

PŪRONGO Ā-TAU

TE MATATINI SOCIETY INCORPORATED
ANNUAL REPORT

2025 –2026

“Mana Motuhake ki Te Kāinga
Matatū, Mataora, Matatini ki Te Ao”

Angitu, Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

Te Matatini Society Incorporated
www.tematatini.co.nz
PO Box 5455
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Wellington 6011

YEAR AT A GLANCE

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITY FROM JULY 2025 TO JUNE 2026

August

Te Wānanga o Aotearoa Te Kōpuretanga scholarships awarded

12 schools from Auckland, Northland and Waikato perform in Autaia haka theatre

Te Tauihu o Te Waka a Māui celebrates 55 years of kapa haka

Waitaha Cultural Council celebrates 60 years of kapa haka

September

Te Kāhui Maunga hand over of the Mauri to Tainui Waka

Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi Te Matatini scholarships awarded

Dates set for Te Matatini 2027

October

Rohe Development Outcomes Impact Evaluation commences

Four new life members appointed the AGM: Dr Turuhira Hare; Rikirangi Gage; Tihi Puanaki; and Wetini Mitai-Ngatai

Judge's Wānanga, Rotorua

November

Rohe roadshow commences

Te Mana Kuratahi Nationals, Tauranga Moana

























February

Ngāti Kahungunu regional competition

Mātaatua regional competition

Te Whānau a Apanui celebrates 40 years of kapa haka

March

Te Kāhui Maunga regional competition

Te Arawa regional competition

Te Whenuamoemoeā regional competition

Te Tai Tokerau regional competition

April

Rangitāne regional competition

Tainui regional competition

Te Tauihu regional competition

Te Hiranga Te Ao Haka Top Scholar Award 2025 presented

May

Tairāwhiti regional competition

Tāmaki Makaurau regional competition

Waitaha regional competition

June

Te Whanganui-a-Tara regional competition

Te Matatini album release

Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua o Aotearoa 2026

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MAI I TE TIAMANA

CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD



Tā Selwyn Parata

Across every rohe (region) we see Māori businesses showcasing innovation, creativity and cultural pride. From traditional arts and crafts to contemporary Māori fashion, from kai vendors to practitioners of rongoa Māori, all these entrepreneurs are building successful businesses inspired by the richness of our cultural heritage.

Tēnā tātau rau Rangatira mā,
Tēnā hoki tātau i ō tātau mate huhua o te wā, o te tau, kua taha ake nei
Nō reira koutou ngā mate hoatu, haere, huihui atu ki ō ihi, ki ō wehi, ki ō tapu,
ki Matangireia, okioki atu ki te āio o te rangi.
Tātau ngā mahuetanga iho, kia ora rā.

Ahakoa te kaupapa kei mua i te aroaro, ko te tohungatanga o te kapahaka me ōna tikanga, he kaupapa anō kua hua mai, hei tūāpapa, hei takapau mō te tini, mō te mano o te ao Māori; ko te whakatipu rawa, hei whakarewa i te Ōhanga Māori, ki taumata kē.

As I have travelled throughout the motu attending regional competitions, one of the most visible signs of kapa haka growth has not only been the increased quality of performance, participation and audience numbers, but the thriving markets and stalls that accompany these events.

Across every rohe (region) we see Māori businesses showcasing innovation, creativity and cultural pride. From traditional arts and crafts to contemporary Māori fashion, from kai vendors to practitioners of rongoa Māori, all these entrepreneurs are building successful businesses inspired by the richness of our cultural heritage. These marketplaces have become destinations in their own right. The events provide opportunities for whanau to generate income, connect directly with customers and share products and services that reflect our unique identity as Māori.

The impact is even more evident at our Te Matatini national kapa haka festivals. What was once primarily a national kapa haka competition showcasing excellence in our traditional arts to the world it has evolved into a platform for hundreds of Māori businesses to showcase the entrepreneurial spirit of Māori enterprise.

This growth mirrors the wider success of the Māori economy. Recent reports show the Māori economy contributed $32 billion to Aotearoa New Zealand's GDP in 2023, almost doubling from $17 billion in 2018. The Māori asset base has grown to $126 billion, while Māori entrepreneurship continues to accelerate, with Māori self-employment increasing by 49 percent and the number of Māori employers growing by 31 percent over the same period. There are now nearly 24,000 Māori-owned businesses across Aotearoa, operating in industries that range from tourism and construction to professional services, technology and the creative sector.

