



# NGĀTI POROU KI HAURAKI

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2025

*Ko Tai Whakarunga Ko te Oneroa tapu O Mataora*

*Ko Tai Whakararo Ko Nga Wai Ronaki a Harataunga*

*Ko Whaita te tapae toto*

*Oreore Kau ana nga uri a Paikea-Moana-Ariki*

*Ki te Tara O te Ika a Maui*

*Tēnā tātou ngā uri o Porou Ariki. Tēnā hoki tātau i ngā tini aitua e whakangaro atu nei ki te pō. Tātau kei muri nei, tēna koutou, otira, tēnā tātou katoa.*

## INTRODUCTION

Notwithstanding achieving our post settlement governance entity mandate, Runanga members have continued to advance our collective Ngati Porou ki Hauraki voice and stance across the board.

A significant change in operations occurred in that significant resources were devolved to Maori, by Maori, for Maori outcomes under a loosely framed covid funding regime.

This funding has now ceased, meaning we are now back to a new reality.

I want to reiterate the mandate achieved by this Runanga where over 600 whanau members, over the age of 18, voted in favour of the Runanga Constitution and the Runanga representatives. We note that 30 opposed the mandate.

It is very important that you visit our Ngati Porou ki Hauraki website, [www.npkhrunanga.com](http://www.npkhrunanga.com). This contains our constitution, our history and a range of helpful information. That information starts officially with the setting up of our inaugural Ngati Porou Ki Hauraki Trust in 1987. As a matter of record the Trustees were *Uncle Paki Harrison, Uncle George McLeod, Uncle George Potae, Uncle Dick Hauraki, Uncle Mack Te Moananui, John Tamihere Senior and Queenie Douglas*. All have passed away in regard to this journey. As usual they left a far better legacy than that which they succeeded to and we endeavour to do as best we can to achieve the same.

## SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

There is not a lot to report here as the settlement processes in the Hauraki have been paused, whilst negotiations continue in regard to Tauranga Moana issues with predominantly the Marutuahu Collective of the Hauraki. For the record we have no issues with Tauranga Moana apart from seeking a historical, cultural acknowledgement of our trading places along that coast and in regard to warriors that fought with Tauranga Moana against the Crown at the battle of Whakamarama and throughout a guerrilla warfare campaign known as the Bush Campaign.

We will update whanau should they desire to know our sense of travel in this regard on request, but do visit our website for further information.

## FORESHORE AND SEABED

There are two avenues of redress in regard to the legislative framework, these being direct negotiation or litigation. We were not able to obtain closure on direct negotiation, but were able to fund significant research that ended up in the writing of a book researched in large part by the Hale whanau and Uncle John Hovell. Matters to do with the Foreshore and Seabed have received High Court and Court of Appeal decisions, the recent Whakatohea Appeal will be heard by the Supreme Court and we hope that that Court will lay out a common law pathway.

Both the Whakatohea and Pahauwera decisions cause us no problem and we have one of the strongest rights regime to our foreshore and seabed of any iwi, taking into account these cases. We are caught in a common law system that will ultimately deliver a result for Maori but rest assured our rights systems have not been challenged by the framework laid out at either the High Court or the Court of Appeal.

## CROWN AGENCIES/LOCAL TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES

We continue following the winning of our mandate to secure our interests at a Local Government level. You will appreciate that others have been at these tables a lot longer, to our exclusion, however that is changing. To that end we have met with the Chair of Waikato Regional Council and the Mayors of Thames-Coromandel District Council and the Hauraki District Council, in clearly signalling our right to a voice, specific to Ngati Porou ki Hauraki.

## OCEANA GOLD

We continue to oppose mining on a conservation estate that runs adjacent to our Mataora land holdings and which will have a long-term, adverse impact on flora, fauna, our water ways and significant noise pollution over the course of the next 25 years that they are seeking consents to mine in a valley known as Te Whare ki Rauponga. This conservation estate was and is a major kapata kai for Ngati Porou. In addition, it is named after one of our esteemed Whare Wananga and links with the story of Mataora, Niwareka and Rarohenga. We will continue to oppose the collusion that we have identified between the local authorities and Oceana Gold.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank my fellow Trustees and whānau for their unwavering commitment and diligent efforts throughout the year to Te Rūnanga O Ngati Porou ki Hauraki and its responsibilities to our people. We would also like to acknowledge the leadership and support of our Kaumātua and Kūia and the wider group who guide us through our spiritual and cultural responses.



J H Tamihere  
**CHAIRPERSON**