



HĀPAI TE HAUORA  
— MĀORI PUBLIC HEALTH —

# WĀNANGATIA TE WAHAKURA

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## 2019



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The National SUDI Prevention Coordination Service (NSPCS) coordinated the Wānangatia te Wahakura series across Aotearoa to gain insights at a local level on wahakura development and capacity. The intention of these regionally based wānanga was to coordinate collective perspectives and share mātauranga across sectors.

## Objective

To build a collective knowledge, partnerships and capacity for the development of wahakura across the District Health Board regions of Aotearoa and to ensure that each weaver maintained their mana wahakura within their respective communities and rohe (regions).

1. To improve the understanding of Pā harakeke.
2. To coordinate a collective understanding of species of harakeke for wahakura.
3. To increase the capability of kairaranga in the northern and midland regions and to celebrate their individual styles and stories of wahakura.
4. To increase the capacity of wahakura (both waikawa and whiri) so that they become the safe sleep device choice for all.
5. To investigate and identify the regional and local preferences of wahakura and why.
6. To manaaki service providers (including District Health Boards) to increase their understanding of wahakura through whanaungatanga and korero.

## How will these objectives be achieved?

The NSPCS has held 2 Wānangatia te wahakura in Tāmaki Makaurau and Rotorua. We worked with mana whenua, kaumātua, kairaranga, health experts and communities to plan and coordinate wānanga, which was unique to each of the respective rohe/whenua.

We provided an environmental platform by which weavers and SUDI prevention advocates across multiple sectors participated to gain their respective regional and local level ethos of wahakura and Kaupapa Māori birthing practices.

# TĀMAKI MAKĀURAU WĀNANGATIA TE WAHAKURA

**DATES:** 9-10 July 2019

**VENUE:** Makaurau Marae, Mangere  
Ihumātao, Kaitiaki Village  
Takaparawhau, Ōrākei

Wānanga tuatahi was held at Makaurau Marae in Tāmaki Makaurau with whānau, kaimahi and kairaranga from across the Northern Region (region includes Te Tai Tokerau and Tāmaki Makaurau) in general.

To meet the wānanga objectives the programme extended an open invitation to all stakeholders who were committed to supporting wahakura and whānau ora. The interest was widespread and ranged from staff working in health, to early childhood education, to weaving collectives and Māori development.

## Focus areas

1. Tiakina te pā harakeke
2. Maramataka - Māori lunar cycle
3. Te mana o te whānau, te mana o te whenua

From these 3 focus areas a selection of speakers and activities were engaged to frame the programme.

## Pania Newton

- Kōrero on mana whenua, whakapapa of marae and area
- Hosted us at Kaitiaki Village.

## Kelly Francis, Whenua Warrior

- Supported pā harakeke planting
- Hosted us at Kaitiaki Village.

## Professor David Tipene-Leach

- Presented the chronology of wahakura renaissance
- Niwa Brightwell (kairaranga from Hawkes Bay) accompanied David
- Majority of DHB staff and clinicians who attended wānanga participated in this session.

## Tanya White

- Shared insights about pā harakeke and wahakura from the perspective of whānau
- Gifted waikawa made in wānanga to mana whenua.



## Ngahuia Robb

- Led planting of pā harakeke at Ihumātao
- Expert in pā harakeke, raranga and as mana whenua within the rohe.
- Ngahuia and her tungāne Te Hira Hawke hosted the group at Takaparawhau, where they shared korero on the history and development of the whenua including the planting programme (Pā Harakeke, the nursery, te korowai o te whenua) and finished with a visit to the newly built Whare Ako which is currently housing arts and crafts (including weaving).

## Rikki Solomon

- Hui te marama wānanga based presentation on maramataka (Māori lunar calendar)
- Open dialogue, question/answer based learning
- Explored how our ancestors optimised activities through drawing from environmental cues
- There is a resurgence of this knowledge and this drew larger numbers of attendees.

## Tash Wharerau

- Facilitated ipu whenua workshop
- Practical activity and dialogue about the role of atua and birthing practices

## Koha Aperehama

- Presentation privileges mātauranga Māori
- Travelled from Kerikeri
- Facilitated open dialogue using interactive and kinaesthetic tools
- Appeals and connects well with whānau and can translate clinical language into something all backgrounds can understand.

# ROTORUA

## WĀNANGATIA TE WAHAKURA

**DATES:** 3/ 4 DECEMBER 2019

**VENUE:** Te Puia Arts and Crafts Institute  
Tangatarua Marae, Toi Ohomai  
Institute of Technology

Te Puia Arts and Crafts Institute was chosen as a venue for its location and relevance to the pā harakeke, whānau ora, toi Māori and mana motuhake. The overnight hosting was held at Tangatarua Marae located at the Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology where the mana whenua were welcoming and an appropriate space for the continuance of weaving and wānanga.

The format of the wānanga integrated wahakura weaving and speaker presentations to enable weavers to be informed on SUDI prevention messaging and vice versa with health professionals experiencing wahakura weaving practices.

The NSPCS launched Ngā Whenu o Te Wahakura booklet, providing a tangible resource of the work we seek to promote and build as a service.

1. History of SUDI and wahakura
2. Raranga including tour of weaving school at Te Puia Māori Arts and Crafts Institute
3. SUDI prevention training modules
4. Māori superheroes presentation through the form of art
5. Midland DHBs models of care
6. Safe Sleep Calculator
7. Post SUDI care and coronial process
8. Kia Wana Lakes Baby Service



## Professor David Tipene-Leach

- SUDI whakapapa, chronology of wahakura renaissance and Te Whare Pora
- Kuia Rangipare Raharuhi
- Tohunga kairaranga discussed raranga pertaining to birthing and child rearing practices including other forms of taonga tuku iho such as muka ties

## Jade Kameta

- Maramataka pertaining to harakeke, moon phases and sustainability

An evaluation process was undertaken with the participants at both Wānangatia te wahakura to ascertain their thoughts and insights for these wānanga to establish further development opportunities and to provide insights into wahakura.

## Edna Pahewa

- Spoke on the history of the Te Rito Weaving School and the intergenerational learning of raranga within her whānau
- Harvesting and maintenance of pā harakeke
- Tour guide of Te Puia as well as a full introduction to the weaving school

## Coroner Wallace Bain

- Provided accounts of his 28 years experience as a regional Coroner especially for SUDI



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