The arts and creative industries alone contribute billions of dollars to our economy while providing employment opportunities for thousands of our whanau. Kapa haka contributes within this wider cultural economy, demonstrating that investment in culture delivers not only social and cultural benefits, but tangible economic returns. As we look to the future, we can be confident that kapa haka will continue to inspire economic opportunity alongside cultural revitalisation.

Kapa haka has always been a powerful expression of who we are as, whanau, hapu, iwi, hapori and Māori. It showcases the essence of our language, our histories, our values, our traditions, our identity and our unique place in Aotearoa.

Today, however, its influence extends far beyond the stage. Kapa haka has become a catalyst for economic growth, entrepreneurship and community development, creating opportunities for whanau and contributing significantly to the prosperity of Aotearoa New Zealand.

E kore e mutu taku mihi ki te Poari o Te Matatini, ki to tatau Manahautu me nga kai takatu, e waha nei i nga kaupapa maha a Te Matatini. Ko runga koutou katoa

Kia tau te ia o te Mauri,

Kia tatau.



Tā Selwyn Tanetoa Parata KNZM
Tiamana | Chairman

MAI I TE MANAHAUTŪ

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S FOREWORD



Carl Ross

Building on the success of previous festivals, Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027 will again demonstrate the contribution the kapa haka economy makes to Aotearoa.

Nō te uranga mai o Tamaaukāea, ka nenewha ngā whatu ki te awateatanga o ia te rā. Ka rongo taku uta i te marutuna tapu, ka tuku i taku tauparapara, hei kiato mō te wairua ki ngā pātu o tōku whare kōrero o te arahoe ariki, arā, ngā tapu o te whenua ki te rangi. Inā te arohanui ki a ia, ki te iwi Māori. Kei te manawataki te tauranga mō te tākuira rerehua, ka rangona ai te oranga mokopuna. Ko rātou, ko tātou, ko koutou, ko ahau te whakatewhatewha atu i ngā painga o te ao ka rite ai te āpōpō. Ka mau te ringa ki te kakau o te whao rautaki, ka tukuna atu taku aoteatea; hiapo ki te waka hou i ōhākīīa e ngā tūpuna, 'me whakakotahi i te mokoiti, te mokonui, te moko taketake o Hawaiiki kāinga kei ngā tōpito o te ao ki te Hawaiiki i hīa mai e Maui Tikitiki a Taranga hei whenua nōhia wōna uri'.

Kei te kauwakanui, kei te kauwakaroa i te tapu o te kupu o tō tātou Atua Kaha Rawa, e Te Āti Pīhopa o Ngā Motu o Te Moana Nui a Kiwa Don Tamihere, e Te Pīhopa o Te Taitokerau Kito Pīkāhu, ka mihi rangatira atu nei, ka tuku i te arohanui ki a kourua, tae rawa atu hoki ki ngā Pīhopa katoatoa o te motu.

Kōtuia mai tātou ki te remu o te manu ariki whakatakapōkai ki te ara toko i te mātauranga ā Tānenuiārangi, ki te ara taki i te mātauranga ā Māui Tikitiki a Taranga, ki te ara tuku i te mātauranga ā Tāwhakinui a Hema, ka riro mai ai mā te aka matua, te aka tapu "ko koe, ko au, ko tātou". E rere ana te mākoha tauri, te purahuia o ngā ariki ki a koutou katoatoa. E kore rā ā mihi, ā koronga, ā whatumanawa e mimiti i tōna kaha ki te whakaawe he reo whakawhētai mō te tini o tauatoko mai.

Ko tēnei a kaupapa whakakotahi, e puta atu nei te ngutu manurei ka mākūkū i te puna ariki o pitomata. Māramatia ana te kite mā wō tātou whare tapere a hapū, a iwi tō tātou oranga o te ao haka me wōna remu katoa e tahuri mai ai te tai tāngata ki te māhau o tō tātou Whare Karioi. Ko reira, ka tikanga te takapōkai moemoeā me ngā hiahia o wō tāua takahanga rangatira. Nō reira tautī atu, tautī mai ki ngā whakatenatena mō ngā tikanga o te haka, te manawataki o te waiata, te wairua aumākua o te reo mō tō Whare o Te Matatini.

