

TE HONONGA

POUTŪTERANGI | MARCH 2021



20 YEARS AND 3 COUNTRIES



Tihei mauriora ki ngā iwi o te tai whakarunga, o te tai whakararo, tātou e noho i ēnei rā akaaka. Kei ngā mate o te whare o Aituā, haere, okioki. E ngā mana, e ngā reo, koutou katoa e ponitaka nei i Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa, kei te tangi, kei te owha atu ki a koutou katoa.

Greetings friends and whānau as we celebrate our 20th anniversary here in Aotearoa. Who would have ever thought we'd be still going after 20 years? I certainly didn't. I figured maybe 10 years then do something different. But Kāhui Tautoko Consulting Ltd (KTCL) evolved in ways I never expected. We found there was a demand for our support in Aotearoa that enabled and privileged us to be involved in many amazing projects. We've had the privilege of working with Iwi and Māori organisations from Kaitia to Invercargill and it has been an absolute blessing – and of course a great way to see this beautiful country through the eyes of tangata whenua. I cannot express our appreciation enough to all of our friends and colleagues who welcomed us into your world.

We have now worked for many agencies outside of our mainstay Health clients including Corrections, Ministry of Social Development, Oranga Tamariki, NZ Police and Education, as well as many mainstream NGOs wanting to do better for their Māori clients.

The expansion into Canada was not planned yet the opportunity arose through a chance meeting with a First Nations Doctor who visited New Zealand in Christmas 2007. By May 2008 he had convinced us to start up in Vancouver and we began providing consulting services with a focus on benefitting First Nations communities with much trepidation. As it transpired we were humbled by their high expectations of us as most were looking to us as Māori to bring something new, tried and true strategies. Their admiration for Māori people was and has been truly humbling. And to top that we managed to work with our Native Hawaiian cousins with the opening of our Hawai'i office in 2018. We are all forever grateful for the amazing opportunities that have been bestowed upon us and to all of our friends, whānau and colleagues who have helped us to get there. We bow our heads to you all for your support.

BY WAIROA FOR WAIROA

Grassroot led initiatives for positive outcomes.



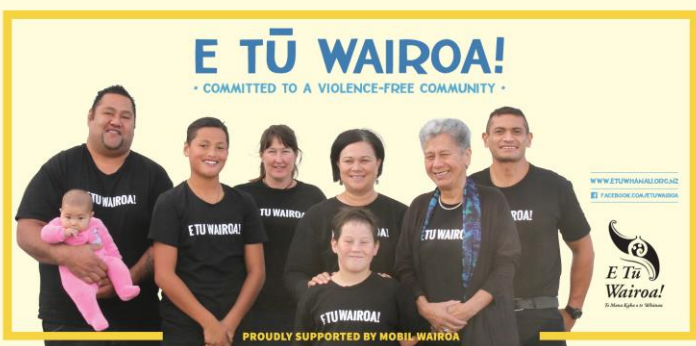
Localised Commissioning aims to extend the reach of Whānau Ora in communities and ensure Whānau Ora continues to be responsive to the needs and aspirations of whānau. Kāhui Tautoko were contracted to write the Business Case, which has since been approved by Te Puni Kōkiri. The approval of the business case has unlocked funding to invest in whānau, hapū, iwi, business enterprises and providers innovation, activities, programmes, and initiatives in Wairoa.

The voices of the Wairoa community were central to the development and overall success of this Business Case. Kāhui Tautoko were fortunate to facilitate several group discussions and hear all of the 10 million dollar ideas for the much smaller pot of pūtea! The first meeting had a huge turnout with government and non-government officials, service providers, iwi leads, Post Settlement Governance Entities, rangatahi (young people), trades and training students, the disabilities community and business and entrepreneurs representatives. A wide spread of Wairoa voices contributed to the Business case which we believe was the impetus for the approval.

The engagement process identified the environment, methamphetamine, and housing as the three priority areas. The community also wanted a “Community Commissioning Table” that was driven by grassroots whānau and supported by the backbone agency Te Whare Maire o Tapuwae. It was important that the voice of the community remained central to this work moving forward.

Wairoa District is one of those areas in New Zealand that has so many hidden gems. At the heart of Wairoa is their awa (river) which runs through the middle of their township and connects the 37 marae within the district. In the North is Te Māhia, home to Rongomaiwahine and Rakaipāka, with its beautiful beaches that also host Rocket Lab. On the other side you have Waikaremoana which is one of New Zealand’s Great walks with tracks of 46km surrounding Lake Waikaremoana. To the south lies the quiet but progressive community of Raupunga – the home base for Ngāti Pāhauwera.

Wairoa has a population that boasts 66.9% of Māori descent. Many are intergenerational whānau. It only makes sense that Wairoa community members know their issues and know their solutions. This was an important factor for Wairoa being successful in their business case as one of four pilot areas for a Local Commissioning Model pilot, along with Papaioea /



We are excited to watch how the Local Commissioning Model evolves and how the grass-roots representation might influence funding decisions. It is a great opportunity to empower whānau to make decisions. We have no doubt that when whānau and community members make decisions for themselves, outcomes are much more achievable. Kia kaha!



TE WĀ KŌRERO

Supporting the wellbeing of tamariki Māori

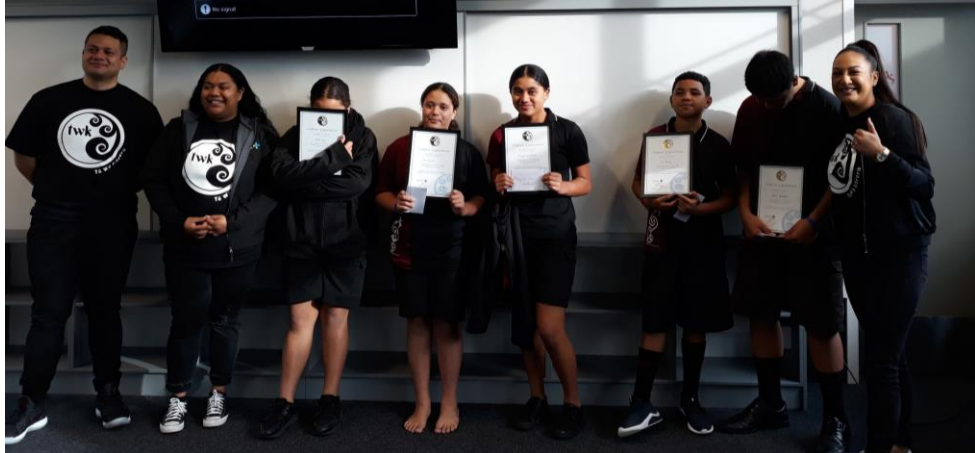
Te Wā Kōrero (TWK) is a programme that is based in South Auckland schools aimed at supporting the mental and emotional wellbeing of rangatahi Māori. The programme is based on Māori cultural concepts that also uses social media platforms and tailored activities to better support rangatahi on an individual basis. Kāhui Tautoko has been contracted to evaluate the programme.

The programme was developed and is coordinated by the National Hauora Coalition (NHC) that is based in Auckland. Two facilitators go into the schools and coordinate individual and group sessions with students across 8-weeks in a term. Referrals are made by school staff and the participating tamariki are supported during school time to participate in the programme. We have been fortunate to have worked alongside the NHC during the development and implementation of the programme. So far, everything is looking on track!

Each week of the programme is dedicated to a particular Māori concept that is the theme for each sessions. Examples of concepts include pepeha, rangatiratanga, mauri, and koha. The facilitators integrate these concepts into activities that are designed to support each tamaiti to overcome challenges they have identified in their lives. There are 2 group sessions throughout the term that bring together all participating students from each school for fun and food!



We have developed different evaluation tools that are integrated throughout the programme. We have attended different sessions, talked to whānau and teachers, and analysed feedback from everyone involved (directly and indirectly) with the programme. Like many other services and programmes during 2020, the programme has been impacted by Covid-19. The flexibility of the programme meant that it could easily be adapted to an online programme and delivered to tamariki in their homes during lockdown. Feedback from everyone involved is highlighting how the additional support is having a positive impact on tamariki!



TE KURA

Reducing whānau harm in Hawke's Bay

Whāngaia Ngā Pā Harakeke (WNPH) is a New Zealand Police initiative that encourages collaboration with iwi and other agencies to reduce family harm within Māori communities. Kāhui Tautoko was contracted by Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated (NKII) and Hawkes Bay Police to support the development of a Ngāti Kahungunu approach to WNPH for the wider Hawkes Bay region. Te Kura is the result of this collaboration.

The programme is based on the oriori or traditional chant Pine Pine te Kura. Te Kura is not a service – just so everyone is clear! It is a programme that is designed to better coordinate local services to support whānau.

The programme promotes collaboration to support access to local services in the hope of addressing the causes of family violence. Feedback from throughout the programme development process highlighted the need for increased local collaboration. It is hoped that Te Kura can support better coordination of local services.

Te Kura hopes to support the region to come together to better serve our whānau who experience whānau harm – whatever that might include. We look forward to watching the implementation and growth of the programme to make changes for a harm free environment back home in the Hawkes Bay.

TE HAPŪ O NGĀI TE ŌATUA

Building a hapū entity

Another project that kept us close to home was supporting the establishment of Ngāi Te Ōatua (NTO) as a legal entity. NTO is a hapū recognized by Heretaunga Tamatea Settlement Trust (HTST) who were required to become a legal entity to access resourcing and support. HTST have established criteria for all hapū and marae to access financial resourcing. These criteria provided a foundation to establishing NTO as a legal entity and getting things off the ground.

NTO are the mana whenua hapū of Pourēre Beach in Central Hawkes Bay. We worked with the hapū committee to establish a strategic plan, engage with other hapū members, and set up a structure to lead the plan and manage the resources. It was important for us to understand the dreams of the NTO committee and wider hapū and translate these into working documents and plans. Meetings always involved many laughs as we planned goals for the hapū.

The plan was accepted by the hapū and also by HTST – which was great! In casual conversations it sounds like there are some exciting opportunities in the pipeline. As always, we're excited to hear all about the future developments of NTO.

It has been great being back in the Hawkes Bay and being part of different developments throughout the rohe. A big mihi to everyone making things happen at home.



SUPPORTING RECONCILIATION

Raising Traditional House Posts to honour First Nations

The feature photo on the cover of this Te Hononga issue is one of three carvers from the host Nations of Vancouver (mana whenua) in front of a traditional House Post that was erected in Vancouver General Hospital (VGH) to acknowledge the three local First Nations. What is precious to us about this photo is that he holds a whakakai (bone carved pendant) that we gifted to each of the carvers. The raising of the House Posts was one of four initiatives that Kāhui Tautoko (Canada) supported on VGH's path to providing a safe environment for indigenous people. All initiatives were supported by the three local Nations who advised on processes, designed components and led ceremonies throughout the duration of the project. Not only did the project support opportunities to develop VGH, it also contributed to developing relationships between the hospital and the Nations.

VGH is Vancouver's largest hospital (Canada's 2nd largest hospital) and sits on the traditional and unceded territories of Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. We were fortunate to be asked by VCH Aboriginal Health to lead a project that supported the development of VGH in working towards their aspirations of providing a culturally safe and responsive hospital for Indigenous people in Vancouver. Hospitals and other institutions have been considered unsafe by First Nation communities. As a result, indigenous people have often chosen not to attend hospital appointments fearing adverse health consequences, racism and discrimination.

