

# Te Tūkaiāia

Te Karanga o te Iwi

Mahuru / September 2015

**Kia Tūpato!**  
Ka tangi a Tūkaiāia kei  
te moana, Ko Ngātiwai  
kei te moana e haere ana;

Ka tangi a Tūkaiāia  
Kei tuawhenua, ko Ngātiwai kei  
tuawhenua e haere ana

**Beware!**  
When Tūkaiāia calls at sea,  
Ngātiwai are at sea;

When Tūkaiāia calls  
inland, Ngātiwai are inland

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## NGĀTIWAI TRUST BOARD

Phone: (09) 430 0939  
Fax: (09) 438 0182

129 Port Road Whangarei  
PO Box 1332  
Whangarei 0140

[www.Ngatiwai.iwi.nz](http://www.Ngatiwai.iwi.nz)

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## Next Generation of Ngātiwai Carvers Acknowledged



Poai Niha (left) and Te Kaurinui Parata (right) with tohunga whakairo Te Warahi Hetaraka

Tohunga whakairo Te Warahi (Wallace) Hetaraka has graduated two of his Ngātiwai students Poai Niha and Te Kaurinui Parata. As an acknowledgement of their journey he has presented them with the chisels they had used to carve with during their training.

Under Te Warahi's watchful eye Te Kaurinui and Poai trained one day a week for four years learning skills and growing their whakairo knowledge base over this time. Te Warahi believes it is time to acknowledge them "This is an achievement for these young men and it is time to recognise them for it. I am impressed that they have learned so much in such a short time."

In 2010 Te Warahi invited cadets of the Leadership Academy of A Company to become a part of the whare whakairo. Te Warahi explains that whakairo is not for

everyone. "We had many boys from the Academy start, but Poai and Te Kaurinui showed a natural aptitude for whakairo and a deep desire to learn and hold on to the knowledge that comes with it. Now, they protect that knowledge and they uphold the tikanga that is observed with it".

Te Warahi's teaching methods come out of the whare wānanga learning of whakairo and he insists that these methods passed down by our ancestors are adhered to and respected. Any assessment for NCEA does not impact on this learning and teaching method.

As to the future Te Warahi is confident for Poai and Te Kaurinui. "While there is still much to learn we should keep an eye out for them because there is no doubt in my mind that Te Kaurinui and Poai will be carving our whare one day."

# Poai Niha

Poai spent two weeks on Aotea with Te Warahi in 2014 helping to carve the Kawa Marae wharehui before it opened. He has since started an apprenticeship for a construction firm that enables him to learn the fundamentals in building and construction and complement what he has learned.

Huruiki, Hikurangi ngā maunga

Ko Ngātiwai me Ngāpuhi ngā iwi

Te Uri o Hīkīhiki, Ngāti Rangī, Ngātihine ngā hapū

Ko Oakura me Motatau ngā marae



# Te Kaurinui Parata

Te Kaurinui (left) is currently at Victoria University studying a Bachelor of Arts double major in Philosophy and Political Science and eventually wants to be able to take his skills back home and make sure he maintains his connections with the whānau.

Manaia te maunga

Pātaua te moana

Ko Hurumanu te waka

Ko Paratene te Manu te marae

Ngātiwai, Ngāti Pūkenga ngā iwi

Ko Ngāti Kororā me Ngāti Taka ngā hapū



# Pātaia Mai - NgātiwaiNET

The sale of NgātiwaiNET to Uber Group Ltd in April this year ensured this valuable service would continue and better service our communities. It has however, raised questions that in this issue of Pātaia Mai we endeavour to answer.

## Q1). What was purpose for setting up NgātiwaiNET and when did this happen?

Ngātiwai Trust Board identified the need to embrace information and communications technology to advance the position of its people and their communities which led to the development of an Information Communications and Technology (ICT) strategy in 2004-2005. The strategy identified the needs of the board, its members and ways ICT could be best used to meet these needs. NgātiwaiNET was up and running in 2006 as a communications project for five years, essentially it was to support Marae-based Learning Centres which were set up to avoid travel for Ngātiwai beneficiaries and students. See Broadband Internet Makes a Difference story January 2015 <http://www.ngatiwai.iwi.nz/images/epanui/120115-Ngatiwai-January-2015.pdf>

## Q2). How effective was NgātiwaiNET to beneficiaries and how widespread was its coverage in terms of area?

It was effective in successfully supporting the objectives of the Board which were to establish, support, administer, advance and promote such schemes or projects for purposes beneficial to the Ngātiwai community and its people. To that effect Marae-based Learning Centres were set up at six of the Ngātiwai Marae (Matapouri, Ngaiotonga, Takahiwai, Whananāki, Pakiri and Motairehe). The Board's intention was to connect these Learning Centres to form a Ngātiwai community of learning.