E Te Poutokomanawa o Te Matatini. E tōku Arikinui Kuini Ngāwai Hono i Te Pō Pōtatau Te Wherowhero Te Tuawaru. Ko koe rā te tuawaru o te kāhui whetū e takiaho mai ana ko Hiwaiterangi ki te whenua. Nā ngā iwi koe i tohu nā runga i te ōmakitutua o Tamaireia. Ka toko ake nei i waku maumaharatanga ki te wā o tō mātou ko Te Waka Huia tūnga i te manawhenua o Waikato ki ngā tahataha tapu o te awa o Waikato. Ka waiatahia te mananui o tō Māreikura, tō tātou Arikinui ko Te Ātairangikāhu, katoa mai ko tō Whatukura tō tātou Arikinui Ko Kingi Tūheitia. Ka tikina atu e au wētahi kupukupu waiata nā Uncle Ngāpō rāua ko Aunty Pīmia Wehi i tito ai hei whakanui i a koe. He mana rerekē tō te wahine ariki tapairu, nō Papatūānuku tō mana ka whakaawe atu nei i tō rite, i tō mana tapu rawa atu. E tōku wahine toa o te āpōpō nei, ka taea tonu e koe te tūnga nei, kua rite hoki te ara mōhau e, taiparatia ki a koe, taiparatia ki tō iwi Māori, taiparatia ki uta ki tai.

Nō te mokohanga ā ngā uri o Māui ka mahu ake ko ngā tihi tapu o Hikurangi nui ngātahi ko Te Raukumara ki Te Tairāwhiti. Tērā ia te pou kaumātua e tau pai te pākau ika, e ura pai mai te nui o Tama ki runga i te reo karanga o te kuia ko Hinerāmaukuuku; tāngaengaea te ao. Ka pēnei mai te ao o Te Poari Matua i a koe e te rangatira, e te māngaro o te kōrero e Tā Herewini Parata. Me mihi atu ki tō kaingākau me tō wairua tangata, arā, tō tohungatanga ka kī pai wō mātou taringa i te tikanga. Ka maioha atu hoki ki ia o koutou ngā mema kakari o tō tātou Poari, ngā māngai kāmehameha o ngā rohe, ko koutou anō hoki e ngā kaimahi ringa raupā, ngā kirikawa ki te kaupapa o Te Matatini, Mauri Haka, Mauri Ora, Mauri Mana Motuhake.

The 2025/26 year has been one of consolidation, growth and preparation as we continue to strengthen the foundations that support kapa haka excellence and the expanding kapa haka economy.

A major milestone this year was completing our organisational review. We have a new structure that better aligns our business functions, enhances support for our 13 rohe and improves delivery of our strategic priorities. I would like to acknowledge everyone who has been part of our journey and the positive contributions that you have all made.

Introducing Shared Services across Te Matatini Society Incorporated and Te Matatini Enterprises has further strengthened collaboration, capability and efficiency.

These changes mean we can better support our people, deliver greater value to our stakeholders and enable future growth.

Understanding and showing how kapa haka contributes to Māori wellbeing and economic prosperity remains a priority. This year we started a research project to measure the social, cultural and economic contribution of kapa haka across all 13 rohe. More than 2,000 whānau, kaihaka and


Te Kapa Haka o Ngāti Whakaue

spectators engaged with our research team at regional competitions throughout the year, generously sharing their experiences, insights and aspirations.

Our regional competitions continue to demonstrate that kapa haka is both a cultural taonga and provides economic benefits. Across the motu, they are attracting larger audiences, and creating opportunities for local businesses, food vendors, hauora providers and community organisations. The growth we are seeing reflects the increasing reach, influence and value of kapa haka in Aotearoa.

We have continued to showcase kapa haka excellence on the world stage. This year we supported high-profile government delegations across Asia. We also participated in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo celebrations here and in Australia, where our performers represented Māori culture with distinction, reinforcing kapa haka as a globally recognised expression of indigenous excellence and identity.

