

Company celebrating 40 years of performing

Pioneer of Māori performing arts

Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu & Kahurangi NZ Māori Dance company was founded by Tama Huata in 1983 with the support of young enthusiasts and kaumātua at that time.

Huata was instrumental in pioneering Māori performing arts education and industry in New Zealand, writing and delivering the first Certificate in Māori Performing Arts, first Diploma in Māori Performing Arts and the first Bachelor of Māori Performing Arts degree in New Zealand and internationally.

Graduates of the Māori performing arts programmes were employed by Kahurangi NZ Māori Dance company and travelled extensively as cultural ambassadors for their whānau, hapū, iwi, waka and New Zealand in schools locally, nationally and internationally in Australia, North America and Asia as part of its long-standing Theatre in Education programme, presenting Māori stories through Māori song and dance to audiences of all ages and ethnicities.

Four decades on, Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu now has a full educational womb-to-tomb learning cycle, providing total immersion and bilingual education in te reo Māori

through the kōhanga reo which was started in 1991 by Heke Huata and Matua Hook, the te kura kaupapa Māori which started in 1996, the Taikura (Ngāti Kahungunu kaumātua) programme that started in 2006 and the wharekura, which was legislated in 2015.

The founding kaupapa of Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu is underpinned by the whakatauaiki gifted by Te Amorangi Wi Te Tau Huata: "Ko Te Amorangi ki mua, ko te hāpai ō ki muri. Te tūturutanga mahi pono o te Māori mana motuhake."

The whānau appreciates all the years and support of those who were there to support the inception of the kaupapa from the beginning to now. This is encapsulated in the whakatauaiki: "Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi. Engari taku toa, he toa takitini".

Forty years is a big milestone for Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu and Kahurangi NZ Māori Dance company, especially in these challenging times.

We invite all our whānau to come and join with us as we celebrate our 40 years of existence. See our poster for more information about the different events taking place.

Nau mai haere mai!

Tama Huata.



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Group features at arts festival

Kahurangi Māori Dance Company set to give powerful performance

Kahurangi Māori Dance Company and Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu will present *Kahurangi! Ahakoa he iti, he pounamu!* as part of the 2023 Hawke's Bay Arts Festival.

This performance is the 40th-anniversary celebration of the life works of Kahurangi NZ Māori Dance Company and its founder, respected Te Matau-a-Māui arts identity Tama Huata.

The Hawke's Bay Arts Festival has this year reduced the cost of the standard ticket price to \$25.

Whether you're someone who attends the festival year after year, or if you've never been before, we invite you to spread the word, and invite your whānau to take a break and enjoy this unique performance as part of the festival experience.

Expect a powerful performance from Kahurangi Māori Dance Company and Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu at this year's Hawke's Bay Art Festival.

Kahurangi Māori Dance Theatre was at the forefront of the renaissance of Māori performing arts.

Formed in the early 1980s by Tama Huata and a team who shared his vision to present Māori performing arts in a dynamic and contemporary manner, the touring teams have travelled the world promoting cultural understanding and inviting audiences to participate in their programmes.

Kahurangi is a Heretaunga treasure with extraordinary vitality, passion, strength, and athleticism.

They have thrilled audiences with their unique blend of Māori song, dance, and heritage.

The company employs outstanding young Māori performers and graduates of the Takitimu Performing Arts School (the first tertiary institution in New Zealand to offer a degree course in their traditional Māori performing arts), who reflect the energy of Ngāti Kahungunu, carrying the listener on a journey of discovery and celebration.

The Details

- **What:** Whakanuia! Kahurangi! Ahakoa he iti! He pounamu!
- **When:** Thursday, October 19 at 6.30pm
- **Where:** Toitōi, Opera House
- 90 minutes, including interval; audience participation, strobe lighting warning. Admission \$25-\$35.

The work of Kahurangi is distinctive, with each performance drawing its strength from full voice harmonies, dynamic choreography, and passionate dance interpretation.

Their touring programmes annually incorporate the US, Canada, Asia, India, Australia and New Zealand with performances at festivals, schools, embassies and many official performances on behalf of the New Zealand Government.

