



TE KETE OUNAMU

Hōngongoi July 2025 Pānui

National Updates



*Back Left- Te Rangimaria Warbrick, Leilani Maraku, Kiriana Te Huki, Wi Huata (Co-Chair) Jason Haitana, Paamu Kahu
Front Left - Hori Kingi (Pou Tikanga), Joanne Henare, Alisha Tamepo-Pehi (Co-Chair), Gloria Sheridan and Vanilla Martin*

Te Kete Pounamu National rōpu represent the voices of tangata Māori with lived/living experience at a governance level, to address restrictive practices and advocate for equity and fair treatment. Lived/living experience insights and aspirations highlights the priorities of the people across Aotearoa, that supports the decisions and direction of the National rōpu.



Celebrating achievements of Te Kete Pounamu National co-chair Alisha Tamepo- Pehi who was recognized for her outstanding mahi making a difference with whānau throughout Aotearoa. Ngā mihi ki a koe mō to mahi tōnu i te taha o ngā ratonga hāpori me te whānau.

Find out more about Te Kete Pounamu at:
<https://www.teketepounamu.co.nz/>



TE RAU ORA

Ako Ararau 2025 – Reflecting on Connection and Kaupapa

Earlier this month, Waikato Regional Lead Tom Green and National member Kiriana Te Huki, attended the Ako Ararau conference with Te Rau Ora in Kirikiriroa. This annual event celebrates Māori and Pacific tertiary pathways supporting organisations and communities to thrive.

Representing the collaborative relationship between Te Kete Pounamu and Te Rau Ora, this opportunity to share kaupapa, information and kōrero created space to develop incredibly rich, thoughtful conversations and relationships.

Moments like these remind us just how important it is to be visible in spaces so communities know who, how, and where they can connect to Te Kete Pounamu. There was a genuine interest in the mahi we do – from the Nōku te Ao wānanga to our wider vision of collective change – promoting a commitment to safer, more inclusive spaces across Aotearoa.

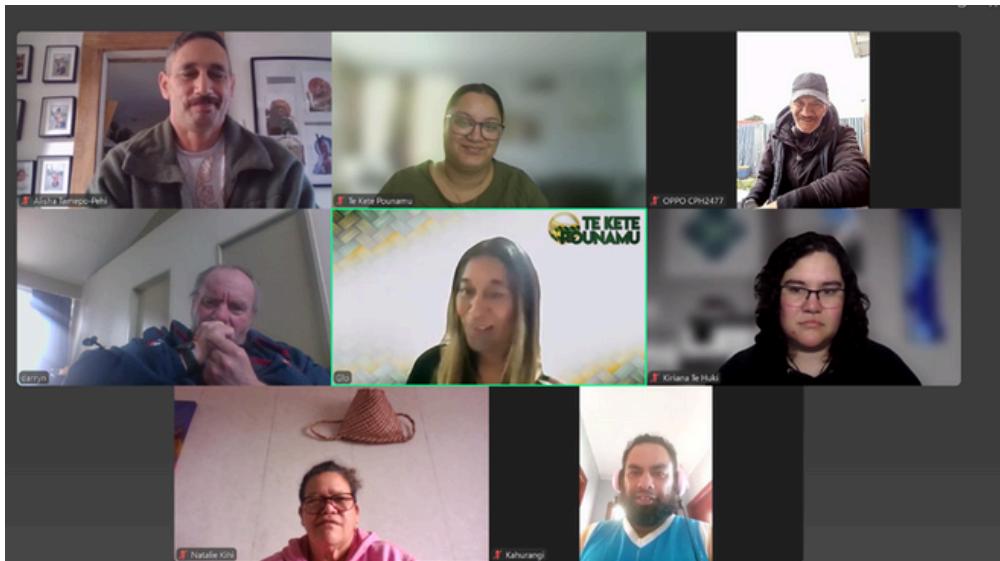
Ngā mihi nui to everyone who engaged with us during this time.



Regional Updates

Te Kete Pounamu Regional Rōpu are dedicated to uplifting whānau voices across their various communities, gathering kōrero around Hauora Hinengaro (mental health) and substance recovering (AOD).

Current representation of six active regional rōpu throughout the motu include - Waikato, Tairawhiti, Taranaki, Wanganui, Otautahi, Murihiku and three rōpu in early development across Tamaki, Papaioea and Rotorua. We are excited to introduce new leadership members. Bill Pehi - Wanganui, Tom Green - Waikato/Piako district and interim lead for Kahurangi Peneha - Tairawhiti . Ka mau te wehi o te mana tāne mā – we're fortunate to have you all join us.



Highlights for our regional rōpu this month include:

- Tairawhiti began strategic planning for community engagement hui
- Waikato hosted whanaungatanga with new steering member, Heather Turanga
- Wanganui held their first community engagement hui



Our full-day wānanga is designed to empower health workers by providing knowledge, tools, and perspectives that foster stronger relationships with lived experience whānau and support a more holistic approach to healthcare.

Pictured below is a snap of Te Whare Hauora o Ngāti Porou undergoing our wānanga.



Upcoming Wānanga:

Te Whatu Ora Wairau - August 5th - 6th

Te Whatu Ora Nelson -August 7th - 8th

Kotahitanga

Kotahitanga is a online space for whānau with lived/living experience in Hauora Hinengaro and/or substance recovery AOD, to come and kōrero/share their experiences amongst like minded peers.

Over the month whānau were able to learn and explore the importance of Matariki in Te Ao Māori as well as other kaupapa such as Tapu and Noa, Maintaining Balance and Whakapōturi.

Te Kete Pounamu created this wānanga as a platform for whānau to interact with each other, and to provide an opportunity for growth and learning.

Upcoming Events:

