



Maori Language Strategy Consultation

Te Kohanga Reo National Trust Submission

Introduction

1. The Te Kohanga Reo National Trust (TKRNT) welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Maori Language Strategy Consultation.
2. As well as presenting this written submission the Te Kohanga Reo National Trust wishes to make an oral submission as part of this consultation should oral submissions be available.
3. The Te Kohanga Reo National Trust is making this submission on behalf of the 471 kohanga reo they represent.
4. Following hui- a-rohe throughout the motu in late 2013 the TKRNT invited kohanga whanau to have input into the Trust / Crown negotiations in response to the findings of the Wai 2336 Claim ¹. Data from this research was analysed and submitted to the Board early in 2014.
5. Analysis of that research has been used to inform this submission and to confirm the TKRNT mandate to make this submission on behalf of the movement.
6. The summary of the TKRNT submission is:
 - a. The kohanga reo movement affirm the kaupapa of te kohanga reo as the foundation of *Te Ara Tuapae 2008 – 2033 The TKR Strategic Plan*;
 - b. *Te Ara Tuapae 2008 – 2033* sets out a leadership role for te kohanga reo in te reo Maori language growth strategy to 2033; and
 - c. Management of the Maori Language Strategy (in the Crown / Iwi / Maori space) should be undertaken in the context of 'better public services' characterised by *high trust models, developed from an integrated systems approach which cuts across silos*. In this space whanau, hapu, iwi and Maori organisations which have played a major role in the development of the Maori language in New Zealand's recent history continue to have a vital role which is fully resourced by the Crown.

¹ September 11th, 2013, email from Acting CEO TKRNT.

Te Kohanga Reo Affirm Kohanga Reo Kaupapa

7. The main themes of this submission have been taken from an analysis of kohanga whanau submissions to the Board about how the Trust should negotiate outcomes from the Wai 2336 Claim with the Crown.
8. Two main themes were highlighted through the research². The first could be described as '*Pono ki te kaupapa, Pumau ki te kaupapa*' (Business as Usual). The responses are significant because they articulated a *strong and clear set of statements* from kohanga reo whanau about maintaining the kaupapa of te kohanga reo and staying true to it. The submissions were grounded in 'te aronga Maori', the Maori worldview³. Maturanga Maori (Maori cultural knowledge), te reo Maori (the Maori language), tikanga and kawa (Maori cultural ways) were identified as the authentic bodies of knowledge that inform the kohanga reo movement. As such these are the bodies of knowledge that whanau expect all aspects of the growth and development of the movement (namely proposed legislation, funding, assurance and kohanga reo qualifications) to be drawn from. Kohanga reo rauemi were cited as the sources within which developments should be framed. Namely, Te Kaupapa; Nga Pou e wha; Blue and Red Syllabus Books; Tu Tohinga; Te Korowai and Te Whariki.
9. The second theme could be termed '*Kia tipu ai te kaupapa*'. In these responses whanau gave the Board *ideas for growth and development*. A range of suggestions emerged from throughout the Districts which provide the Board with a broad range of ideas to consider within the kaupapa and nga pou e wha.

Strategic Response: Te Ara Taupae 2008-2033, Strategic Plan

10. The approach taken in this paper grounds the strategic priorities of this submission in the past, through the kaupapa and the history of the kohanga reo movement, in the present, through the link with Wai 2336 Claim and negotiations around this, and in the future, through the link to *Te Ara Tuapae 2008 – 2033, Nga Kete e Toru*:
 - a. Whakamana i te reo me nga tikanga;
 - b. Whakamana i te mokopuna me te whanau;
 - c. Whakamana i te kaupapa.
11. Sourcing the strategic priorities in this way is confirmed by an analysis of kohanga whanau submissions to the Board about how the Trust should negotiate outcomes from the Wai 2336 Claim with the Crown.

Management of the Maori Language Strategy in the Iwi / Maori / Crown Public Policy Context

12. This strategy is being consulted on in a public policy context in which the government is calling for better results from the public service and new ways of producing them. The

² Irwin, K.G. (2013) *Final Report, Responses of Te Kohanga Reo Whanau to TKRNT Board Questions re Wai 2336 Negotiations*. Unpublished Report to the Te Kohanga Reo National Trust Board.

³ Royal, C. (2009: 64). *Te Ngakau*. Wellington: Mauriora-k-ite-Ao / Living Universe.

Prime Minister, John Key, is leading the call for better public services and better result areas^{4 5 6}.

13. Strategies for more effective integration between the machinery of government and Iwi / Māori are emerging from the evaluation of current government initiatives such as *Whānau Ora* and the *Direct Negotiation* used in Treaty Settlements.
14. Key features of these approaches are that they operate at the *highest governance levels (rangatira to rangatira)*, are based in *high trust models* and are developed from an *integrated systems approach* which *cuts across silos*.
15. Recent research reports that this is a view New Zealanders generally hold to. In the report *Better Connected Services for Kiwis*⁷ the authors report on findings in relation to what they term 'joined up services'.
16. Iwi partnerships between iwi and Crown Agencies (such as the Ministry of Education), Direct Negotiations in Treaty Settlements, Whānau Ora and Whole of Government Approaches to service delivery are all examples of current initiatives that speak to the kinds of changes sought in the *Better Connected Services for Kiwis*⁸ research for joined up services.
17. Management of the Maori Language Strategy (in the Crown / Iwi / Maori space) should be undertaken in the context of 'better public services'. In this space whānau, hapu, iwi and Maori organisations which have played a major role in the development of the Maori language in New Zealand's recent history continue to have a vital role which is fully resourced by the Crown.
18. In the case of the kohanga reo movement that includes the role that is yet to be negotiated in the wake of the Wai 2336 Report.

Nga mihi



Tākūta Timoti Karetu
Co-Chair



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⁴ See Hon John Key (2011) "Speech from the Throne", PM Hon John Key, 21Dec 2011 at www.beehive.govt.nz; and "Government Wants better results from Public Services", 8Feb 2011, at www.beehive.govt.nz.

⁵ See www.ssc.govt.nz

⁶ See Hon John Key (2012) "Better Public Services", PM Hon John Key, 15 Mar 2012, at www.beehive.govt.nz

⁷ Institute of Policy Studies (2008) *Better Connected Services for Kiwis*. A discussion document for managers and front line staff on better joining up the horizontal and the vertical. Wellington: Institute of Policy Studies.

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