

Tēnā koutou katoa,

We hope you all have been well and safe. The surge in Covid-19 cases have seen many of us hunkering down and Taupō certainly has been a lot quieter in recent weeks.

For those of our whānau who have been mauui, kia kaha. Log into mycovidrecord.health.nz and then give Tū Whare Ora a call on 0800 473 672. If you are in Taupō, this will connect you to our local iwi providers, who are distributing support packs.

For anyone in Taupō struggling with kai, we continue to support Te Korowai, the local food bank. This is available to all whānau in need - you can contact them on 07 378 3335. There are also some great community initiatives including Opapa Ki Rauhoto Maara Kai (Nukuhau Marae), St James Church community gardens (Pitiroi Street), and a Pataka on Waikato Street outside TKKM o Whakarewa I Te Reo Ki Tūwharetoa.

Earlier this year we distributed firewood to Te Pae o Waimihia kaumātua living in Taupō. We hope this is of some assistance during the coming winter months. If you missed out and are 65 or over, please get in touch with your Te Pae o Waimihia marae to be on list for next year.

At our 2021 online AGM (the recording is on our website), we introduced He Tipu - the project that looks to restore the former Taupō Native Plant Nursery. There have been a lot of exciting developments in the past few months including the beginning of the



site clean-up (pictured above). There is also a call-out for expressions of interest from members with relevant skill-sets and experience who may want to be involved in the project. While there aren't any roles available yet, it is our intent to look within our own whānau, once roles do become available. There is more information further in this panui.

Please remember to update your contact details with our trust office He Akina. This is imperative for successful grant applications and trust communications.

Due to Covid in the community, He Akina has been closed to the public for the past few months. They are still available during office hours on admin@heakina.co.nz and phone 07 378 5180. Completed grant forms can be emailed, or dropped in the mailbox at 88 Kaimanawa Street, Taupō.

Piki te ora whānau,

Ngahere Wall
Chairman

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Your trustees can be contacted through He Akina on 07 378 5180.

Left to right:

- Mاتی Heperi-Northcroft (Ngāti Tutetawha)
- Mihipeka Rameka (Ngāti Hinerau)
- Dominic Bowden (Ngāti Te Urunga)
- Ngahere Wall (Ngāti Tutemohuta)
- Mere Maniapoto (Ngāti Hineure)
- Gregory Stebbing (Ngāti Rauhoto)





He Tipu is a collective kaupapa of ngā hapū o Tauhara to develop the former Taupō Native Plant Nursery into a self-sufficient, regenerative eco-center, which will provide employment, training, and a maara kai for our whānau.

We currently hold a Management Agreement with the Department of Conservation which is a stepping-stone to the ultimate goal of permanently reclaiming this site back for our hapū.

The site requires a lot of work and the first stage in the project is to do an extensive cleanup as it has been derelict for a number of years. The 27 hectare site holds over 20 greenhouses and nursery areas, houses, office blocks, workshops and sheds, water tanks and water bores, geothermal piping and irrigation. Clearing the site will be a huge task and we were really pleased to appoint Pakira Marae as the contractee for this mahi.

The marae workcrew consists of 15 kaimahi, the majority with whakapapa to Te Pae o Waimihia, and the others connected through whānau.

On receiving the contract, Ngatoru Wall (Pakira Marae) says:

"It's rewarding when we can recognise the skills and attributes that we have as marae, as hapū whānau and bringing those skills forward to achieve any kaupapa that we need to do. Having Pakira Marae be a part of the He Tipu project makes sense because when you own the kaupapa and it is about you, you put 110% into it to make sure that it happens - and it happens right.

"Our whānau are attached to the kaupapa through whakapapa - it's an intergenerational inheritance of mauri, aroha, hard work, and of existence that comes when you bring your own people on board. Like trauma, it's cellular, it's in our DNA - but this type of connection is breaking those bounds of trauma as it's reconnecting us back to our whenua. Even if it's a project that's run with another lens, at the end of the day it's our project, and our kaupapa.

"We talk about a circular economy where we do things our way, and having Pakira Marae be successful in its tender is an example of this. The recognition of our marae to be able to fulfill the contracts comes with mana. Mana to ourselves but it also lifts the vibration of our own whānau - the generations who look up to us to set examples of how we should be behaving, and how we should be moving forward.

"I am very proud of our marae, our ringawera (who come from all our marae) and proud of He Tipu for this opportunity. Not anybody could do this mahi, toka ringaraupa - hard working hands to do the work and achieve the goals regarding the clean up of our whenua."



