

LINETTE RAUTAHĪ

The Past:

I was born in Dannevirke and grew up in a pa called Kaitoki, with my Dad, Barney Rautahi, my Mum Manawanui and my 4 Brothers and sister. My upbringing was a good foundation for life ahead. The pa was the place where I learned to care for others, share what we had, build a safe environment and respect my elders and tikanga. It was the place where I would be taught by the best teachers-my Rangatira, and experience life with a great community-my whanau.

The Present:

I decided that Tribal Issues was to be my destiny, and in 1993, I became the Chairperson of the Tamaki nui a Rua Taiwhenua O Kahungunu. We inherited some bad debts, from the previous group, but through sound leadership, good decision-making, and a strong committed Board, I was able to declare in 1996 at our Annual General Meeting, that we were financially cleared of all debts. Debt free with no money in the bank, but we moved on to install the Mana of Kahungunu in our people and once again our local community was secure.

The Future:

The Future is a challenge, it's exciting and it's a celebration. The challenge will be to sustain an economic base, with sound investment opportunities and to encourage and support the development of our whanau, hapu/marae. This should be Tamaki nui a rua Taiwhenua's main focus.

How do we do this?... **easy vote for me.** I have been able to use the teachings and learning's I received as a child, in my quest for a better future for our Maori people... Our Future are our Mokopuna. I put myself forward to ensure that we:

- **Hold fast with pride to their Kahungunu Whakapapa (the Past)**
- **Step up with attitude, and take on the challenge (the present)**
- **To achieve excellence. (The future.)**