Our focus now turns to Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027. Preparations are well under way with Waikato-Tainui, who will co-host the Festival at Hopuhopu, Ngaruawahia. It will generate significant cultural, social and economic benefits for the rohe and the nation. Building on the success of previous festivals, Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027 will again demonstrate the contribution the kapa haka economy makes to Aotearoa.

As we look to the future, we do so from a position of strength. I am proud to report we have delivered on all measurable outputs in our current strategic plan, *Te Pītau Whakarei*, a year ahead of schedule. This achievement reflects the commitment of our National Board, staff, rohe societies, kaihaka and strategic partners, and provides a strong platform for the future.

We are well positioned to make a seamless transition to *Hawaiki Hou 2026–2040*, our next strategic plan.

Hawaiki Hou challenges us to dream boldly, create collectively, and shape a future in which kapa haka continues to be a foundation for Māori wellbeing, success, self-determination and economic prosperity for generations to come.



Carl Ross
Te Manahautū | Chief Executive


Te Mana Kuratahi –
Te Wharekura o Kirikiriroa

MŌ MĀTOU

ABOUT US



Tāmaki Makaurau Regionals

OUR PURPOSE

Ki te whāngai, ki te manaaki, ki te whakatipu
i ngā mahi kapa haka kia puāwai ki ōna taumata

Fostering, supporting and growing kapa haka in the pursuit of excellence

OUR VISION FOR 2050

Mana Motuhake ki Te Kāinga.
Matatū, Mataora, Matatini ki Te Ao

Contribute positively to the overall health and social wellbeing of Aotearoa whānui, through kapa haka

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Strong rohe delivering excellence through kapa haka

Our story begins in 1972 with the inaugural New Zealand Polynesian Cultural Festival, hosted in Rotorua. Since its inception, the festival showcased the best of the best in kapa haka.

Our function and purpose has shifted significantly since 1972. We have grown from focusing on kapa haka and the many faces of excellence in the arts, into an organisation that, through kapa haka, contributes positively to the overall health and social wellbeing of Aotearoa.

The festival

The New Zealand Polynesian Cultural Festival ran from 1972 to 1982 with six Festivals held over this time. In 1983, it changed to the Aotearoa Traditional Māori Performing Arts Festival until 2003. In 2004, the festival (and the organisation) was renamed Te Matatini.

Te Matatini – The Many Faces

Our name was gifted to us by the late Professor Wharehuia Milroy to acknowledge the many faces that bring kapa haka to life.

> *"Māori Performing Arts brings together people of all ages, all backgrounds, all beliefs, Māori and non-Māori alike, participants and observers. When I look I see many faces, young and old" – Professor Wharehuia Milroy*

Our organisation

Te Matatini is an incorporated society. Membership is made up of 13 rohe societies (12 in Aotearoa and one in Australia) that provide regional kapa haka leadership. Since the beginning, these regions have varied in name, geographic boundary and waka affiliation.

Te Matatini Enterprises is the social enterprise arm of Te Matatini Society Incorporated. The team is committed to elevating cultural excellence on the global stage with authenticity and integrity.

TĀ MĀTOU RAUTAKI

OUR STRATEGY

In 2017, we launched our 10-year strategic plan, Te Pītau Whakarei. It outlined our goal to move from being an organisation that produces a biennial national kapa haka festival into one that services and recognises the health and wellbeing of te ao Māori through kapa haka.

Drawing inspiration from the prow of a waka, *Te Pītau Whakarei* provided a metaphor for how we navigate kapa haka across the vast ocean of arts, culture and heritage. It has steered us through challenging waters and brought us closer to our 2050 vision: Mana Motuhake ki Te Kāinga. Matatū, Mataora, Matatini ki Te Ao.

A defining feature of *Te Pītau Whakarei* was its foundation in a holistic Māori wellbeing framework that recognises the interconnected nature of cultural, social and economic outcomes.

By placing culture, identity and connection at the centre of wellbeing, we have helped to advance a Māori perspective on prosperity that extends beyond traditional measures. This informed national conversations about wellbeing, strengthening recognition of Māori values, aspirations, and measures of success in public policy.

Two initiatives underpin the successful implementation of *Te Pītau Whakarei*:

› the Rohe Development Model

› research into the benefits and impacts of kapa haka.

Together, they support rohe-led growth and provided the evidence for increased and more equitable investment in kapa haka.