## Q3). How was the NgātiwaiNET initiative funded overall and was it the best and most cost-effective solution for Ngātiwai?

The initiative was funded by a number of sources and was given impetus by Government's Digital Strategy at the time which resulted in the announcement of the Government's Community Partnership fund in 2005. This provided partial funding for organisations to roll out such strategies. The stakeholders in the NgātiwaiNET project were the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA), Te Puni Kōkiri (TPK), ASB Trust and the JR McKenzie Trust. It was the best and most cost-effective solution at the time, given the rugged nature of the land in the rural areas of the rohe.

## Q4). Did it have limitations and if so, what were they?

The project and initiative implementation had limitations from the outset. The most significant of these were the cost of network maintenance which forced the Trust Board to employ a network maintenance engineer to look after the WiMAX and Wi-Fi-based network and the rapid outdating of equipment which was expensive to replace.

In addition, the uptake by potential customers was poor despite several attempts over the years at marketing the network widely through-out the region. One of the key factors cited for the lack of interest was reliability issues with the network which needed line-of-sight ability for its transmission base-stations. Growing competition from broadband rollouts by providers such as Spark, Vodafone and Uber Group (who covered most of NgātiwaiNET's coverage area) also compounded the problems for the network.

## Q5). Why and when did the Trust Board decide to sell off NgātiwaiNET?

A series of other problems, beginning with having an insufficient customer-base to make up the break-even numbers required was key in the decision to sell off the network. There were capacity issues as well at the Marae-based Learning Centres. However, it was the decision of DIA to remove funding for the facilitators which brought matters to a head in the decision to sell. Then, in 2011 the Trust Board offered up the equipment to the marae who wanted to continue, but stipulated that those marae would have to meet the costs for the use of facilities, equipment maintenance and internet service.

On top of that the rentals for transmission sites were increased by landowners; and with only around 30-35 individual customers it was costing the Trust Board \$60,000 in running costs a year to keep the network going. The annual financial losses eventually led to the decision to sell the network to Uber Group Ltd with effect from April 1 2015. The Board had considered two options for sale – Tai Tokerau networks, which offered broadband and connectivity between Northland and Auckland; and Uber Group which mirrored NgātiwaiNET's coverage area and was interested in the wireless loop. The Board negotiated with both but got no further with Tai Tokerau networks, while several attempts were made with Uber Group until an agreement was finally concluded.

## Q6). Did the sale of NgātiwaiNET incur any extra fees or compensation for its investors?

No. The network was two-thirds funded by the DIA and other stakeholders; and one-third by the Trust Board which amounted to \$350,000 (capital cost) of the total \$1.2 million cost for the project. The project funding was considered as “sunken costs” and written off three years into the project. The annual operational costs of \$60k were carried by Ngātiwai Trust Board from 2005 until the sale of NgātiwaiNET in 2015 to a total of \$600k over ten years. The majority of this cost was to engage a technician to keep the network up and running and for repairs and maintenance.

## Q7). What happened to the existing NgātiwaiNET customers?

At the time of purchase Uber Group agreed to honour all NgātiwaiNET broadband and phone packages but with customers being able to upgrade to Uber packages if they want to. Uber Group is a Northland ISP based in Whangarei which specialises in providing wireless broadband services to remote rural areas, with a network of over 150 transmission sites stretching from Te Kao to Wellsford. Uber Group also offers ultrafast fibre broadband in Whangarei city.

### Cost (Capital and Operational) of NgātiwaiNET 2005-2015



## Ngā Tau Miharo – The Incredible Years

Ngātiwai Education Ngā Tau Miharo facilitators Cassie Munson and Leila Amos are underway on the first of a series of three programmes to be run this year. This programme is currently in week 12 of the 14 week programme at Whangarei Heads with a very enthusiastic group of parents taking part.

