

Annual Report

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo

2023



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CHAIR REPORT

Tēnā Koutou e te Whānau

I am pleased to provide the annual report on behalf of Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo for the financial year 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 .

The focus of my Chair's report will be two parts – what the rūnanga has undertaken in the last 12 months and then our future.

The Last 12 Months

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo as a governance entity comprises 11 members within the structure of kaumatua, rangatahi and committee members. All of our contribution is on a voluntary basis as is most of iwi work. To that end our focus has been on:

- Consolidating our governance systems and capability – We now have a sound set of governance and organisation policies and practices. Hamua Gilmore attended the National Māori Governance Summit.
- Resource Management – Pipi Barton chairs our Resource Management Committee. She has led projects on cultural impact assessments for the Waipa District Council – Mangakaware and Ōtorohanga District Council – Kawhia Water Pipes. We extend our appreciation to Frank Thorne for his invaluable contribution to this work. Pipi has also led a myriad of RMC requests for advice to councils, and the wider community. She is also liaising with Council on Te Papa o Karewa.
- Treaty Claims – Lees Seymour is our Claims Manager. He has been working through the complexities of relationships and negotiations with other iwi and Waikato Tainui both within the WAI 30 and our remaining claims. This work remains ongoing and as Lees has put it the progress is “glacial”.
- Council and Community Relationships – We have rebuilt our relationships with Waipā District Council and Ōtorohanga District Council, where we are regularly attending critical meetings on local government policies that impact iwi and Māori. The rūnanga has also contributed a number of submissions to local government on policy and participating in reference groups such as District Plans. We have also been engaged with the formation of the new community entity, Te Taiao o Kawhia Moana which is now a standalone entity as an Incorporated Society.

The Future

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo have developed a draft strategic plan for the next three years and we would like to seek your feedback. At the hui we will have a session to obtain your feedback. However, this plan requires the mobilisation of our people. The observation that I have made is that the formation of Waikato Tainui and its structure which is Marae Centric has created an unintended consequence of marginalising hapu/iwi from within our traditional structures. Therefore, the momentum of indigenous development has effectively been focused on Waikato Tainui which in my view is a post settlement entity responsible for managing the Waikato Raupatu settlement.

We now need to refocus our energies on mobilising our iwi to effectively reclaim our indigeneity, our mana, our rangatiratanga and mana motuhake. These elements do not rely on the settling of treaty claims, we can progress these critical aspects of who we are, and what we want to achieve as a people.

Our challenges in mobilisation are the disbursement of our iwi population across Aotearoa and overseas, the manner in which we are land locked out of Kawhia or the complexities of shared land ownership through a range of whānau trusts. But there are opportunities to progress our hikairota, however, it relies on mobilisation and connection to marae, hapu, and iwi.

As part of the strategic plan discussion, the rūnanga would like to have the conversation with you all on revitalising our iwi so that we are able to be better connected, supported, and achieving growth at all levels. Included in the strategic plan is a discussion document for you to consider and prepare for our workshop.

Finally, I wish to thank all of our Executive Committee for their extremely hard work and dedication. Kurutia Seymour as our Secretary, Duncan Robin as our Treasurer, Queenie Te Hae as our kaumatua, Pipi Barton as our RMC Chair, Lees Seymour as the Treaty Claims Manager, and our other committee members Hamua Gilmore, Thomas Tai, Gareth Seymour, Burt Cunningham, and Ben Johnstone. I also wish to extend a special thanks to Frank Thorne, Hano Ormsby and Hinga Whiu for their support to the iwi on our resource management and iwi cultural projects.

Ngā Mihi

Susan Turner

Chair

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

Tēnā Koutou Katoa

For the first time in several years, the Runanganui Resource Management Committee is submitting a report for the Annual General Meeting. In part this is because there has been a significant amount of activity across the areas the Committee looks after. This report covers several key areas of activity.

Consultation Framework

Over the past several months, the Committee has been developing a consultation framework geared at helping process the requests received from agencies regarding biodiversity protection and areas of academic study.

The framework comprises four parts:

Principle	Active Considerations
Overarching Kaitiaki Principle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We support activities that encourage, protect, and re-establish the native flora and fauna endemic to our traditional rohe, seeking a healthy, robust, and diverse natural environment in balance with Papatuanuku (Papatahuroa), Ranginui (Rangiwatea) and the offspring of ngā atua o te Ao Māori. Ngati Hikairo does not cede any of its kaitiaki responsibilities for the taonga in our rohe
Principle of Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We seek to support access that has a low to negligible impact on populations, diversity, and environments We seek to be consulted where there is an application to access flora and fauna that are of particular interest to Ngati Hikairo (traditional areas of food gathering, traditional food items, areas of cultural significance and features or taonga of particular note and significance) When reintroducing species to our rohe, we look for populations that have a historical connection to our rohe first, but understand that to ensure genetic diversity and a sustainable population that this may not always be possible We do not support the introduction of non-native species into our rohe When collecting samples, they must adhere strictly to the premise that any harvesting will not affect the viability or sustainability of the remaining populations Where possible we return the samples back to where they were collected Ngati Hikairo understands that samples will often need to be included on national databases, however if DNA or samples are to leave Aotearoa we wish to be consulted with before they leave The application of herbicides, pesticides and biological control agents must always be a measure of last resort

Principle	Active Considerations
Principle of Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valuing traditional knowledge and practices are prominent and primary in evaluation and monitoring of any requests, applications or resource consents Where appropriate we support scientific endeavour, particularly where there is a focus on understanding native flora, fauna, biomes and environments
Principle of Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We wish to be consulted before any commercial activity is agreed or undertaken that will impact on the natural environment within our rohe and the species that are reliant on that environment for sustenance and survival Real and principles-based consultation is a fundamental partnership requirement

The Framework is a recent development and will continue to be refined as new applications are received and the Runanganui strengthens its relationship with Government Agencies and reminds them of their responsibility to consult with tangata whenua.

As of the date of publishing this report, the framework has been applied to seven applications from the Department of Conservation (6) and the Waikato Regional Council (1).

Cultural Impact Assessments

A cultural impact assessment (CIA) is a report usually commissioned to identify iwi/hapū cultural values and interests associated with an area or a resource. A CIA identifies the potential impacts of any proposed activity on Māori cultural values in the affected area. CIA's are considered tools used to facilitate meaningful and effective participation of Māori in local government resource management.

Two territorial authorities and one central agency have made formal applications for the Runanganui to provide a cultural impact assessment regarding a piece of work activity they wish to undertake.

Territorial Authority/Agency	CIA Request	Status
Waipa District Council	Lake Mangakaware CIA	Completed
Ōtorohanga District Council	Water Mains Replacement Project CIA	Completed
	Stormwater Discharge Consent CIA	Proposal Submitted
Waka Kotahi	Puti Culvert Repair and Upgrade	Proposal Submitted

There has been a successful process established to be able to respond to requests for CIAs utilising the skills of key tribal members. However, the increasing number of requests from authorities and agencies will require further planning to ensure the Runanganui is well placed to continue to provide quality and timely responses.

Advisory Committee Memberships

One of the vehicles for ensuring that our voice is heard in the decision-making processes for the territorial authorities is to make sure we have a presence on their Advisory Committees and Boards that they operate. Currently the Runanganui is a member of the following committee and boards:

- *Kawhia Aotea Concept Plan Mana Whenua Representation (Ōtorohanga District Council)*
- *Nga Tira Matauranga Technical Working Group (Waikato Regional Council)*
- *He Hononga ki Nga Iwi (Ōtorohanga District Council)*

We are grateful for the support we have been able to draw on from our whanau with deep skills in the areas that these bodies cover. Our thanks to our iwi whanau who help ensure that we are able to have a voice in the management and care of our rohe.

Future Activity

In the next 12 months we wish to undertake two pieces of key strategic work, dependant on being able to secure funding and key iwi resources. Those pieces of work are:

- Update of the Ngati Hikairo Fresh Water Management Plan
- Update of Te Tahuanui: Ngāti Hikairo Heritage Management Plan

Both of these plans are critical and in use by the territorial authorities. They are 15 and 12 years old respectively and require a refresh to take into account developments that have occurred over that period.

Whakamutunga

Like much of the work we do, it would be impossible to complete without the ongoing support of members of the Runanganui and key whanau from the iwi. Our Kaumatua, Kuia and Rangatira are integral parts of our ability to continue to assert our Rangatiratanga as tangata whenua. I and the rest of the Resource Management Committee can only be a success with their ongoing support.

Arohanui

Pipi Barton

ENDORSEMENT & SUPPORT COMMITTEE REPORT

Over the last several months it has become clear that the timeframes for Rūnanganui monthly meetings and the process of decision making can sometimes be too slow or complicated for the requirements of institutions and whānau members when they are seeking endorsement or support for activities and programmes that are of interest for the iwi.

This became particularly clear in the last 12 months when two requests for support from whānau was not actioned as quickly or as effectively as we would hope.

To assist whānau who require support from the Rūnanganui in a compressed timeframe, a smaller group of members has been established with the ability to fast track requests and provide access to the necessary experts and information to allow for rapid progress.

The Committee is comprised of four members from the Executive. The Committee will also be seeking two to three additional members drawn from the iwi to ensure it has the expertise and knowledge of Hikairo tanga, whakapapa and matauranga for its successful operation.

This is a new process, and one that will no doubt evolve as the iwi's requirements change and expand.

Kawhia Story Boards

Currently we are supporting whānau with the development of story boards to be placed in and around Kawhia telling of the history of our settlement around Kawhia Moana.

As always, we are only able to undertake this work because of the support of our Kaumatua, Kuia, Tribal Historians and Whanau.

Nāku Noa

Hamua Gilmore
Chair

TREATY CLAIMS REPORT

Maku te tītī, Maku te whewhera !

Introduction

It is my pleasure to present this report to the 2023 Annual General Meeting of Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo

Wai 30 and Remaining Claims

This process is highly unsatisfactory for Ngāti Hikairo as the deed of Mandate does not allow for Ngāti Hikairo to negotiate its Treaty Claims. The deed of mandate establishes a moana (harbour) by moana approach with Waikato-Tainui as the lead negotiator. Each moana has representatives selected by the various marae of each harbour to represent the harbour at the negotiating table.

Ngāti Hikairo has not signed up to the deed of mandate and is now expressly seeking to negotiate directly with the Crown to settle its Treaty Claims in its own right.

MACA

The Marine and Coastal Area application is still being worked up. We have a draft report from our historian that we are editing and providing feedback on. The report is very comprehensive and well written. Once the editing is completed, we will share with a subset of key people for final review.

We have 10 individual interviews provided by Iwi members which are being written up into a report that will sit alongside the historian's report to support our application.

Both the historian's report and the Iwi report will likely be completed by the end of the calendar year.

In terms of the process the Crown have now provided two pathways to progress our application, the original process through the High Court (a legal process and subsequent outcome) and through a direct engagement with the Crown (a negotiated outcome). At this stage we are keeping both options open, and the Crown has accepted this.

The timing of both options is unknown – probably 2025 before we will achieve any meaningful engagement with either approach due to the complexities in working with the Crown and other applicants, a significant back log in the high court and the direct engagement approach being a new process that is untested and unknown as yet.

This is complex, slow and difficult work to be involved with, we will not give up!

Mauri ora

Lees Seymour
Project Manager

FINANCE REPORT

Introduction

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo is pleased to present the Financial Report for year end 30 June 2022 and 30 June 2023. At the previous AGM, the Executive Committee sought the agreement of our members to realign our financial year to 30 June. This report provides financial reports for both financial years given the timing of these changes. Further commentary is provided for the whānau considerations.

Finance and Risk Committee

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo has established a Finance and Risk Committee which meets every quarter to review the financial position of the rūnanga and to further consider any risks associated to any of the work we undertake or potential issues we face. This committee has managed carried its monitoring function well and reports back to the rūnanga following these meetings.

Financial Policies, Reporting and Monitoring

In addition to the Finance and Risk Committee, as Treasurer I provide monthly financial reports to the Executive Committee which comprises a bank transaction report, profit and loss and balance sheet. These reports are reviewed by the Executive Committee.

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo also carried out a review of the Financial Management policies and these have been updated to ensure that we have sound financial management practices and controls so that as a governance group we are accountable to the iwi.