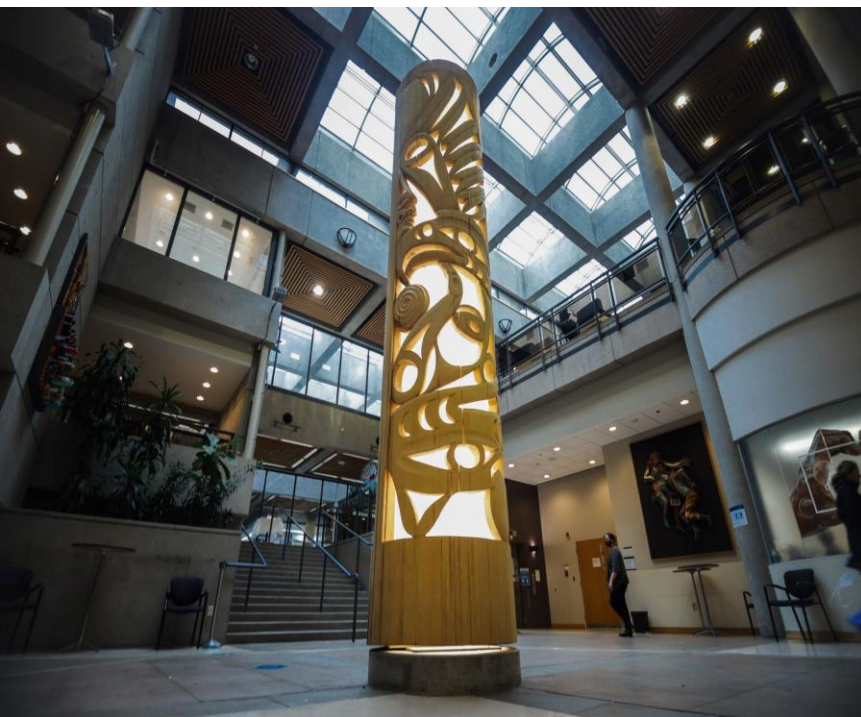


The overall project that Kāhui supported consisted of the following initiatives:

1. Managing the delivery of an Indigenous Cultural Safety training curriculum to 350 staff in two Departments
2. Raising awareness amongst all staff of on-site Elders and Aboriginal Patient Navigators
3. Raising awareness of cultural resources and supports that are available (and helping to produce new Aboriginal resources and Apps)
4. Creating welcoming spaces for indigenous patients and families (e.g. the House Post project)



The raising of the House Posts was part of a wider initiative to create welcoming spaces for indigenous people. We supported the process to acquire the logs, recruit the carvers, transport the logs to the carving stations, logistics around installation, and facilitating discussion around the appropriate ceremonies for the opening celebrations. Amongst the chaos of the global pandemic we were still able to support the VGH welcoming ceremony for the posts, and to tautoko the raising of three Traditional House Posts carved by representatives from each of the Three Nations. The carvers were encouraged to carve representations of their unique stories and characteristics of their Nation. The posts were to create a welcoming space for Indigenous peoples at VGH and to continue the journey of VGH towards reconciliation. In honour of their work and our gratitude, we gifted the three whakakai (bone carved pendants) to each of the carvers. They were truly humbled by this gesture but we were equally humbled by their amazing mahi.



Witnessing the raising ceremony of the House Posts was both spiritual and emotional. Despite the Covid-19 restrictions, the celebration and dedication ceremonies continued without any challenges. All Nations were involved in the design and execution of the ceremonies and it was amazing to be part of it all.

For us to be part of this project was very humbling, and with any project management role, relationships are key. We are thankful for the leadership shown from VGH and VCH Aboriginal Health management, staff, community members and unsung heroes who are all working towards a common goal for better outcomes for First Nations people. We raise our hands to everyone involved in ensuring that all parts of this project were successful.

GROWING COMMUNITIES

Establishing Primary Care On-reserve

Okanagan Indian Band (OKIB) is located in one of the most beautiful areas of BC (and I mean beautiful! Very scenic indeed and a must see for anyone!). This Nation is based at the head of the Okanagan Lake in Vernon, BC (about 4 hours drive from Vancouver).

