

HUI TAUMATA

Kotahitanga - To Action Maori Unity

Submitter - Cr Martin Halliday (Ngati Porou) - As an individual

Current positions

Kapiti Coast District Councillor - Paraparaumu Ward (2nd Term)

- KCDC - Social sustainability committee - Chair
- KCDC - Te Whakaminenga o Kapiti - Councillor delegation to committee
- KCDC - Various other delegated roles.

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)

- Te Maruata – Member

New Zealand Maori Council

- Paraparaumu Committee - 2nd term
- Kapiti Executive Committee - 2nd term
- Wellington District Committee - 1st term
- National Executive - 1st term

General background

- Hospitality from a front of house and general management perspective - 35yrs
- Small business ownership in relation to hospitality

TOPIC - Working Collaboratively for Tino rangatiratanga (Self determination) in a modern world.

Tena kotu katoa,

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my submission.

It may be considered impolite not to include my Whakapapa above. I find myself in the interesting situation of only discovering my Whakapapa, as it relates to my Maori heritage, fairly recently (3 years ago). I have yet to formally engage in that space but have been engaging in the Mana Whenua and Tangata Whenua spaces as part of my local government journey which commenced 5 years ago.

I would categorise myself as an example of the journey of urban Maori and also as a reflection of my age demographic (50-60 yrs) as it pertains to my interaction with the Maori Culture. I am the product of a generation - And on a journey of discovery, involvement and contribution.

I stood for local Government to serve my community and to apply my “developed skill sets“ in that service. I apply the same principle of service to my involvement as Tangata Whenua and in this Kaupapa.

My submission is very simple, but strikes at the heart of Kotahitanga.

In my journey as a local ward Councillor I have seen and been a part of the KCDC organisational move into working in a more collaborative manner.

Silos in the organisational structure are starting to work across departments. The relationship between Councillors, the Organisation and Mana Whenua is progressing in a positive and collaborative manner. The common thread - Communication and Collaboration.

I am aware of or have interacted with various organisations:

- Local Government NZ
- Local Government NZ - Te Maruata
- National Iwi Chairs Forum
- New Zealand Maori Council
- Maori Womens Welfare League

To name a few, but the above covers a broad representation.

I have been quite surprised at the LACK of connection, constructive dialogue, interaction, collaboration etc between these organisations, especially at a high level.

I have been pondering this situation and it has been my intent to engage with the parties that I am involved with directly to korero about how to resolve this Situation.

It is said that an idea will land when it is it's time. I believe that when you add energy to an idea that opportunity will follow, I guess the big question is what do you do with that opportunity or even if that opportunity is recognised. In this instance an invitation found its way to me Hui Taumata. I see Hui Taumata as the opportunity and Kotahitanga as the idea.

Maori should be working together towards Tino rangatiratanga collaboratively as Aotearoa's indigenous people, and also as New Zealanders. Different Iwi/Maori groups/individuals are at different stages of progression. Pre and post settlement, Urban Maori identity, social and capitalist pathways for standard of living improvement, etc (I acknowledge Ti Tiriti o Waitangi as our founding document), But I'm not seeing Kotahitanga.

This hui has asked for thought leaders and for topics for discussion around **Kotahitanga - To Action Maori Unity.**

I ask for consideration for what we have, rather than potentially creating something new. We have entities that exist and that work in different areas around different Kaupapa. Some key entities listed above. There is enough room for all these entities in the kaupapa of Kotahitanga with the key being “ to serve Maori “

I reference the quote below for reflection.

“The single biggest thing I learned was from an indigenous elder of Cherokee descent, Stan Rushworth, who reminded me of the difference between a Western Settler mindset of “ I have rights” and an indigenous mindset of “ I have obligations. “ instead of thinking that I am born with rights, I choose to think that I am born with obligations to serve past,present, and future generations, and the planet herself.”

So what does Kotahitanga look like in this context, some examples.

- Iwi collaborating with Local Government as Mana Whenua.
- Iwi relationship with NZMC Local committee's with regards to Tangata Whenua (manaakitanga)
- NZMC local committee's supporting locally elected Maori councillors (Te Maruata)
- Iwi Chairs and NZMC collaboration on legislation
- Maori Wardens with NZMC oversight collaborating with NZ police,local councils,Iwi and Local NZ Maori Council committees.

Alignment with local planning by Mana Whenua and LGNZ

- Maori 100 year plans
- Maori 50 year plans
- Infrastructure 30 year plans
- LGNZ 10 yr Long term plan (Ltp) process -updated every 3 years
- LGNZ annual plan process - reviewed each year .

Are just some ways forward, noting that some are already in existence and others could use a more collaborative approach.

In Summary

Kotahitanga is here and now, let's build on this momentum and be all that we can be.

Nga Mihi

Cr Martin Halliday