Left: Ngahere Wall and Dominic Bowden

Below: Blessing of the site

Bottom: Pakira Marae work crew



Following the clean-up we are looking to roll-out nursery products, a food hub, and training and learning services. The possibilities and opportunities for our whānau are extensive.

We recently called for expressions of interest from Te Pae o Waimihia skilled labourers and professionals who would like to join in the development of the site. There is no guarantee there will be employment, but if the skillset fits, it is our intent to first look to our own whānau.

If you would like to register your interest, please email admin@heakina.co.nz with the following information:

- Your full name
- Your email address and phone number
- Your qualified skills
- Your other experiential skills
- Your availability over the next 6 months

You will then be contacted if relevant mahi arises over the course of the project.

We wish to acknowledge the He Tipu Project Manager Blandina Diamond and the He Tipu Steering Committee (Ngatoru Wall, Whakaeke Ritete, Moananui Rameka, Gregory Stebbing, Dominic Bowden, Ngahere Wall) for their tenacity and driving force in the project so far.

Finally, we are pleased to present the He Tipu tohu (designed by Tautahanga Rameka and Sarona Rameka who also did the Te Pae o Waimihia tohu with Ngahere Wall).

It was important that the design symbolised the He Tipu vision - He tipu mo te iwi, mo te taiao, mo to tatou oranga, mo te āo Māori (Growth for our people, our environment, our well-being, and the growth of Te Āo Māori) while aligning to our own Te Pae o Waimihia brand.

The circle symbolises unity (whānau looking after each other) and koiri is used as the main element (which also shows in our taurapa). Koiri represents the leaves of the trees / wind blowing in the trees, and growth. It is placed six times to represent our six hapū - Ngāti Rauhoto, Ngāti Te Urunga, Ngāti Hineure, Ngāti Hinerau, Ngāti Tutetawha, and Ngāti Tutemohuta.



Left: Project Manager Blandina Diamon
Below: 'Before and After' during current site clean-up



NEW REGISTRATIONS - VERIFICATION PROCESS

We advised in our last panui of a verification process for new registrations. This became necessary due to our growing membership (currently over 6,280) to safeguard our processes and ensure consistency across all registrations.

Te Pae o Waimihia distributed over \$1m in grants over the last financial year. The verification process is a one-off process and will allow for verified members to apply for grants and distributions.

Remember, if you have previously received a Te Pae o Waimihia grant, then this process will not be required.

If it is your first time applying for a grant (or first time for your tamariki), then you may have to go through the verification step. It's also important that your Te Pae o Waimihia hapū are ticked on the TST registration (call them to confirm on 0800 TUWHARETOA).

For more information, please phone He Akina on 07 378 5180 or email admin@heakina.co.nz.

Poipoia ōu Pumanawatanga was established to support Te Pae o Waimihia rangatahi and whānau through the education system. The programme is embedded with core Māori values and takes a holistic approach to motivate rangatahi success.

Without the programme our NCEA rangatahi would have very little support. There have been crucial relationships built with local teachers, who attend wānanga and help personalise learning plans. Poipoia ou Pumanawatanga collaborates and guides the taura in a safe space of their own. A strong support network has been built through their own connection of marae, hapū and iwi. Rangatahi are encouraged and celebrated in their success. This is a true reflection of the meaning 'Poipoia' - to guide, to assist, to groom, to uplift, and to empower.

In 2021, Poipoia again focused support to Year 11 - 13 taura studying NCEA Levels 1 - 3 within Ngāti Tūwharetoa secondary schools.

Initially, there were 52 expressions of interest / registrations, with 37 of these committing to the programme. This was a significant increase from the 2020 enrolments, and once again showed impressive results.

Of the 37 rangatahi / taura:

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| 95% PASSED CREDITATION BEFORE EXTERNALS | 100% YEAR 12/13 ACHIEVED NCEA LEVEL 2, LEVEL 3 |
| 95% YEAR 11 ACHIEVED NCEA LEVEL 1 | 6 ACHIEVED ENDORSEMENT FOR SUBJECTS |
| 7 AWARDED 1 ST , 2 ND , 3 RD PLACES FOR SCIENCE, HISTORY, MAORI, FABRIC TECH, SPORT | 2 NOMINATED FOR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS (2022) |
| 1 LEFT TO ENROL IN KA HIKO - INTERNSHIP | 5 GAINED THEIR LEARNERS LICENCE |
| 4 RECEIVED SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS | 2 ENROLLED IN TRADE PATHWAYS (BOTH NOW EMPLOYED) |

The last few months have proven to be more difficult for current taura as Covid-19 levels and cases have limited kanohi ki te kanohi support. However, the kaiako adjust their support mechanisms to use text, phone calls, social media, zoom and google docs. Access to these platforms can be provided if necessary, as well as training on how to use them.

