



**Mahuru - September 2025 Pānui**

## **National Updates**

### **Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Amendment Bill 2025**

Early September, Te Kete Pounamu made a written submission to oppose the Pae Ora Amendment Bill in favour of retaining and strengthening the current Pae Ora Healthy Futures Act.

Te Kete Pounamu national members - Paamu Kahu and Gloria Sheridan also presented an oral submission to the select committee in Wellington, to further consolidate the positioning of Te Kete Pounamu, emphasising the critical need for Māori voices to shape a health system that sustains and protects life.

Grounded in the Treaty of Waitangi principles of Partnership, Protection, and Participation defined by the Crown, TKP called for the:

- Rejection of the Amendment Bill
- Retention and strengthening of the Pae Ora Act
- Investment in kaupapa Māori services and Māori-led structures
- Full recognition of Treaty obligations in health

Our message was clear: dismantling Māori leadership dismantles the possibility of equity for all. The health of Māori is the health of Aotearoa.



*From left: Paamu Kahu and Gloria Sheridan*

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



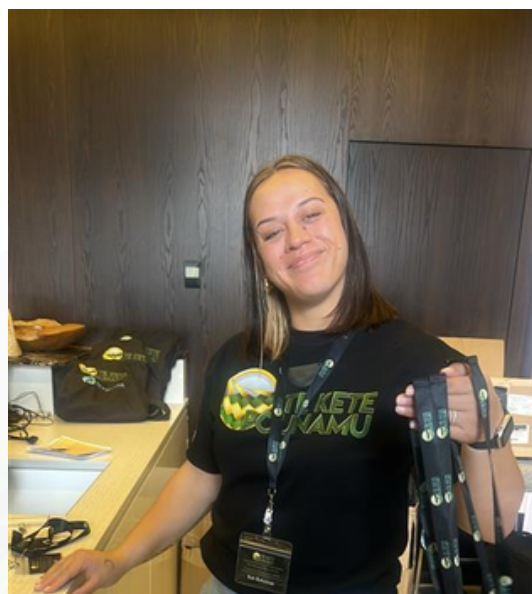
**TE RAU ORA**  
Strengthening Māori Health and Well-Being

# Regional Updates



Te Kete Pounamu regional leadership came together as the Noku te Ao advisory group. The day was filled with learning and critique, sharing insights and knowledge. It was a great opportunity to whakawhanaungatanga and spend time together as a leadership. Thank you to our members for your wisdom, and willingness to learn and share - Ka mā te Ariki, ka mā te tauira. We value your leadership.

We also want to extend a warm welcome to our newest regional member into the Otago regional rūpu- Ilah Robottom, ngā mihi e hine!





# Nōku Te Ao



In September, our Nōku Te Ao facilitators were honored to connect with the team at Te Whatu Ora in beautiful Waikato.

Ngā mihi nui mō tō manaakitanga – thank you for your warm and generous hospitality.

During our time together, we shared meaningful conversations and reflections, deeply inspired by the dedication and passion of everyone who participated in the wānanga.

It's clear there is a strong collective vision to nurture a thriving community in your rohe – one where people with lived experience of hauora hinengaro can live free from prejudice and discrimination.

## Upcoming Wānanga:

October 9th-10th - Papaeoia (Palmerston North)



# Kōtahitanga

Every Thursday, Kotahitanga offers a safe and supportive space for whānau across the motu to connect and engage in meaningful kōrero. Each week a new hauora kaupapa is introduced, sparking reflection, sharing, and learning together as a whānau.

Throughout September we explored week to week the powhiri process and kawa, and how this relates to our wellbeing. We had the privilege of sharing purākau, and wisdoms creating a beautiful wananga space, connecting to wairua, atua and tīpuna.

This kaupapa fosters rich, meaningful kōrero, where whānau share both their understandings and their questions, engaging in a collective learning experience guided by tuakana/teina and the values of tika, pono, and aroha.





# Celebrations:

## Māori Lived Experience Symposium 2025



### Mihi

Ngā mihi nunui ki a koutou katoa i tae mai, i tautoko mai, i kawe mai hoki i ō koutou whakaaro, wairua me ngā kōrero.

Held at Jet Park Hotel, Tāmaki Makaurau, on the 25th September the National Māori Lived Experience Symposium brought together over 140 whānau, kaimahi, and supporters from across the motu. Hosted by Te Kete Pounamu, the gathering created a space to share kōrero, strengthen connections, and celebrate community resilience of Māori with lived and living experience in hauora hinengaro and substance recovering .

Guided by kaupapa Māori values, the event featured powerful kōrero from Riki Solomon, Rose Heta Minhinnick, Wiremu and Lesley Niania, and Kerri Butler, whose stories of resilience, wairua, and hope inspired collective reflection and determination for change.

The symposium was more than an event - it was a call to action: to honour our stories, uplift one another, and build momentum for the future of Māori lived experience leadership

# He mihi nui – Te wiki o Te Reo Māori



We would like to extend a huge mihi to everyone who took part in our Te Wiki o te Reo Māori activities. Your participation, enthusiasm, and aroha for te reo Māori helped make this week a real celebration of our identity, culture, and whanaungatanga.

We also want to acknowledge our winners of the Pepeha Whakataetae:

**Ani Raroa** – Pepeha Competition Winner

**Manu Mauheni** – Participation Award

Ngā mihi nunui ki a kōrua, and to everyone who entered, you have inspired us all to continue standing proudly in our reo and whakapapa.

He taonga te reo, he taonga nō tātou katoa. Let's keep nurturing it together.



# October upcoming events:



## Te Wiki o te Hauora Hinengaro 2025

### Mental Health Awareness Week

A time to kōrero, reflect, and care for our hauora hinengaro.

Join us online across our social media as we share:

- Tips for wellbeing
- Activities to uplift wairua
- Messages of support for you and your whānau

Keep an eye on our socials so you don't miss the kōrero and resources to help nurture wellbeing together.