Audited Financial Accounts

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo is not required under the Charities Act to have our accounts formally audited by an independent Auditor. The level of income and expenditure, and the quantum of transactions of the Rūnanga are on a small scale of operations, and furthermore, the rūnanga financial management system is xero. All income and expenditure along with our financial management systems and controls are held within this information system. The engagement of an auditor will incur substantial costs and given this impact to our financials and weighing up our policies, practices, and systems, the Rūnanga consider our financial statements are accurate and auditable.

Financial Accounts 2022 and 2023

The Financial Accounts have been prepared by Duncan Robin, Treasurer, Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo. Duncan holds a Bachelor in Commerce (BCom) Accounting and Bachelor of Law.

The financial statements have been prepared on a cash basis.

Financial Performance Report Year End 30 June 2022

The year end 30 June 2022 is enclosed in this annual report. The financial year under consideration is 1 November 2021 to 30 June 2022. The balance sheet includes:

- a) \$32,215 received for work funded, but not yet completed for Waiari commemorations postponed due to COVID
- b) \$59,500 for the RV of the land being held for Kai-Ewe Marae.
- c) The unexplained expenditure from the 2019/20 financial year remains under investigation.

Financial Performance Report Year End 30 June 2023

The financial year under consideration is 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

The balance sheet includes:

- a) \$32,215 received for work funded, but not yet completed for Waiari commemorations postponed due to COVID.
- b) \$59,500 for the RV of the land being held for Kai-Ewe Marae.
- c) The unexplained expenditure from the 2019/20 financial year remains under analysis.

The financial reports highlight that Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo remains in a sound financial position.

I will be available at the Annual General Meeting to respond to any queries regarding these financials.

Ngā Mihi

Duncan Robin
Treasurer

Income Statement

as at 30 June 2022

		2022
Income		
	Grants and other funding	\$42,818.99
	Gains	\$4,375
	Interest income	\$24.93
	Total income	\$47,218.92
Expenses		
	Operating expenses	(\$37,819.39)
	Admin expenses	(\$626.53)
	RWT	(\$11.22)
	Total expenses	(\$38,457.14)
Net income		
	Net income	\$8,761.78

Grants and other funding, and gains explained

as at 30 June 2022

	2022
Grants and other funding	
• MACA	\$42,818.99
Total	\$42,818.99
Gains	
• Loan write-off	\$1,375
• Prepayments adjustment	\$3,000
Total	\$4,375

Operating and administrative expenses explained

as at 30 June 2022

	2022
Operating expenses	
• MACA	(\$37,819.39)
Total	(\$37,819.39)
Administrative expenses	
• Xero	(\$469.80)
• Website	(\$58.73)
• National Māori in Governance Summit 2022	(\$98)
Total	(\$626.53)

Balance Sheet

as of 30 June 2022

		2022
Assets		
	Cash	\$40,949.27
	Kai-Ewe Marae land	\$59,500
	Total assets	\$100,449.27
Liabilities		
	Prepayments	(\$32,215.00)
	Total liabilities	(\$32,215.00)
Equity		
	Total equity	\$68,234.27

Income Statement

as at 30 June 2023

		2023
Income		
	Contracts	\$56,951.80
	Grants and other funding	\$9,590.42
	Interest income	\$43.73
	Total income	\$66,585.95
Expenses		
	Operating expenses	(\$48,576.76)
	Admin expenses	(\$8,544.04)
	Koha	(\$2,103.05)
	RWT	(\$19.67)
	Total expenses	(\$59,243.52)
Net income		
	Net income	\$7,342.43

Contracts, grants and other funding explained

as at 30 June 2023

	2023
Contracts	
• Mangakaware	\$35,125
• Water Mains	\$21,826.80
Total	\$56,951.80
Grants and other funding	
• MACA	\$7,590.11
• COGS	\$2,000
• Adjustment gain	\$0.31
Total	\$9,590.42

Operating and administrative expenses explained

as at 30 June 2022

	2022
Operating expenses	
• MACA	(\$10,976.45)
• Mangakaware	(\$25,187.31)
• Water Mains	(\$12,413)
Total	(\$48,576.76)
Administrative expenses	
• AGM	(\$4,523.29)
• Website	(\$3,254.98)
• Xero	(\$663.55)
• Charities fee	(\$102.22)
Total	(\$8,544.04)