OKIB is the largest First Nations community in the Interior Health region and employs close to 200 staff across six departments. They manage and provide a wide range of health, education and community development services and programs – amongst other services including an extensive cultural program.

It was therefore very humbling to be approached by the newly appointed Health Director to support some of their capacity building initiatives. One of these was the establishment of a new Primary Care clinic on-reserve – a project we had experienced before in establishing clinics for the three First Nations in Vancouver. Supporting the preparation of business cases for Chiefs and Council, setting up physical spaces with equipment and signage (and premises that can handle cold snowy winters), developing policies and procedures, recruiting health practitioners and support staff, and promoting the service to the community is all part of it and we enjoy being part of these developments in First Nation communities. The opening of the Primary Care Clinic has been a big highlight for the community and even made the BC Televised News – a wonderful achievement by all involved! Kāhui Tautoko has also been involved in many other projects and are grateful to work alongside this beautiful community.



News

Okanagan Indian Band opens new primary care clinic



ACCREDITATION EXCELLENCE

XaaydaGa Dlaang Society Commended for Quality

XaaydaGa Dlaang Society (Haida Wellness Society), formerly Skidegate Health Centre is in Skidegate on the beautiful islands of Haida Gwaii. Haida Gwaii is absolutely beautiful with a pristine wilderness dotted by ancient village sites and is Canada's final frontier, a remote archipelago off British Columbia's northernmost coast. Just stunning!!



XaaydaGa Dlaang Society went through its very first Primer Accreditation process and audit a few years ago and were certified with flying colours (94% pass rate) which is a wonderful achievement being a first certification audit. It is pleasing to report that their second audit in late 2020 was also successful with a high pass rate and another achievement of a 94% pass rate.

The Primer accreditation process feedback highlighted that XaaydaGa Dlaang Society has gone beyond the requirements of the accreditation program and is commended for its commitment to quality improvement. Accreditation Canada commends XaaydaGa Dlaang Society for its ongoing work to integrate accreditation into its operations to improve the quality and safety of its programs and services.

Congratulations to all involved in this process. Kāhui Tautoko were very honoured to support this process through the development of the policies and procedures, operationalizing these, and facilitating their Strategic Plans.

Kāhui Tautoko are constantly in awe of the majestic beauty that is Haida Gwaii and the opportunity to continue our relationship with the Skidegate community – it is definitely a home away from home!

Pity they beat our Kapa Haka group by about 4 seconds when we raced them in a canoe race!!

GOING VIRTUAL

Vancouver Coastal Health Host an Online Summit

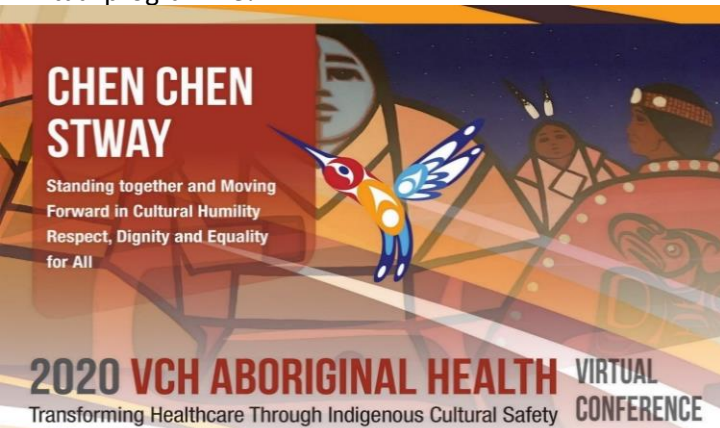
The Aboriginal Health team from Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCH - similar to a DHB Maori Unit in NZ) knew it had to be creative in terms of getting key messaging out during the Covid-19 global pandemic and this included the coordination of its very first VIRTUAL Indigenous Health Summit! VCH has been a long term client of Kāhui Tautoko and we were once again honoured (and a little intimidated) to be asked to project manage this event. Technology is not really our forte so to learn more about this new virtual environment (which is becoming the new norm in today's world) was also very rewarding for us to learn new ways of coordination – thank you VCH!

