

E pāhotia ana e Te Mātāwai he takiwā hou e ārahina ai e ngā iwi Māori te whakarauoratanga o te reo Māori

E harikoa ana te Poari o Te Mātāwai ki te hui atu ki te Komiti Kōwhiri Take Māori i te Whare Pāremata i te rangi nei, me tana mihi anō i te tautoko a te Komiti i te Ture Reo Māori hou, nāna nei a Te Mātāwai i whakatū.

Hei tā tētahi o ngā Hoa-Toihau o te Mātāwai, a Waihoroi Shortland, “He tino panonitanga tēnei i te mata o tēnei whenua, kia noho mai tētahi hinonga motuhake hei māngai mō ngā iwi me ngā tūmanako o te Māori mō te whakarauora i te reo Māori. He mea nui whakaharahara tēnei mō te taha hautū, te taha ārahi”.

I te mea e whitu ngā kanohi mō ngā iwi kei te Poari, e whā anō ngā kanohi i kōwhiria e te rāngai, me te tokorua i kopoua e te Minita, e tū mai ana a Te Mātāwai ki te whakapāpā whānui ki te iti, ki te rahi katoa i tā rātou whai ki te whakarauora anō i te reo Māori hei reo ūkaipō i ngā kāinga. Hei tā Waihoroi anō, “E mārama ana te whakakitenga a ngā iwi me te Māori mō te whakarauora i te reo Māori, e āta kōrerohia ana tēnei i tā mātou rautaki Maihi Māori. Kia ūkaipō anō te reo,”

“E hāngai ana tēnei ki te taha hautū, ki te tauawhi tētahi i tētahi, ki te āta whakatinana i ngā panonitanga kia rangona ai i ō tātou kāinga, i ō tātou hapori. Kei konei a Te Mātāwai ki te mahi ngātahi ki ngā iwi, ki ngā hapū, ki ngā whānau me te hunga e hāpai ana i te reo i ngā hapori.”

Ka tāpaea mai ki Te Mātāwai tētahi \$14.8 miriona i te tau, ko te nuinga o tēnei ka haere tika atu ki te haumi i ngā kaupapa whakarauora i te reo Māori, ki ngā mahi rangahau, ki te taha hautū me ngā mahi aroturuki.

E ai ki a Te Atarangi Whiu, Te Tumu Whakarae o Te Mātāwai, “I whakaputaina e mātou ngā kōrero whāiti o tā mātou Rautaki Maihi Māori, ā mātou whāinga māia, ngā putanga me te āhua o tā mātou mahi kia ako ai mātou me pēhea te whakauru haere i te reo Māori ki ngā mahi o ia rā, e ai rā ki tā te iwi/Māori titiro.” “E tuwhera ana te ngākau o te nuinga o ngā mema o te komiti kōwhiri, e rikarika ana kia rongo i ētahi atu kōrero mō tā mātou rautaki me te āhua o tā mātou mahi i tēnei, te takiwā hou mō te whakarauora i te reo Māori.”

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Te Mātāwai Heralds a new era in iwi-Māori led te reo revitalisation

Te Mātāwai Board has welcomed the opportunity to meet with the Māori Affairs Select Committee in Parliament today and acknowledges the role the Committee had in supporting the new Māori Language Act which established Te Mātāwai.

“Having an independent entity representing iwi and Māori interests in the revitalisation of te reo Māori heralds a significant change in the landscape, particularly around leadership,” says Waihoroi Shortland, Te Mātāwai Hoa-Toihau.

With a Board made up of seven iwi and four sector elected representatives, and two Ministerial appointments Te Mātāwai is geared to engage progressively at a range of levels with an ultimate goal to restore te reo Māori as a nurturing first language in the home.

“We have a clear vision from iwi and Māori regarding te reo Māori revitalisation as outlined in detail in our Maihi Māori Strategy. Kia ūkaipō anō te reo,” says Waihoroi,

“It’s about leadership, it’s about inclusiveness and it’s about making a real change that is felt in our homes and communities. Te Mātāwai is here to make a difference alongside our iwi, hapū, whānau and community stakeholders,” he says.

Te Mātāwai will receive an annual appropriation of \$14.8 million, the majority of which goes directly towards much needed Māori language revitalisation investments, research, leadership and monitoring.

“We communicated the details of our Maihi Māori Strategy, our audacious goals, our outcomes and our approach to learn how to integrate te reo Māori into everyday life from our iwi/Māori perspective,” says Te Atarangi Whiu, Te Mātāwai Tumu Whakarae.

“For the most part select committee members were very receptive and eager to hear more about our strategy and approach in this new era of te reo Māori revitalisation,” she says.

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