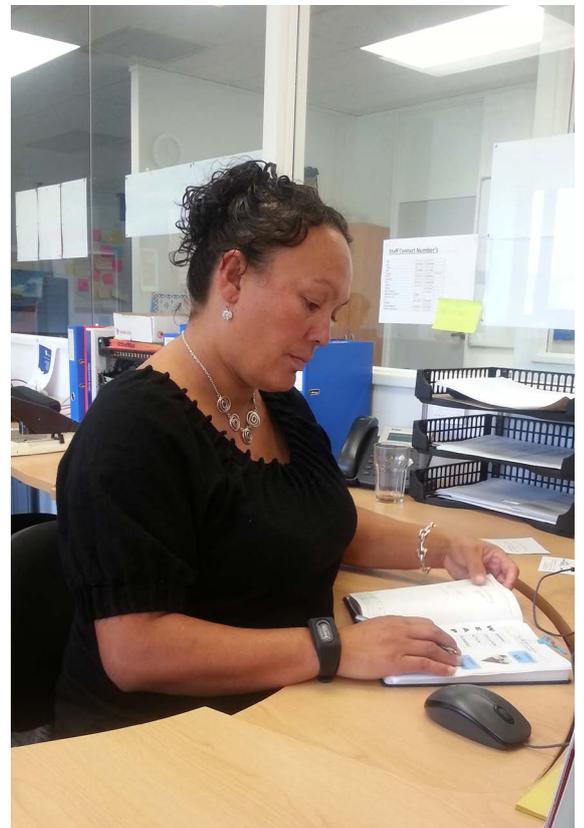
Ngā Tau Miharo – The Incredible Years is a series of positive parenting workshops for parents of 4 to 8 year olds, with a goal to give parents of young children tools to manage behaviour in a positive way and promote social, emotional and academic wellbeing.

Parents are encouraged to share their experiences in a non-judgemental environment, view video examples and have opportunities to practice new parenting skills in the session and at home. Weekly sessions involve two group leaders and are generally

2 to 2 ½ hours in length. There are 14 weekly workshops with all expenses paid for by the Ministry of Education, and childcare and excess travel to the workshop venue also paid.

Ngātiwai Education runs the programme in two other areas. Experienced and passionate facilitators Lisa Riini and Hohi Riini are running a series of workshops in Tikipunga and weekly night classes are scheduled in Ngunguru. Ngātiwai Education has had very positive reviews from participants over the last three years and are optimistic the programme will make a very positive impact on communities.

If you have any questions or enquiries about the programme contact Ngātiwai Education on 09 972 7670 or visit the Ngā Miharo Tau – The Incredible Years website <http://www.incredibleyears.nz.co.nz/>



Leila Amos of Ngati Takapari, our Kaiwhakahaere

# NIHO TANIWHA

## Chevron Skink – *Oligosoma Homalonotum*

### Niho taniwha ki a Ngātiwai

Niho taniwha is found in the Ngātiwai rohe, on Aotea (Great Barrier Island, also known as Piki Paria) and Hauturu (Little Barrier). These skinks are a very important taonga to Ngātiwai because they are endemic and unique to the Ngātiwai area. These skinks are called niho taniwha because of the triangle shapes on their back, representing the teeth of the taniwha.

Niho is associated with oratory, and when niho taniwha is used in oratory to describe a person's attributes, it represents courage in war. When the niho taniwha pattern is used in whakairo, it depicts a rangatira and his authority, as well as the chiefly lineage of people of that house.

Kawa marae at Aotea hopes to use the niho taniwha pattern for tukutuku and kōwhaiwhai patterns.

Ngātiwai feels honoured that this taonga lives in our rohe, and as kaitiaki we want to maintain the importance of this species. On Aotea, niho taniwha are found in bushes and in places where there have been rockfalls.

It is thought that one of the reasons why the niho taniwha has survived on Aotea and Hauturu is that there are measures in place to protect these islands from certain introduced predators. However, niho taniwha are found to be surviving in non-protected areas on Aotea.



### How big?

Niho taniwha can grow to over 30cm from its nose to the tip of its tail, making it New Zealand's longest skink.



Niho taniwha often grunt or "speak" when disturbed. They are secretive and have excellent camouflage. Females can give birth to as many as eight live young at once, usually in mid to late summer.