Through the Rohe Development Model, our 13 rohe have resources and ability to make decisions that best support the development and sustainability of kapa haka within their communities.

Our research has quantified our:

› contribution to the national economy

› highlighted the academic benefits experienced by students engaged in kapa haka

› demonstrated positive health and wellbeing outcomes

› strengthened understanding of the role cultural connection plays in improving social outcomes for Māori.

There has been significant growth in kapa haka participation, capability and impact since the launch of *Te Pītau Whakarei*, contributing to the wellbeing of thousands of kaihaka and their whānau. Its legacy forms an important chapter in the whakapapa of our organisation and provides a strong foundation for the next phase of our journey.

In October 2026 we will launch *Hawaiki Hou* - our strategic plan 2026–2040, which signals a commitment to shaping the future of kapa haka on our own terms.

Grounded in Hawaiki Pāmamao, it honours the resilience and vision of our tīpuna who navigated vast oceans and overcame extraordinary challenges so future generations could thrive. Their journeys remind us that progress requires bold leadership, collective effort, and the courage to venture beyond the horizon. Their legacy anchors us as we navigate the opportunities and challenges of our own time.

Anchored in the principles of tino rangatiratanga and mana motuhake, *Hawaiki Hou*:

› affirms our right to determine our own pathways

› defines our measures of success

› creates futures that reflect our values, tikanga, aspirations and authority.

This strategic plan seeks to grow and strengthen kapa haka by investing in the capability and confidence of our people, whānau, hapū, iwi and communities to lead change in ways that are authentically ours.

It challenges us to embrace innovation and pursue opportunities that will continue to elevate kapa haka. It calls us to forge meaningful partnerships, create new pathways for participation and achievement, and build a future where kapa haka continues to thrive across Aotearoa and throughout the world.

Hawaiki Hou calls us to dream boldly, to create collectively, and to shape a future in which kapa haka is a foundation for Māori wellbeing, success and self-determination.



Te Pītau Whakarei

REGIONAL KAPA HAKA COMPETITIONS 2026



Muriwhenua, Regional Winners, Te Tai Tokerau

Te Matatini regional competitions continue to play a vital role in strengthening cultural participation, fostering kotahitanga, and showcasing traditional Māori performing arts across Aotearoa and beyond. Held between February and June 2026, thirteen regional events took place across Aotearoa and Te Whenuamoemoeā, celebrating excellence in kapa haka and determining the rōpū that will progress to Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027.

8,207
Kaihaka
up 7.3% from 2024

70,000+
in person attendees

1.5m
viewers from TV and online stremaing

552.6m
views across Te Matatini social media platfroms

13
Rohe

18
days of kapa haka

201
kapa haka performances

250+
Judges

57
kapa qualified for Te Matatini 2027



Te Ahikaaroa, Regional Winners, Waitaha



Kaimātakitaki, Tāmaki Makaurau



Kaiwhiriwhiri, Ngāti Kahungunu



Te Pou o Mangataawhiri, Regional Winners, Tainui

The regional competition model balances inclusivity with excellence. Regional festivals feature both ngahau (entertainment) and competitive performances, providing opportunities for everyone with a passion for kapa haka to participate, regardless of age, experience, or performance aspirations. Rōpū representing marae, workplaces, community organisations, iwi, rangatahi (aged 14 and over), and kaumātua (60 and above) come together to share their love of te ao Māori, te reo Māori, and kapa haka in a supportive and celebratory environment.

At the same time, regional competitions provide a pathway for groups seeking to perform at the highest level. Through competition, teams can earn regional honours and qualify for the national festival, creating a clear progression from community participation to elite performance. This dual focus ensures kapa haka remains both a thriving community-based cultural practice and a respected performing arts discipline.

Beyond the stage, regional competitions are vibrant community gatherings that bring together whānau, hapū, iwi, supporters, volunteers, organisers, and spectators. They create dynamic spaces where mātauranga Māori is upheld, celebrated, and passed between generations. Through preparation and performance, participants strengthen their connection to Te Ao Māori, deepen their use of te reo Māori, and reinforce cultural identity, belonging, and pride.

Ā MĀTOU TĀNGATA
OUR PEOPLE

Life Members
Our Life Members are recognised for their significant contribution to the development, protection and promotion of kapa haka.