Kahurangi NZ Māori Dance company with Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu today encompasses a full education

complement inclusive of Te Kōhanga reo, Te Kura Kaupapa and Te Wharekura, Te Wānanga and Ngāti Kahungunu Taikura will perform with soaring voices united in song, powerful dance, music and theatre blended to create an enthralling show.

Prepare for a little audience participation true to Kahurangi's welcoming style.

Be transported by their distinctive full voice harmony as we share a trip down memory lane with friends and family of members, and those of Te Wānanga Whare Tapere o Takitimu.

International guest artists Red Thunder Next Generation – First Nations Dance company from Canada, and Te Vananga are tapere o Takitimu and Takitimu people from the Cook Islands are also welcomed to the stage in what will be an entertaining and spellbinding evening for all the family.

Don't miss this powerful celebration of the late Tama Huata's achievements attained in the academic excellence and performance of Māori Performing Arts since 1983.

As we take a pause to celebrate the past, we treasure the present and we look to the future.



Hon Meka Whaitiri

Ikaroa-Rāwhiti electorate office

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Authorised by Hon Meka Whaitiri MP
Parliament Buildings, Wellington



Passion for waka and the ocean drives analyst

Acquiring a skipper's ticket means he'll be able to take groups out for waka experience

Ruth Wong

Senior analyst for Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated's Environment and Natural Resources Unit, Shade Smith, recently acquired his 'skipper's ticket' and will now be able to take groups out for a waka experience.

Recently Shade passed the final exam set by Maritime New Zealand (MNZ) for the Skipper Restricted Limits (SRL) qualification, the entry-level qualification for commercial skippers.

The exam was the culmination of a nearly three-year-long process of gaining sufficient sea time (200 hours) and completing a comprehensive training record book that covered

practical aspects of a master's duties including both nautical and engineering components, and completion of a four-week block course at the NZ Maritime School in Auckland.

The skipper's ticket will allow Shade to be the master of a vessel operating for commercial purposes in a restricted setting, ie. within 12 nautical miles offshore and on a vessel no more than 12m in length.

After a further six months of training at sea, Shade will be

continued on A18

Shade Smith recently acquired his skipper's ticket and will now be able to take groups out for a waka experience.



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Shade Smith has a strong affinity with the ocean.

Analyst set on new path with his skipper's pass

continued from A17

able to apply for an endorsement to skipper vessels up to 24m in length and carry up to 19 passengers.

"The reason I did this was to support the waka hourua Te Matau a Māui and the kaupapa of the waka," Shade said.

"The wawata of Ngāti Kahungunu in relation to Te Matau a Māui is the revitalisation of traditional wayfinding (navigation) and sailing techniques, linking Kahungunu to Aotearoa to Te Moana nui a Kiwa, and ultimately to the world, and to be a kaitiaki and voice for the plight of our oceans.

"I have been involved in waka kaupapa for 32 years as both a kaihoe on waka taua and as a kaumoana on waka whakaterere.

"I was very fortunate to be supported throughout by Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Inc, my employer and owner of the waka Te Matau a Māui, and the Ātea Rangi Educational Trust, in particular Piripi Smith, who operates the waka for the iwi."

Shade has Te Aupouri and Te Rarawa whakapapa/genealogy and grew up in Northland around the Bay of Islands where his strong affinity with the ocean and the outdoors began.

He holds a Masters of Science Degree in Marine, Environmental and Aquaculture Science and is

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Shade Smith

also a director and principal scientist of his own private environmental and marine consulting company Triplefin.

Shade has worked for the iwi for almost five years. In his role he provides high-quality advice to ultimately support and protect our environment and natural resource interests.

Shade's passion is the empowerment of indigenous peoples to become more involved and productive in providing resource management solutions. Shade, his wife Anna and their three children live in Ahuriri.

He has been part of the Te Matau a Māui waka experience for some time now and is part of the voluntary team of supporters who maintain the waka.

"Part of this involves taking groups out for a waka experience, to wet the taste buds and introduce them to waka kaupapa, with funds collected going toward the myriad of costs to run and maintain the waka," he said.

