

Te Kotahitanga Submission for the Hui Taumata, Omāhu Marae 31 May 2024

Submitted by: Ngāti Kahungunu

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Background: The Coalition Government commenced its term in late 2023 and commenced its frontal attack on Māori Sovereignty. Ngāti Kahungunu called a Hui-ā-Iwi at Waimārama Marae, 16 December 2023. Over 45 speakers shared their whakaaro with 30 motions put. On January 20 the Hui-ā-Motu was held at Tūrangawaewae, followed shortly by Rātana and Waitangi.

A rangatiratanga wānanga was hosted by Te Arawa in late January to strategise how to achieve rangatiratanga as a people. At this hui Ngāti Kahungunu offers to host a Hui Taumata on how we achieve kotahitanga.

On April 26th another Hui-ā-Iwi was held by Ngāti Kahungunu at Waipatu Marae (the home of the Kotahitanga movement), to discuss Kotahitanga before the Hui Taumata in May. We had 40 speakers share their whakaaro on Kotahitanga that day. On 16 May, a strawman model was shared by the Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Chair to 67 tribal thought leaders, followed up by a Zoom hui on 23rd May to discuss its merits in more detail.

Proposed Model

The following strawman is based on our kōrero at the Waipatu Hui-ā-Iwi, especially the concept of the original Kotahitanga Māori Parliament that sat at Waipatu, Pāpāwai and elsewhere in the 1890s.

The model speaks of a Lower House/ Kauae Raro that includes te ao Māori katoa. That is founded on Te Whakaputanga, Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Māori Mana Motuhake to drive our aspirations on Te Reo rangatira, mātauranga, taiao, hauora, oranga, wairua and ōhanga. We as Māori are in the best position to drive these outcomes through our whanaungatanga, collective strength, community, scale, capability and capacity.

The Upper House or Kauae Runga would be (2) elected from the 6 Māori electorates or something similarly constituted, male and female. (The original Kotahitanga had a wāhine house) so this would ensure te reo wāhine is heard within the Kauae Runga. These would be strong governors, and political influencers, providing strong leadership and good decision-making to the kaupapa.

The Tāhū would include our Monarchs, Mana tuku iho, Hāhi, Sirs and Dames and would provide the tāhūhū guidance to maintain the cultural integrity of the kaupapa. Our hāhi gives the spiritual sustenance needed fulfilling the whakatauki, “ko te amorangi ki mua, ko te hāpai ō ki muri.”

Hei te mutunga iho nō tātou te whare nei. Me mutu tā mātou whakawhirinaki atu ki te Karauna, ā, me titiro tātou ki ā tātou anō, kei reira kē te oranga!

Te Kotahitanga

Te Tāhū/ The Ridge Pole

Ngā Mana Tuku iho. Kīngi Tūheitia, Te Heuheu, Rātana, Hāhi, Ngā Tā me ngā Kahurangi

Cultural Integrity
Political Influence
Spiritual Guidance

Te Kauae Runga/ Upper House

Male and Female (2) elected from 6 Rohenga Māori. Total (12)

Leadership
Governance
Decision Making

Te Kauae Raro/ Lower House

Ngā iwi o te motu, ngā hapū, whānau, ngā marae, PSGE's, ngā kaupapa Māori, ngā ratonga, Māori business, whenua Māori. hāhi. (900,000 pop, \$50bn economy, 1.5m ha land etc.)

Scale, Community
Partnerships, Mahitahi
Capacity & Capability

Ngā kaupapa: Te Reo, Mātauranga, Taiao, Hauora, Oranga, Wairua, Ōhanga

Te Tūāpapa: Te Whakaputanga, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Māori Mana Motuhake