The 3-day virtual summit was held in October 2020 and themed “Transforming Healthcare Through Indigenous Cultural Safety”. The event ‘virtually’ brought together a wide range of very special keynote speakers, Elders, Indigenous Cultural Safety and design experts and many more to share their wisdom, knowledge, and expertise for VCH staff to support a collective approach to Indigenous healthcare transformation. Topics that were covered included:

- Understanding of Indigenous Cultural Safety approaches in Healthcare
- Importance of Culture and Connections within healthcare settings
- Indigenous culture, traditions, values, and customs including LGBT+ and transgender focused medical practices
- Decolonizing and creating solutions to Substance Use
- Trauma Informed Care & Systematic Racism
- Indigenous research and design in healthcare

We knew we needed to call in some favours to get some good keynote speakers. Amongst the speakers we had an actor and physician, Dr. Evan Adams of the Tla'amin First Nation in BC; Hawaiian clinical psychologist, Dr. Joseph Keawe'aimoku Kaholokula and Dr Cindy Blackstock of the Gitksan First Nation as well as the Executive Director of the First Nations Child and Family Support Society of Canada to share their knowledge and wisdom. We were also supported by online interpreters to support the event. We express our gratitude to ALL of the speakers who agreed to participate in the event!

In total, the summit delivered over 20 presentations across the 3 days either by way of live broadcast presentations, pre-recorded video sessions, interactive sessions and many more. The 3 local sovereign Nations opened and closed each day and we are grateful to the knowledge keepers and elders for guiding the event. It was estimated that close to 200 people virtually attended each session per day and rated 4.5 to 4.7 out of 5 for each session. Overall results and feedback highlighted the success of the event and we again congratulate VCH for their creativity with their first virtual programme!



WILI I LEI LANAKILA

Weaving Community Assets



Kāhui Tautoko Consulting LLC has been based in Honolulu, Hawai'i, since 2017 – and we have loved every minute of it! We were very fortunate to be working with Papa Ola Lōkahi (POL) and the Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems (NHHCSs) who helped us explore all islands of Hawai'i – all in the name of work of course!

POL are a legislated body responsible for improving Native Hawaiian health. They fund the 5 NHHCSs to deliver health supports and services to their communities on each island of Hawai'i. Thanks to Covid-19 (and not having a US passport) we haven't been able to get back in person for while – BOO!!

Each NHHCS (they call 'System' for short) is unique and provides services based on the needs of their community. What ties them together is their drive to incorporate traditional Hawaiian values into their service delivery and their common goal to improve health outcomes for Native Hawaiian people.

We were contracted to engage with NHHCS staff, Native Hawaiian community members, and other health stakeholders to understand what services are available within different communities and what are some challenges experienced by community members when delivering or accessing health care.

Phase one of the project started in 2018 and consisted of trips around each NHHCS.

These hui were designed to spend time with staff to understand what they do and to learn about what they thought were possible opportunities for the NHHCS. Visiting the NHHCSs allowed us to talk with staff, observe service delivery, and in some cases participate in some of the supports. When visiting the island of Kaua'i, Patrick would always be at the fitness centre joining in on the Hula Health Fitness class! We figured that was one way to get a real taste of the service (while working on his hips!). Phase two began in 2019 and focussed on the voices of community members and stakeholders. We worked with POL and the NHHCSs to establish hui across all islands to engage and 'kūkā kūkā' (chit chat) and to 'talk story' with local Hawaiians. Naturally, we had to find our best native accents to ensure we were understood by the locals!