"The first rule of waka is that the waka comes first and so in a sense for any new kaumoana, the waka chooses you."

Find out if you measure up. For more info visit www.facebook.com/tematauamaui.

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Healthcare hui features expert speakers

Chance to gain insights on ensuring supportive settings for kaumātua

Ruth Wong

Nau mai, haere mai – welcome to our journey of holistic care for pakeke living with wareware (declining memory/dementia) and incontinence.

In November 2023, an event is set to unfold in the heart of the Hawke’s Bay region.

The School of Nursing and School of Population Health at the University of Auckland, in collaboration with the Kaumātua Ageing Well Rōpū, proudly presents “Me Kōrero Tātau: A Journey Shared”.

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 29.

We invite kaumātua, and members of the Kaumātua Ageing Well Rōpū, to join this shared journey at Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga. Don’t worry, it will be advertised again. We don’t expect people with good memories to remember this hui so far out, however, we do know early warning is always appreciated by our elderly.

This gathering invites you to embark on a transformative journey alongside esteemed experts as we explore the intricate tapestry of wareware (declining memory/dementia) and incontinence within our



Dr Sharon Awatere will kick-start the special hui by sharing her insights and addressing frequently asked questions.

Hawke’s Bay Māori whānau.

Guided by the wisdom of these speakers, we will delve deep into the subject matter, weaving the threads of knowledge and understanding.

Featured speakers:

Dr Sharon Awatere – Kaiārahi Māori-centred researcher leading the study in Hawke’s Bay. She will kickstart the hui by sharing her insights and addressing frequently asked questions in her talk, “Weaving The Copper Korowai: Insights

& FAQs”.

Prof Vanessa Burholt – Lead Investigator of the research and director of the Centre for Innovative Ageing and Gerontology – will take us on a journey through the origins of our study’s genesis, unveiling the threads that have shaped our understanding in her talk, “Origins: Threads of our Study’s Genesis”.

Arapera Riki – Kaiwhakawhitiwhiti Iwi – will present a case study titled

Details

● **Where:** Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga, 821 Orchard Rd, Camberley, Hastings 4156

● **When:** November 29, from 10am-noon

● **With:** Kaumātua Ageing Well Rōpū

“Strands of Experience”, providing a deeper understanding of lived experiences and their impact

on our understanding of dementia and incontinence from a community perspective.

Roni Nuku – Kaitiaki Kaupapa Rangahau – will weave together insights from a cultural perspective in her talk, “Te Whare Tapa Whā: Weaving Our Analysis”, illuminating the holistic approach to understanding and addressing these health issues.

Dr Tess Moeke-Maxwell – Kaitiaki Māori – will explore the significance of digital storytelling in end-of-care situations, crafting narratives that foster understanding and empathy in her talk, “Weaving End-of-Care: Digital Storytelling”.

Dr Kathy Peri – Retired incontinence nurse – will take us on a virtual reality journey with the “Dementia: A VR Korowai Experience”, allowing us to gain an understanding of the challenges faced by those living with dementia and the impact of incontinence on their lives.

This kaumātua hui, held in partnership with the Kaumātua Ageing Well Rōpū, aims to provide an enlightening and supportive environment for our kaumātua. It is a platform to share knowledge, foster understanding and empower our community.

Me kōrero tātau, Nau mai, haere mai! Let us weave a future filled with hope, understanding, and dignity for our beloved kaumātua.

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AUNTY'S GARDEN

Festival a time to celebrate

Spring coleslaw to welcome in the season

Hanui Lawrence

For me the blossom festivals of old, when as youth we would receive our pocket money for the day and venture to town mingling with the crowds, infectious with anticipation of the parade, the sideshows, the pictures (movies) we might attend for 9p and the delicious fish in chips from the Dominion Fish and Chip shop that would cost 1 shilling, eaten from a hole in the newspaper wrap.

The crowds would line Heretaunga St, sometimes 6-7 rows deep. Others from verandas above the shops viewing the most magnificent floats ever seen. The splendid Blossom Queens of that period, waving regally to the crowd.

