

Te Ripoata Tiamana O Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Hui Tangaru 2025

Tena Koutou katoa, nga raurangatira ma o te rohe!

He mihi mahana ki a koutou mo tenei tau hou!

He mihi aroha ki nga whanau I te kapua pouri! Haere , haere , haere atu ra I nga mate ki tou moengaroa!

Firstly, we acknowledge those whanau who have lost someone dear to them at this time. Our love goes out to the Turia whanau with the loss of their Kuia, Dame Tariana and also her mokopuna Pakaitore, I'd also like to acknowledge past Te Roopu Ahi Kaa - Winiata Marae representative Peter Steedman with his passing and the many other mate across the rohe in this time frame.

As we step out of 'Te Po into Te Ao Marama', we welcome in the new year and look forward to all the positive things that this brings . I'd like to acknowledge and welcome our newly appointed Chief Executive, Carol Gordon. Carol is no stranger to this council, and we are fortunate to have her in our corner with the myriad of kaupapa she will be responsible for leading! He wahine toa ia!

Thank you to our Deputy Chair, Kim Savage for chairing our last meeting and also the Komiti for the decisions that were made at that time. A positive outcome for Opaea and Kauangaroa Marae with the Marae Development Fund and also the support of Te Roopu Ahi Kaa in the writing of a submission for the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill.

In regard to, this month's agenda items, I thank Fran, our newly appointed Mana Whenua Strategic Advisor for the two reports that she has produced for our information.

Also, and as per usual, a detailed and full report from Mayor Andy around the many places and spaces he has been part of in the last month. Always an interesting and at times mind boggling read where you can truly appreciate the scope and depth of the networks we have in our mayor for this district.

It has been an interesting addition to our board packs to see the myriad of consultations that are out from Central Government. Resource Management, Local Water Services, proposals to modernise the conservation system , regional consultation on state highway speed limits and others are all important, I look forward to staff feedback around them.

Lastly, the discussion item around the "Te Waiū o te Ika and council representation within its governance entity is also important for us to understand. I look forward to being taken through this document to see how we can contribute but also to learn from them for those Iwi of the Northern Rangitikei who have not gone through a Waitangi settlement yet.

I look forward to another positive and productive Year for Te Roopu Ahi Kaa and always aim to have clarity in thought before we make any type of decisions!

Whakatauki!

Whakatau to wairua, rapua to rangimarie I te ture kore

Calm your soul, find peace in the Chaos

Nga mihi

PIKI TE ORA HIROA, TIAMANA