- Tā Tīmoti Kāretu
- Trevor Maxwell
- Te Aroha Paenga
- Tā Pita Sharples
- Tangiwai Ria
- George Ria
- Joe Harawira
- Tāwhirimātea Williams
- Kaa Williams
- Dr Turuhia Hare
- Rikirangi Gage
- Tihi Puanaki
- Wetini Mitai-Ngātai

NEW MEMBERS


Dr Turuhia Hare


Rikirangi Gage


Tihi Puanaki


Wetini Mitai–Ngātai

Governance
Our National Board comprises delegates from all 13 rohe and our Chairman, Tā Herewini Parata.

Each delegate is elected by their rohe committee and is responsible for sharing information between their rohe and our governing body.

NATIONAL BOARD
Chairman: Tā Herewini Parata

Delegates
- **Te Tai Tokerau:** Marcia Hopa
- **Tāmaki Makaurau:** Reikura Kahi
- **Tainui:** Anthony Walker
- **Te Arawa:** Dan Vaka
- **Mātaatua:** Dr Te Kahautu Maxwell
- **Te Tairāwhiti:** Adn Maui Tangohau
- **Ngāti Kahungunu:** Sheree Cotter Spooner
- **Te Kāhui Maunga:** Tamzyn Pue
- **Rangitāne:** Haimona Maruera
- **Te Whanganui-a-Tara:** Hollie Pohatu
- **Te Tauihu:** Tom Alesana
- **Waitaha:** Junior Tana
- **Te Whenuamoemoeā:** Ihaka Cotter

Board Secretary: Te Muiora Parata

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
The Executive Committee prepares recommendations for the National Board.

Chairman: Tā Herewini Parata
- Anthony Walker
- Adn Maui Tangohau
- Dr Te Kahautu Maxwell
- Dan Vaka
- Junior Tana

AUDIT RISK AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Chairperson: Kylee Potae (Managing Partner, BDO Gisborne)
- Dr Te Kahautu Maxwell
- Adn Maui Tangohau
- Junior Tana
- Annette Wehi



National Office
Led by Carl Ross, Manahautū | Chief Executive, the National Office has a small team based in Wellington and 12 local rohe staff.

The National Office supports regional, national and international events and initiatives.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM
- **Chief Executive:** Carl Ross
- **Director, Rohe Support Services:** Loreen Henare
- **Director, Strategy and Organisational Performance:** Rosalie Ryder
- **Contract Manager, Shared Services:** Carmelita Edmonds
- **Executive Officer to CE** Terina Laulu

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE
- **Chief Executive:** Carl Ross
- **Executive Officer:** Terina Laulu
- **Support Services Coordinator**: Koea Henare

STRATEGY AND ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE
- **Director, Strategy and Organisational Performance:** Rosalie Ryder
- **Senior Advisor:** Kate MacDonald
- **Personal Assistant**: Mo Imrie

SHARED SERVICES
- **Contract Manager, Shared Services:** Carmelita Edmonds
- **Digital and Technology Lead**: Wetini Rikirangi

ROHE SUPPORT SERVICES
- **Director, Rohe Support Services:** Loreen Henare
- **Programme Administrator**: Teatapo Donoghue (outgoing) Melissa Barnett (incoming)

POU TAKAWAENGA | REGIONAL COORDINATORS
Our Pou Takawaenga | Regional Coordinators provide regional support to rohe delegates and committees, sharing information between rohe and the National Office.

- **Te Tai Tokerau:** Chris Henare
- **Tāmaki Makaurau:** Patsy Whaanga
- **Tainui:** Frankie West
- **Te Arawa:** Watu Mihinui
- **Mātaatua:** Naomi Herewini-Houia
- **Te Tairāwhiti:** Te Owaina Gibson
- **Ngāti Kahungunu:** Elizabeth Clarke
- **Te Kāhui Maunga:** Cheryl Luke-Maraki
- **Rangitāne:** Nuwyne Te Awe Awe Mohi
- **Te Whanganui-a-Tara:** Ginny Maxwell
- **Te Tauihu:** Melissa Barnett (outgoing) Hana Tava (incoming)
- **Waitaha:** Kerrie-Anna Tana

Te Matatini Enterprises
Te Matatini Enterprises is the social enterprise arm of Te Matatini Society Incorporated. The team is committed to elevating cultural excellence on the global stage with authenticity and integrity.