Aroha Wall-McMahon, Vernon Rameka, and Dominic Bowden are directors of the Poipoia ōu Pumanawatanga Board, with Takiora Wall leading operations as the General Manager. Te Pae o Waimihia fully funds the programme and believes it is the combined effort of the kaiako, rangatahi, and whānau that contributes to such significant achievements.

For school staff, working with these taura in the Poipoia setting continues to build incredible opportunities and relationships. An example of this is described by Phillipa Holmes (HOD Education) from Taupō-nui-ā Tia College:

"We have seen a significant shift in the attainment of many of these students; when they see whānau, teachers and Poipoia ōu Pumanawatanga working as a team to support them in their studies, their self-belief and confidence increase enormously."

"For school staff, working with these students in this setting has offered us incredible opportunities to learn from them and from their whānau. The student centered approach helps these learners to build agency and take more responsibility for their learning while setting clear goals for the future."

"The celebration of success is inclusive and heartfelt - and a joy to witness. We have been forced to reflect deeply on the systems and pedagogy within our own classrooms."

"At Poipoia ōu Pumanawatanga we are all ākonga together. By continuing on this journey together, we can make improvements to our own teaching which will benefit all of our learners."

Thank you to all our taura, whānau, kaiako, and teachers who are proving success to extend further than the classroom.

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi engari, he toa takitini. My successes are not mine alone, they are ours - the greatest successes we will have are from working together.

GRANT RECIPIENT – TAMARIKI PROFILE

Casius Stevens is Year 4 and attends Taupō Primary School. This was his first Te Pae o Waimihia grant and his parents were really grateful for the support they received.

Casius loves hanging out with his cousins, playing on his scooter, and playing Fortnite (we hear he's a bit of a 'pro'). He thrives in team sports, and is passionate about rugby.

Casius received the Education Grant which helped pay for a new school uniform, and the Sporting Participation Grant. This grant went towards Casius playing hockey for the first time, with all his fees paid. The hockey season is starting soon and Casius is excited about playing something new.

Casius aspires to be a professional gamer or a rugby player when he grows up - Ka rawe Casius! We are sure whatever you do or play you will be awesome at it!



Despite the many sporting disruptions Covid-19 brought in the 2021 calendar year, there were still a record number of Sporting Participation Grants provided to our members.

331 Sporting Participation Grants = \$29,736

530 Education Grants = \$92,384

GRANTS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

The following Te Pae o Waimihia grants are available to registered members:

Education Grant (Years 0 - 10) - Up to \$200 per calendar year to contribute towards school fees, stationery, school activities, and/or uniforms.

Sporting Participation Grant - Up to \$100 per calendar year to contribute towards sporting fees, subscriptions, equipment and uniforms.

Sporting Representation Grant - Up to \$300 per calendar year, per sporting code to contribute towards fees, subscriptions, equipment, uniforms and travel.

Pakeke / Kaumātua Medical Grant (50 years and over)
Dental treatment: up to \$1000 per calendar year.
Hearing treatment: up to \$1000 per calendar year.
Eye treatment: up to \$500 per calendar year.

Dental Grant (18 - 50 years) - Up to the value of \$250 per calendar year to contribute towards preventative dentistry and dental hygiene treatments.

Tangihanga Marae Grant - \$500 voucher available for the tangi of Te Pae o Waimihia members (or immediate family) who lay at a Te Pae o Waimihia marae. This grant is applied for through the marae representative.

Firewood - Firewood for winter 2022, has recently been distributed to kaumātua who are involved with our marae. This grant is applied for through your Te Pae o Waimihia trustee.

Kaumātua Healthy and Accessible Homes Grant
- Available to kaumātua aged 70 years or over, to contribute towards the funding of home maintenance to improve health and accessibility (i.e. insulation, mobility ramps, hand rails, bathroom accessibility). Applications go through a needs assessment process with priority given to applications deemed to have the highest level of need.

Terms and Conditions (including processing and payment dates) are on the application forms which can be downloaded from tepaewaimihia.com/grantsdistribution and emailed back to admin@heakina.co.nz.

Hardcopies are also available from the Trust office and can be returned to 88 Kaimanawa Street (mailbox or in office when open).

Please call our team on 07 378 5180 if you have any questions.