The engagements started with a bang as we made our way across Moloka'i, through different groups on Kaua'i (yes, Patrick went to more hula), and to each corner of Maui. We were supported by staff and forever grateful to engage directly with Native Hawaiian 'ohana. We were reminded so much of home – eating, laughing, gossiping, more eating and sometimes even singing! Patrick provided entertainment to a group of kupuna (kaumātua) who provided hui feedback in exchange for a song or five.



These community meetings engaged Native Hawaiians of all ages, from different areas, including staff from other local services. Unfortunately, these engagements came to an end during March 2020.

Covid-19 decided to strike halfway through our community engagement process. Restrictions were being imposed left, right and centre – being imposed on gatherings and travel – people were unsure about the impact of this evolving virus. We were on Maui when Covid-19 started to ramp up. We caught our flight to Vancouver as scheduled...only to find that day that Canada was closing their borders. The following day, the United States closed their borders – impacting our ability to finish our engagement and to return home. Panic! Panic! What do we do? Stay? Go back to Hawai'i? Go straight home? After the PM Jacinta Adern pleaded on the news "New Zealanders – its time to come home" we were pretty much on the next plane home (just in time to catch the 4-week lockdown of NZ). The project was put on hold until, we hoped, everything would promptly go back to normal. As we know, things didn't, so we were back at the drawing board to identify how we could finalise the engagement process. We still needed to engage the bigger islands – O'ahu and Hawai'i island – so needed a plan of attack that could reach the communities that we planned on engaging at the outset of the project. Enter virtual community meetings!



It was decided to host virtual meetings on Zoom. The systems on the final two islands helped establish times and then promote the meetings to as many community groups as possible. We were obviously very sad that we couldn't engage in person with the communities, but, in the circumstances, the best decision was made for everyone's wellbeing. The best part was, we still had a great turn out and enjoyed some good laughs over Zoom.



We are extremely grateful for the time spent with our kanaka Maoli brothers and sisters. We are particularly thankful for the hospitality shared and to everyone making us feel so at home. We acknowledge all of the mana'o (whakaaro) that were shared and appreciative of all of the laughs – heaps of crack ups were enjoyed by all.



It is hoped that the reports that came out of this mahi will support POL to continue to meet the needs of the Native Hawaiian community. Mahalo nui loa to POL for their aloha during this time. Kei aku rangatira o Hawaiki nui, o Hawaiki roa – anei āu karawa o te tai whakararo e mihi matakui kui ana ki a koutou katoa.



TE TINI A MAUI

TE TINI A MAUI

A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

Remembering 10-years of performances

It's been a while since we have been on the road with our suitcases of uniforms, boxes of rākau and poi, and trusty guitar in case. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, it's even been a while since the roopū has met to even hang out. Unfortunately, Vancouver still have to observe social gathering restrictions – sorry whānau! We miss you though!

Since we have no new updates on any performances, we thought it might be fun to take a stroll down memory lane and remember the good days when we could travel!



Vancouver 2012



Seattle 2013



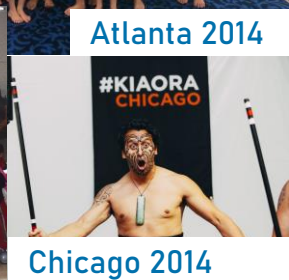
Atlanta 2014



Hawai'i 2013



Haida Gwaii 2015



Chicago 2014



Washington DC 2016



Denver 2016



LA 2016



Kamloops 2016



Chicago 2016



TE TINI A MAUI

TE TINI A MAUI

Māori All Blacks Game Vancouver 2017



Haka Global 2017



Texas 2017



Costa Mesa 2018



New Orleans 2018



Hawai'i 2019



Washington DC 2018



Toronto 2019



Practices resumed in 2020 for different gigs and kaupapa that were coming up. Waitangi Day celebrations in Vancouver 2020 was the last performance of the roopū before gathering restrictions grew due the impact of Covid-19. Since then, piupiu have remained in the wardrobe while we wait to see what lays ahead.

We trust that all of our whānau around the world are keeping well and safe.
Kia haumarū e hika mā!