Koha explained

as at 30 June 2023

	2023
Koha	
• Waipapa Marae T Shirts	(\$1,903.05)
• Te Runanganui o Ngati Porou	(\$100)
• Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated	(\$100)
Total	(\$2,103.05)

Balance Sheet

as of 30 June 2023

		2023
Assets		
	Cash	\$48,291.70
	Kai-Ewe Marae land	\$59,500
	Total assets	\$107,791.70
Liabilities		
	Prepayments	(\$32,215.00)
	Total liabilities	(\$32,215.00)
Equity		
	Total equity	\$75,576.70

STRATEGIC PLAN DISCUSSION

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo has developed a draft strategic plan that focuses on our future which is enclosed in full detail should you wish to obtain more detail. This section summarises this plan.

The plan has been formulated around the Whakatauki from Tiriwa where he says:

**“Māku te tītī, māku te whewhera”
(I will be the wedge, and I will make my own gap).**

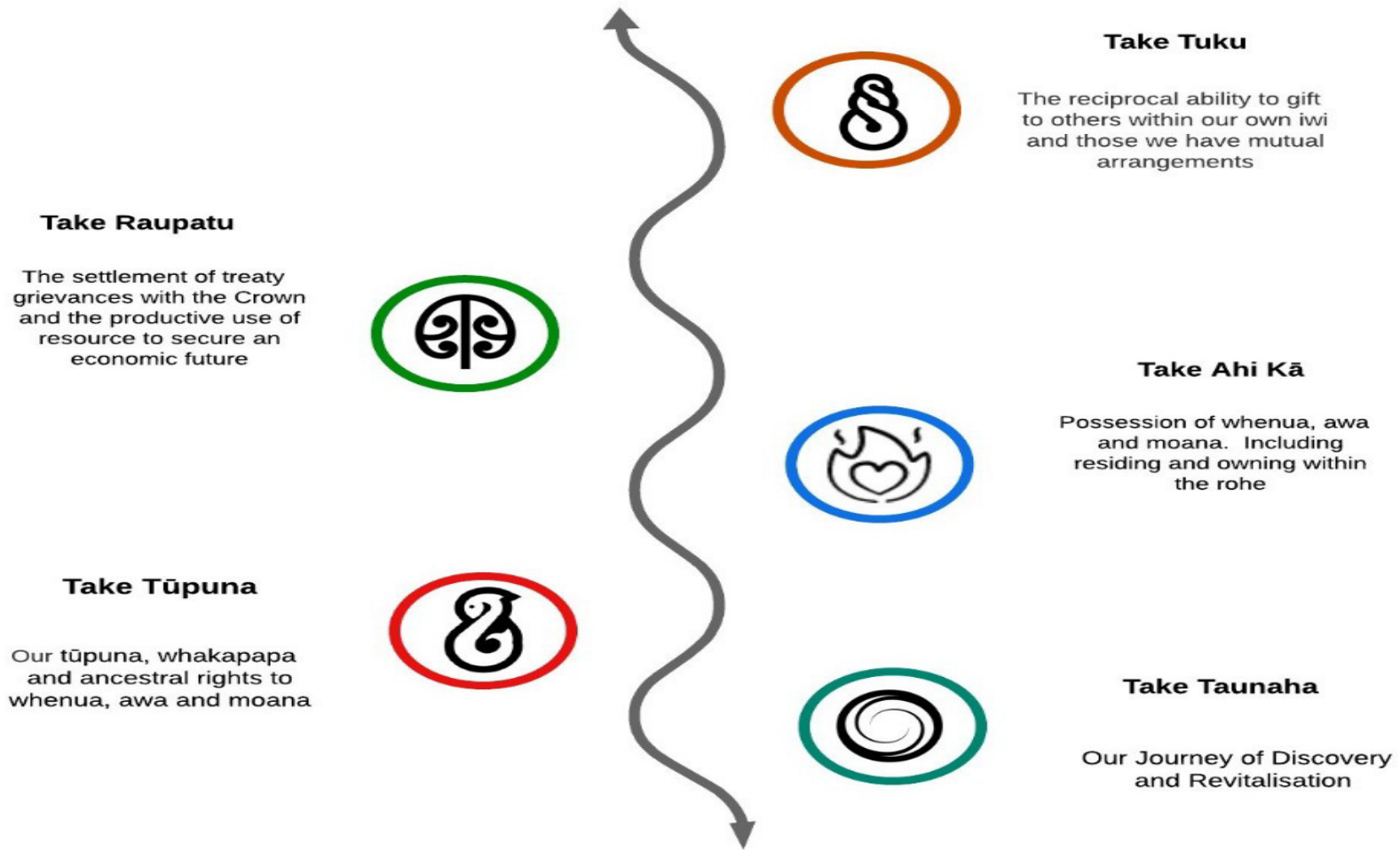
This speaks to us about making our own way as an iwi as our tūpuna have always done and to do so requires the unification, mobilisation, and revitalisation of our iwi.