Not quite the same today but still an exciting time for families.

I love parades, the bands, the marching girls, the crowds and the excitement. I've even entered a few floats over the latter years which was a lot of work but great fun.

Hastings, my home town has had many changes over

the years, still it is the best place to live. Like all cities, there is the good and the bad.

As my photographer grandson would say, "Where is the best place to see the sun rise?", and most replies are, "Te Mata Peak..." Well readers, we have it all, sunshine and beauty right here in Hawke's Bay.

Recipe A spring coleslaw

- 1 cabbage
- ½ cauliflower
- 1 broccoli
- ½ sweet orange or 1 cup of pineapple
- 2 cup grated cheese
- 1 carrots
- ½ cup of finely chopped walnuts

Method

Finely slice the cabbage and the orange, grate broccoli, carrots and cauliflower, add grated cheese, add walnuts and toss in with mayonnaise or vinaigrette of your choice.

For our dinner the other day we used Best Foods mayonnaise with a little yoghurt and cream.

Absolutely delicious, Enjoy!



A spring coleslaw.

Let's go to Church!

Flaxmere Christian Fellowship
220 Flaxmere Avenue, Hastings
Main Sunday Meeting - 10:00AM

The Flaxmere Christian Fellowship is a local Church which has been operating since 1980. Situated on Flaxmere Avenue it draws people from around the Hastings and Napier area. This Pentecostal Church was birthed out of the Charismatic renewal of the late 1970's.

The main meeting is every Sunday morning starting 10:00. A Bible College also operates on Sunday evenings for those serious about advancing their knowledge of the Bible. Different groups run during the weekend which cater to youth ad adults. Children's Sunday school

classes run on a fortnightly basis during the Main Sunday service.

The Fellowship aims at reaching people with the Good News of Jesus Christ and the transformational power that message brings. It is

involved with different programs in the community to help bring this to pass. The Flaxmere Christian Fellowship is also a strong advocate for the Jewish People's right to exist as an independent and sovereign state on their historical ancient land in Israel.

Feel free to come and try us out!

Flaxmere Christian Fellowship - 220 Flaxmere Avenue, Hastings
Main Sunday Meeting 10.00am - Phone 06 879 5588
Email: flaxmerechristianfellowship@hotmail.com Web: www.flaxmerechristianfellowship.com

'Very proud' to represent whānau and friends, says debutant Michelle Ihaka

Ruth Wong

Michelle Ihaka has come away with a gold and silver medal after her debut as an MMA fighter.

Ihaka, who has been with Wairarapa Rape and Sexual Abuse for the past 20 years, 17 years of that in the role of coordinator, was competing at the WKA World Kickboxing Championships, held in Bali back in June, representing Aotearoa and fighting out of Undisputed MMA Masterton.

Ihaka's first fight was K1 against Krista Dyer from Bermuda, who was fighting the next day for a professional kickboxing contract. Ihaka walked away with a silver medal after three two-minute rounds in the ring.

"This was an amazing opportunity as my first-ever fight experience, to put my training skills and mindset into action after an intense 12-week fight camp where I gave 110 per cent commitment to, for six to seven days per week," Ihaka said. "During the fight I remember thinking that I'm not doing good enough. I also didn't realise I was fighting an experienced fighter. After the fight, I was told that I did well up against my experienced opponent."

"The power of a strong focus, good mindset, dedication, and a great coach



Michelle Ihaka (fourth from left), came home from the WKA World Kickboxing Championships with a gold and silver medal.

in a win after the first round," she said.

"I'd like to thank my coach, Emilio Johnson and friends at Undisputed MMA Masterton, my whānau and friends for their support, my mum and her partner Jub, and my sponsor Ihaka Consultancy for their contribution to my trip".

Ihaka's whānau joined by video call and streamed the fights from their homes, including her two sons living in Australia and her other three tamariki, who watched as a family with their nanny and uncle.

"I was very proud to represent my whānau and friends, who were extremely proud of me," Ihaka said.

