E-pānui

HUI A MARO O TE MĀRAMATANGA
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HUITANGUI | FEBRUARY 2023

Kua tau te wawaeo o Rūhi ka whenua.
The tool of Ruhi is summer dust now rests upon the earth

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TE PŪRONGO O NGĀ POU MATUAKA | CO-DIRECTORS UPDATE

Welcome to our first e-pānui of 2023!

We are grateful that our Tāmaki-based whānau were able to return to their usual rhythm to the start of the year after the recent flooding. Our ardent goes out to the whānau, hapū and iwi who experienced it in its extent. The impacts have extended to communities and manawa whenua, and we pray for the ongoing recovery of our people and our Māori in times of crises.

Extreme weather events and the wider effects of climate change will be front of mind for our whānau and students at the Māra Hinge Research Centre. Our NPM will host later this year, from 13 to 17 November, the 2023 Māori Climate Change and Sustainability Conference. Our focus on climate change and amplify Indigenous voices will be front and centre, with ongoing updates and the call for papers.

Meanwhile, our Kanaes team likewise have been busy preparing for these hui-tuts with preparations for a series of workshops, hui, conferences, research researchers, knowledge holders and students.

A new NPM initiative, Kanaeo, has been funded by MBIE to equipment Māori talent, leadership and system navigation. We are grateful for the work of our Kanaeo team who are leading this work.

Finally, many of us at NPM are looking forward to one of the most highly anticipated events on the Māori social calendar, the Māori Rugby Festival, to Te Matatini. Usually held biennially, the last time Te Matatini was held was in 2019 due to the pandemic. The Māori Rugby festival will take place at Eden Park from 22 to 25 February, and the occasion will be marked by a Māra Hinge Māramatanga Māramatanga, a celebration where a table will down memory lane with Te Matatini and Māori Rugby. Māra Hinge reflects on the enormous influence Māori haka has had on his life and the many joys and impacts, both in the world of the stage.

We leave you with this clip of 2019 Matatini opening, Ngāti Porou whānau.

Ngā Pou Matuaka | Co-Directors

- Professor Rāw Nuku Kaiwai
- Professor Linda Waimarie Nikora

KAUPAPA MATUA: KAPA HAKA

Trevor Bennett was on Te Matatini organising committee for 21 years. This year he was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to Māori and the community. Photo: Supplied

With Te Matatini only days away, we kōrero about the early years of the festival with Te Matatini life member, Trevor Bennett, and reflect on the enormous influence haka has had on his life and others.

As well as being the leader of Te Arawa group, Ngāti Rangiwewehi, Trevor was on the organising committee for Te Matatini for 21 years, and was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to Māori and the community. He says he has never felt he has made sure it was a success. Everyone volunteered whether you took the stage or not. I remember being at the first Te Matatini in Gisborne, he says. Some of the haka I saw in the beginning years and they lasted after the festival.

While he was playing a support role in that first national competition, he said the excitement of the festival overpowered him, and everyone was enthusiastic about it. Everyone was happy, and all the groups was one of pride. We could all see that this was a major step forward in Māori culture, he says. It was a very, very, very,