During heavy rain, niho taniwha have been seen to climb trees to avoid flooding.



### Where to find them

Some adults have been seen well away from streams over winter but most sightings during summer have been close to forested streams or other damp places.

Niho taniwha can be found in the Ngātiwai rohe on Aotea and occasionally on Hauturu.

### Science

Some researchers believe that skinks arrived about 25–35 million years ago, when most of New Zealand was submerged.

First scientifically described in 1906, the niho taniwha (then called the Chevron Skink) had been "lost" from science for over 60 years. Incorrect museum labelling has been attributed with this loss, since it was found that the niho taniwha's locality was labelled the Mokohinau Islands group, instead of the correct location of Aotea.

### Endangered?

The niho taniwha is one of New Zealand's rarest skinks. It is listed as "nationally vulnerable" under the Department of Conservation's Threat Classification System, with only 500 reported sightings since it was first described in 1906.

### Danger

Norway rats, pigs and domestic and feral cats can be a threat to niho taniwha. One domestic cat alone is known to have brought home at least six.

Despite there being little traffic on Aotea, several niho taniwha are run over on the island's roads each year.

### Menu

Niho taniwha eat small insects that they find under dead leaves and foliage.



### Identifying a niho taniwha

Niho taniwha have distinctive v-shaped markings on their backs and a pale coloured "teardrop" shape can be seen between two dark bands extending down the face from below the eye to just under the lower lip. Each niho taniwha has its own unique pattern.

Department of Conservation  
Te Ara [www.teara.govt.nz](http://www.teara.govt.nz)  
Ngātiwai whānau  
Images: Ben Barr

[www.ngatiwai.ac.nz](http://www.ngatiwai.ac.nz)



# Pānui: Summary of the Ngātiwai Trust Board Meeting of Trustees on 28 August 2015

- **Financial** – Results for the year to 31 July are still running behind budget, mainly as a result of another slow month at Oceans. Bookings for August are ahead of budget and last year, so it is hoped that the August result will reverse the trend that we have seen so far this year.
- **Treaty Claims** – We have still not received any advice from the Office of Treaty Settlements regarding the recognition of our Mandate, but remain hopeful that this will be recognised soon.
- **Trust Deed Review** – The Committee has all but completed their review and are awaiting some independent legal advice on a number of matters before discussion with the various marae.
- **Aquaculture New Space and pre settlement space** - The Auckland agreements have now been signed by the majority of Iwi, with one final signature awaited before payment can be made. The Ngātiwai share of the Auckland settlements is approximately \$2.5m. The Northland agreements have yet to be signed by two Iwi, Ngāti Kahu and Ngāti Kuri. Payment will not be made until both have signed. The Ngātiwai share of the Northland settlement is approximately \$0.9m.
- **Marae Insurance** – The valuer’s report has now been received and is in the process of being discussed with Underwriters to determine what premium options are available. Hopefully the Board can assist in reducing marae insurance costs overall.
- **Bush Hut** – A meeting has taken place with Rayonier Matariki Forest to discuss the future of the Bush Hut. Arrangements have been made to “gift” the Hut to the Oakura Marae Committee.
- **Honey** – Three proposals were received for the management of the 13 DOC concession sites. These varied from a per site fee to the purchase of hives. The proposals are currently being considered by the Finance and Executive Committee.
- **Strategic Plan** – the plan was reviewed at a special Board meeting held on 31 July/1 August 2015. This was adopted by the Trustees and will be outlined at the AGM later in the year.
- **Kingfish proposal** – For some time the Board has been undertaking due diligence on a proposal to farm kingfish in conjunction with NIWA. The result of the due diligence highlights a high level of risk with the project and further discussions are required with NIWA before proceeding further with the project.



[www.ngatiwai.iwi.nz](http://www.ngatiwai.iwi.nz)

## Important Dates

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN
Ngātiwai Trust Board AGM	Terenga Paraora Marae	Saturday 31st October 2015

## DID YOU KNOW...

### Pīpīwharauoa ki a Ngātiwai (Shining Cuckoo)

Kaumātua at Tūtūkākā talk of the Pīpīwharauoa flying from Tawhiti Rahi and Aorangi Islands at the end of each winter and that their waiata signals the beginning of spring. Their song was considered a good omen and that the harvest would be abundant.