She was also nominated for the Social Work Leadership Award, at the Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Social Workers Social Work Awards, which was held in Otautahi/ Christchurch on September 20.

"I am very honoured and grateful to have been nominated and then to be a finalist is an absolute privilege," she said.

"I am a voice for others within the sexual violence sector and I love my mahi. To be acknowledged for something I love is not only an honour, but a reminder to myself of the important role I hold and the knowledge I have gained, shared and taught over the years."

Social worker wins big on her MMA debut

were important to keep me motivated during those six minutes in the ring.

"My coach has been incredibly supportive. As I stepped out of the ring, my coach said to me, 'congratulations, welcome to the fight life – you are now a fighter'.

"I will never forget these words, they mean a lot to me."

Ihaka's second fight was Kumite with India Independent Sarita Dinesh Shetty, in which she walked away with a gold. This was the first to have an Undisputed team member fight in this style.

"After the first fight, which left me limping due to the high impact, I have to admit I was a bit nervous to get in the ring for a second time. My nerves soon became irrelevant when I stepped foot into the ring and my focus and mindset kicked in and I did exactly what I needed to do, which resulted



NAPIER^o PORT
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REAYING FOR A RECORD CRUISE SEASON

Napier Port is excited to welcome back cruise ships in November. Napier remains a popular choice of destination for passengers and cruise lines with demand pointing to a record season ahead. Our current schedule has 92 cruise calls booked to Napier during the season (November through to April), including 18 double days (two cruise vessels in port at the same time) and 2 triple days.

The first cruise ship booked to visit Napier, on 14 November, is the National Geographic Orion (103m), and the last booking we have confirmed in our schedule is the Carnival Splendor (290m), currently visiting on 5 April 2024. There are a number of maiden calls to Napier, including Virgin Cruise's new Resilient Lady (277m) and the Celebrity Edge (306m) with its unique Magic Carpet floating platform.

Our Cruise team are now starting to prepare for the upcoming season and will be working closely with our partners, including Napier City Council, Hawke's Bay Tourism, tour operators and local businesses, so that together we can continue to offer a high quality end-to-end experience for those visiting our region via cruise ship. We anticipate over 130,000 cruise passengers to arrive in Napier between November and April, which will add a significant and timely financial boost to our regional economy.

Te Kura team aims to reduce family harm incidents

Working with agencies to help communities

Te Kura is a Ngāti Kahungunu approach to Whāngaiā Ngā Pā Harakeke, which is a New Zealand Police initiative that encourages collaboration with iwi and other agencies to reduce family harm within Māori communities.

The Te Kura lead for Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated is Chris Karaitiana who is joined by the Kaiāwhina – Nicosia Webster, and Kaiāwhina – Kim Cook, both former Department of Corrections employees.

Te Kura has been going for two years now. The first year saw a lot of networking within the social service agencies, first for them to get to know one another and build stronger relationships between themselves, then with NZ Police, and then look at a united approach to support whānau needs.

"Through our partnerships with community we have seen

a huge improvement in the way we are able to support whānau. This is a reflection of what we are coordinating in the family harm space with whānau, hapū, community and New Zealand Police," said Chris Karaitiana.

"With Te Kura we are able to provide expert advice and guidance in addressing family harm. In many cases, we are able to get into homes and have better conversations as we work with whānau without the stigma of being police officers ourselves. We believe that this enables a better approach to how whānau communicate and receive the resources they need to succeed."

Priority groups that have been highlighted from the Safety Assessment Table for the past year have been young couples finding it hard to deal with day to day issues such as lack of housing and overcrowded homes, gang, and drug related matters. Te



Te Kura team members Kim Cook (Kaiāwhina) and Chris Karaitiana (Kaiwhakare) ready to tautoko our whānau.

Kura continues to focus on ensuring support from service providers is matched with the needs of whānau to address these concerns.

"We need to address barriers to positive engagement and link whānau to services that can assist them

along their journey to wellbeing," said Karaitiana.

"Our goal is to continue to reduce family harm in our communities, and the only way we can do that, is to listen to our whānau, and guide them in a way where they feel empowered to make the

changes in their own lives."