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo have also explored the work of Whakamarurangi and how he united the people of Ngāti Hikairo. He did this through five key themes as follows:

- take taunaha (discovery)
- take tūpuna (ancestral right)
- take ahi kā (occupation and use)
- take raupatu (conquest)
- take tuku (exchange or gift)

These key themes are the basis of our strategic approach and this is set out in the diagram below.

WHAKAMARURANGI FRAMEWORK



OUR VISION

Whānau living their best lives.

OUR MISSION

Our iwi sustains a prosperous socio-economic future for all of Ngāti Hikairo.

We seek to explore opportunities to ensure that the future of our tamariki and rangatahi is prosperous and fulfilling.

NGA MOEMOEA

We will know we have achieved this vision when the majority of our iwi, through their own endeavours, are able to enjoy a quality of life where;

- Their mauri or spiritual essence is strong and vibrant.
- They have fully developed their intellectual, emotional, and physical well-being.
- They are conversant, secure, and proactive participants in all facets of social, cultural, economic, and political life.
- The whanau, hapu, iwi, and the marae have become the basis for their collective cultural, social, and economic development as it was traditionally.
- They are comfortable and competent in both the Māori and pakeha societies.
- They are well educated to realise their full potential in the rapidly changing modern society.
- Their whanaungatanga has been rejuvenated and developed to the extent that the whanau has become the focus and the major family support unit.
- They are fully employed, their resources are properly utilised and managed, they are financially secure.
- Their Māori identity, culture and values are widely understood and respected by all New Zealanders
- The Treaty of Waitangi is properly honoured as a covenant between Māori and Pakeha and other New Zealanders
- They are able to have dignity and harmonious content with all people in the cultural, social, and physical environment they all share.

PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

tohatoha	the fair distribution of material effects and social responsibility.
whakapapa	layering of relationships in the social and natural worlds.
tatai	lineage of our whakapapa.
whakaheke	linking of whānau, hapu, marae, and iwi.
ngā hono, manaaki	the principle of caring, expressing mana and generosity.
hau	the fundamental principle for the life force that generates life and reciprocal exchanges between humans and nature.
utu	the principles of exchange.
aroaha	compassion and peace.
whanaungatanga	belonging.
wairuatanga	spirituality.
kotahitanga	unity.
tapu	sacredness.
mauri	life force.
kaitiakitanga	active guardianship.

STRATEGY THEMES AND PRIORITIES

The next section sets out the key strategic priorities and themes we consider should be the focus of Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo over the next three years. These priorities or themes focus on our Hikairotanga, Iwi engagement, Iwi Development, Economic Development, Governance Capacity and Capability; and continuing with our business as usual in terms of treaty negotiations, resource management and other representative activities.

STRATEGY THEMES AND PRIORITIES SUMMARY



YOUR FEEDBACK

Te Rūnanganui o Ngāti Hikairo has developed a more comprehensive document to explain in detail the strategy and approach. We wish to obtain your input to this plan in terms of our vision, mission, principles/values, and the strategic themes and priorities. The strategic planning framework that has guided our work is that of our tūpuna Whakamarurangi, where we have taken those concepts with an aspiration to unite and revitalise Ngāti Hikairo.

We plan to have a facilitated discussion in the morning of the AGM to obtain your feedback so please read through and share your thoughts. We welcome and look forward to your participation.

NOTES



