



# HUI Ā ROHE REPORT

Mataatua (Waiariki) Hui ā Rohe

## Abstract

A Karanga Aotearoa summary report of the hui held at Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa, Whakatāne, on 7 June 2011

## Introduction

On Tuesday 7 June Karanga Aotearoa presented at the quarterly meeting of Te Hono o Mataatua held in Whakatāne at Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa. Te Hono o Mataatua is a forum that consists of representatives of the Iwi o Mataatua Waka. These iwi include, but are not limited to Ngāti Awa, Ngāti Manawa, Ngāi Te Rangi, Te Whakatōhea and Ngāi Tūhoe.

As part of the quarterly meeting agenda Karanga Aotearoa was provided with an opportunity to present the repatriation kaupapa as well as receive questions and feedback.

Karanga Aotearoa was represented by advisory panel member Hokimoana Te Rika-Hekerangi, and also Te Herekieke Herewini (Manager Repatriation), and Te Arikirangi Mamaku (Repatriation Programme Coordinator) for Te Papa.

## Attendees – Te Hono o Mataatua

Tā Hirini Moko-Mead (Chair)	<i>Ngāti Awa</i>
Robert Edwards (Dep Chair)	<i>Te Whakatōhea</i>
Robert Jenner	<i>Ngāti Manawa</i>
Te Kei Merito	<i>Ngāti Awa</i>
Joe Harawira	<i>Ngāti Awa</i>
Pouroto Ngaropo	<i>Ngāti Awa</i>
Joe Mason	<i>Ngāti Awa</i>
Glenda Stewart	<i>Board Administrator</i>

## Key Points

The key points centred around two main areas expressed by Karanga Aotearoa at previous Hui-ā-Rohe. Initially Karanga Aotearoa provided an overview on repatriation activity conducted in the areas of research, international repatriations, and domestic repatriations. The second key area is a long term strategy for the care of unprovenanced kōiwi tangata, including the tono received from Ngāti Kurī, and seeking feedback and comment relating to this matter.

A number of whakaaro/views were expressed from members of the forum, which included:

a.) Ngāti Kuri Tono

In respect to the proposed option from Ngāti Kurī for the unprovenanced kōiwi tangata to be laid to rest at Te Rerenga Wairua in the Taitokerau. The forum believed this to be a “good tono”.

They forum also indicated they had their own Te Rerenga Wairua in their takiwā for their own people.

### b.) Putunga Kotahi/ Mausoleum

Alternatively the Chair (Tā Hirini Moko-Mead) proposed that Wellington / Te Whanganui-ā-Tara is an ideal place for a national urupā specifically limited to unprovenanced kōiwi tangata. The specific location could be in close proximity to the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa where the relationship between the urupā and museum could be centred on the principles of Kaitiaki Tāonga, and Kaitiaki Tūpuna.

Considering the historical circumstances in which the tūpuna were removed from the whenua the forum supported the Chair's sentiment that the country needs to take more responsibility.

Tā Hirini indicated moving towards a final solution requires time and a methodical approach, and consideration also needed to be made towards the future potential for research towards provenancing those kōiwi without provenance, with particular reflection on the possibility of scientific based approaches including DNA testing.

*Overall, the long term option should be a place where the tūpuna can be visited and respect paid, but is also a place where the tūpuna can lay with dignity.*

## Summary

The forum spent some time discussing the Ngāti Kuri tonu and also the alternative option re: a national urupā in Te Whanganui-ā-Tara. They believed this kaupapa required more time for consideration. The forum will meet again in September of this year, and Karanga Aotearoa will await an update on feedback, whakaaro, and options for the long term care of unprovenanced kōiwi tangata.