There have been positive changes due to the strengthening of relationships and improved partnerships within Hawke's Bay. Te Kura has become a trusted partner to connect whānau with the right services.

Ngāti Kahungunu Wairoa Taiwhenua Inc.
3-5 Bridge Street, Wairoa
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E: wairoa.tai.whenua@xtra.co.nz

WAIROA

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Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi INCORPORATED

OUR OBJECTIVES

- Ngāti Kahungunu - Culturally Strong
- Ngāti Kahungunu - Healthy and Vibrant Whānau
- Ngāti Kahungunu - Economically Strong
- Ngāti Kahungunu - Informed and Participating Citizens in the World
- Ngāti Kahungunu - Independent and Self Determined
- Ngāti Kahungunu - Healthy, Thriving and Sustainable Environment
- Ngāti Kahungunu - Making our Mark

OUR VISION

"Kahungunu - ki te whaiao, ki te ao mārama"
Achieving excellence in all areas of our lives

OUR MISSION

Kia maumahara ki te mana āhua ake o Ngāti Kahungunu
Uphold the absolute uniqueness of the living breath of Kahungunu
"To enhance the mana and well-being of Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi"

Gym born from grief lifts community

My son sent me these angels, says gym founder

Charlizza Matehe

Establishing a boxing gym was something Shamrock Burton and his dad, Taka Burton, had always dreamed of.

When Shamrock, aged 20, took his life in October, Taka and the wider Burton whānau were left devastated.

With the support of his whānau and wife Amanda, Taka began counselling and at an attempt at working through his grief, he began training at home again.

Taka had fought competitively in his youth as a boxer at a gym in Auckland; this was later a skill and passion he shared with his children.

Reigniting his passion for training would be the beginning of not only his own healing journey, but the journey of healing an entire community.

"One day I was outside hitting my son's boxing bag when two kids went past, saw me training and asked if I could teach them," Taka said.

"I felt that was my calling from up above, my son sent me these angels."

Taka began voluntarily training tamariki and rangatahi in his Maraenui home garage, which was soon



equipped with enough bags and gloves to accommodate classes of up to 30 youth at a time.

Shamrock Boxing was born.

When asked where all the funding for start-up resources had come from, Taka smiled as his wife shook her head and said, "His bleeding heart is what paid for everything."

It was time for his whānau to get organised. They formed a whānau trust and officially established the gym in the hopes of creating a positive environment for local rangatahi to gain a sense of belonging while exploring their potential boxing talents.

The gym has had tremendous community engagement, surpassing an astonishing 70 tamariki and rangatahi registrations after just four months of opening.

Taka said the support received in the early stages of setting up the gym, including from Toi Matarua, Chad Preston and Rick Hunt of Wee Doo Loos, needed acknowledging.

One nanny from the community commented on the mental health benefits she's noticed in her two mokopuna who attend the daily tamariki classes.

"I've seen a big change in my moko, who before joining the gym had some anger issues. The classes have also helped to settle them in the evenings, before they would always come home from kura jumping off the walls.

Taka is bullish about the talent coming out of the gym. He's seen an inspiring future.

"I don't and never do make promises but today I promise

the world and my home town – there will be world champions coming out of Maraenui Napier, and that's real talk."

As we approach elections, this grassroots kaupapa is a reminder that the most meaningful and effective initiatives for our communities are always those that are led by whānau.

Taka and the team at Shamrock Boxing now seek funding or donations for a desperately needed van to support with transporting fighters to and from fundraisers and tournaments. If you would like to support this kaupapa, contact Taka via the Shamrock Boxing Maraenui Facebook page.

Charlizza Matehe is the founder of Toi Matarua

WHERE TO GET HELP:

If you are worried about your or someone else's mental health, the best place to get help is your GP or local mental health provider. However, if you are or someone else is in danger or endangering others, call police immediately on 111.

