.trust@gmail.com. All publishing decisions by our editors will be final.