

TĀNGATA HUAWHENUA

MĀORI HORTICULTURE COUNCIL AOTEAROA

Tāngata Huawhenua Panui #1 February 2023:

Message from the Chairman,

Kia ora koutou katoa, nau mai ki te tau hou pākeha,
Welcome to 2023.

This is our first Panui for members, it covers a number of important issues across our pou of:

- **Voice & Advocacy** (*Hydrogen Cyanamide, Submissions on Reforms, Green Kiwifruit, Protective Cropping*)
- **Capability** (*Research Science and Innovation Summit*)
- **Opportunities** (*HortTech ITP Project*)
- **Membership** (*About Tāngata Huawhenua*)

Voice & Advocacy:

Hydrogen Cyanamide (Hi-Cane)

The use of Hi-Cane is being reviewed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). We convened a hui of Māori growers representing the majority of Māori kiwifruit interests (by area) on 18 January 2023, their views were clearly expressed to Sapere who have been commissioned by EPA to undertake an impact assessment. The feedback will be collated and provided on our website. In addition to putting our views on Hi-Cane, we have expressed concern to the EPA directly of their consultation process with Māori and its inadequacies given the low level of awareness and participation in respect of changes proposed for Hi-Cane use.

Submissions on Reforms

Submissions were completed on:

- Plant Variety Rights Regulations
- He Waka Eke Noa/ Te Aukaha Climate Change; and
- Supported the FoMA submission on Te Ara Paerangi - Future Pathways (RSI review)
- Resource management reforms, including the Spatial Planning Bill and the Natural and Built Environment Bill.

Ministry of Primary Industries released their strategy Rautaki mo te Taurikura: Embracing change for prosperity, and Aotearoa Horticulture – growing together 2030, an extract from our feedback:

- a) “Government needs to deal with four major matters for the ‘Māori in horticulture focus area three’ to be unshackled.
- b) Government needs to develop a position on Wai 262 in order to develop an appropriate policy and programme response to the development and protection of native flora and fauna.
- c) How can the government deal appropriately with Māori rights and interests when current approaches are not fit for purpose, and future focused.
- d) ‘Acceleration’ is an oxymoron for Māori when we are behind the start line - where’s the funding to deal with that?
- e) Government should fund essential industry scaffolding/ infrastructure for a by Māori for Māori horticulture approach, i.e. Māori led, government enabled and supported.”

We will seek direct government engagement in addition to making submissions. We expect a volatile political year with an Election and starting to have conversation across parties. Federation of Māori Authorities and Iwi Chairs relations continue to yield good results around advocacy collaboration and leverage.

Our submissions will be put on our website (currently under development).

Green Kiwifruit

We have actively lobbied for accessing publicly funded breeding programmes including Kiwifruit and accessing markets in which we have existing relationships with.

With recent events we think an acute focus should go onto accelerating this. With down grading Green returns Māori have been disproportionately forced through license pricing and other matters to grow green instead of the higher earning G3 Gold.

It's time for an alternate, there should be a second marketing desk, it will be better for the Industry and having a counterbalance to the existing marketing desk and is essential for a prosperous Industry.

Kiwifruit is transformational for Māori Communities and has multiple social and cultural impacts.

Protective cropping

Protective cropping is critical to the future of horticulture in Aotearoa, closed loop systems with little or no impact on the Taiao is critical. Such systems are configured for robotics and can be established close to markets.

Food security has been highlighted by food shortage even in Aotearoa, globally and locally this will only get worse. We seek to start conversations on developing pools of food in communities for domestic use. We will convene a hui to discuss with those interested in the this kaupapa and form a coalition of the willing who can and want to do something about this.

Capability:

Research Science and Innovation Summit

We propose to have one-day summit for members to focus on research, science and innovation, we expect this to be in March/ April and we will send a place holder invite in the few weeks for your calendar.

Opportunities:

HortTech ITP Project

With the support of Callaghan Innovation we have initiated our *Tāngata Huawhenua HortTech ITP Project*

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This project has three objectives:

- 1) To identify and articulate Māori horticultural sector understanding of technological innovations in plant breeding, cultivation, processing and supply for fruit, vegetables, ingredients and finished products.
- 2) To articulate collaboration opportunities and priorities identified by Māori entities involved in the horticultural sector.
- 3) To collect feedback from Māori horticultural sector leaders on the performance and value provided by the public science and innovation ecosystem (e.g. universities, CRIs, MBIE, Callaghan Innovation, National Science Challenges, etc.).

We are seeking feedback from members, Manu Caddie (our Deputy Chairman) is leading out this project, contact: email manu@enquire.co.nz or phone 027 4202 957.

Membership:

Tāngata Huawhenua was successfully established as an incorporated society in December 2021. The Executive Committee are: Ratahi Cross (Chairman), Manu Caddie (Deputy Chairman), Moerangi Vercoe, Scott Wikohika, Neil Te Kani and Hemi Wheeler.

Joining Tangata Huawhenua is as simple as dropping us an email, there's no joining fee or subscription you do need to be a Māori collective (Trust or Incorporation under Te Ture Whenua Māori, PSGE etc) or business majority owned by Māori with some activity in horticulture, related value chains, research etc. If interested email a short profile of your organisation to: Ngaria@teawanui.co.nz

Our website will be online within the next few weeks.

E mihi ana kia koutou katoa,

**Rātahi Cross,
Chairman**