Or if you need to talk to someone else:

- **LIFELINE:** 0800 543 354 or 09 5222 999 within Auckland (available 24/7)
- **SUICIDE CRISIS HELPLINE:** 0508 828 865 (0508 TAUTOKO) (available 24/7)
- **YOUTHLINE:** 0800 376 633, free text 234 or email talk@youthline.co.nz or online chat.
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- **KIDSLINE:** 0800 543 754 (available 24/7)
- **WHATSUP:** 0800 942 8787 (1pm to 11pm)
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■ **Warning:** This article is about suicide and may be distressing for some readers.

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Governance group to provide oversight

Ensuring success of Te Ara Mātua

Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated (NKII) and Oranga Tamariki met in August to stand up a governance group that will provide oversight of the implementation of Te Ara Mātua and ensure its success. Te Ara Mātua, launched in April this year, is a new and improved way to support whānau in Te Matau-a-Māui through early intervention to limit whānau involvement with Oranga Tamariki. Te Ara Mātua responds to the findings of whānau voices outlined in the Kahungunu-led Kōrero Mai Whānau report.

Governance group builds on Strategic Partnership Agreement

The newly established governance group acknowledges the mana ki te mana relationship between NKII and Oranga Tamariki

which was formalised in the Strategic Partnership Agreement signed in 2021.

Members of the governance group include NKII chief executive Chrissie Hape and Oranga Tamariki deputy chief executives Darrin Haimona and Rachael Leota, who are the delegated representatives of chief executive Chappie Te Kani. Te Tairāwhiti/Hawke's Bay regional public service commissioner Karen Bartlett has also been invited to join the governance group by NKII. "Setting up a governance group is a key step to ensure that the changes and shifts we need to make at site, regional and national levels in Oranga Tamariki are done in collaboration with Ngāti Kahungunu and with whānau at the centre," Haimona said.

"Ngāti Kahungunu and Oranga Tamariki can't do this on their own. The integration of support across multiple Crown agencies/funders and



Members of the governance group (from left): Oranga Tamariki Māori partnerships and communities deputy chief executive Darrin Haimona, Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated chief executive Chrissie Hape and Oranga Tamariki service delivery deputy chief executive Rachael Leota, Karen Bartlett (absent).

Kahungunu whānau and hapū to share their experiences and interactions with the state.

In April 2021, NKII signed a strategic partnership with Oranga Tamariki formed under the foundation of iwi Pinepine te Kura, a traditional Ngāti Kahungunu oriori [lullaby]. Pinepine te Kura [little tiny treasure] upholds and reinforces Ngāti Kahungunu's view of tamariki and mokopuna as taonga.

In April of 2023, NKII, alongside Te Wero partners and with the support of Oranga Tamariki, launched Te Ara Mātua, a plan that seeks to reduce the number of tamariki and their whānau coming into Oranga Tamariki Care.

[the] NGO sector is important to enable the success of Te Ara Mātua. I am grateful therefore that Karen, as the public sector lead for Tairāwhiti, East Coast has agreed to join the governance group," Hape said.

Governance ensures success of Te Ara Mātua

The governance group is responsible for initiating and ensuring the overall success of Te Ara Mātua, approving and establishing parts of the project. The group has three key roles: vision, governance

and value or benefits realisation.

The group is also responsible for organising action, authorising changes, providing resources and creating space to enable sustainable regional change for the implementation of Te Ara Mātua.

The governance group is supported by a steering group set up to provide regional strategic advice and guidance to ensure the whānau voice is represented in all decisions, removing barriers and identifying resource

opportunities for whānau wellbeing.

The steering group manages the project and is responsible for Te Ara Mātua's implementation. They are accountable to the governance group, who provide governance and investment across the lifetime of the project.

Background Information

In 2019, the Kōrero Mai Whānau project took place at Waipatu Marae and provided a platform for Ngāti

Next steps to realising Kahungunu whānau aspirations

The Te Ara Mātua governance group is set to meet on a bimonthly basis – moving to quarterly as the implementation of Te Ara Mātua progresses and is reviewed once Te Ara Mātua is implemented.

Terms of reference have been drafted and are being reviewed by the Te Ara Mātua governance group, which seeks to formalise the group's vision, purpose and function.

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