- **Chief Operating Officer:** Wi Pere Mita
- **Operations Manager:** Toti West
- **Director of Corporate Services:** Lissa-Mia Nepe
- **Commercial Director:** Kiriwaitangi Rei-Russell
- **Commercial Advisor:** Karl Norton
- **IP Manager:** Haimona Te Nahu
- **Communications and Media Advisor:** Moko Templeton
- **Project Manager:** Riria Morgan
- **Project Manager:** Faye Peke
- **Secretariat and Executive Advisor:** Sammy-Jo Matete
- **Business Administrator:** Enoka Wehi

TE WHANAKE I NGĀ ROHE

ROHE SUPPORT SERVICES

1. **Te Tai Tokerau**
   Delegate: Marcia Hopa
   Pou Takawaenga: Chris Henare
2. **Tāmaki Makaurau**
   Delegate: Reikura Kahi
   Pou Takawaenga: Patsy Whaanga
3. **Tainui**
   Delegate: Anthony Walker
   Pou Takawaenga: Frankie West
4. **Te Arawa**
   Delegate: Dan Vaka
   Pou Takawaenga: Watu Mihinui
5. **Mātaatua**
   Delegate: Dr Te Kahautu Maxwell
   Pou Takawaenga: Naomi Herewini-Houia
6. **Te Tairāwhiti**
   Delegate: Adn Maui Tangohau
   Pou Takawaenga: Te Owaina Gibson
7. **Ngāti Kahungunu**
   Delegate: Sheree Cotter Spooner
   Pou Takawaenga: Elizabeth Clarke



8. **Te Kāhui Maunga**
   Delegate: Tamzyn Pue
   Pou Takawaenga: Cheryl Luke-Maraki
9. **Rangitāne**
   Delegate: Haimona Maruera
   Pou Takawaenga: Nuwyne Mohi
10. **Te Whanganui-a-Tara**
    Delegate: Hollie Pohatu
    Pou Takawaenga: Ginny Maxwell
11. **Te Tauihu**
    Delegate: Tom Alesana
    Pou Takawaenga: Melissa Barnett (outgoing)
    Hana Tava (incoming)
12. **Waitaha**
    Delegate: Junior Tana
    Pou Takawaenga: Kerrie-Anna Tana
13. **Te Whenuamoemoeā**
    Delegate: Ihaka Cotter

Rohe Support Services

Formerly known as Rohe Development, the team was renamed Rohe Support Services in 2025 to better reflect our role. While our early focus centred on establishing systems and supporting implementation, our mahi has grown into one of ongoing partnership with our 13 rohe.

Our purpose is to walk alongside each rohe, supporting their aspirations, strengthening capability, and ensuring they have the tools, relationships and resources to thrive. We also give them guidance and support to meet quarterly and annual reporting requirements, recognising that strong governance and accountability enable sustainable growth.

A significant milestone during the year was successfully completing a full biennial regional and national festival cycle across every reanga – from Te Mana Kuratahi (national primary schools kapa haka competition) through to Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua o Aotearoa (secondary schools national competition), Te Matatini biennial national kapa haka festival and Taikura Kapa Haka senior kapa haka competitions). This achievement reflects the collective commitment of rohe leaders, volunteers, committees and communities, supported by a collaborative national approach.

Key highlights

PEOPLE AND RELATIONSHIPS FIRST

Our greatest strength continues to be the relationships we hold with our rohe. Throughout the year we strengthened partnerships with whānau, hapū, iwi, rohe committees, delegates and festival organisers through regular engagement, open communication and responsive support.

Grounded in manaakitanga, whanaungatanga and collaboration, our approach recognised that every rohe has unique strengths, aspirations and ways of working. By listening first and responding to local needs, we supported equitable participation and fostered stronger connections across the motu.

ENABLING SUCCESSFUL DELIVERY

Rohe Support Services provided our rohe practical support so they could focus on delivering successful festivals and initiatives. This included operational coordination, planning, events, administration, logistics and stakeholder engagement, ensuring consistency while remaining responsive to regional priorities.

BUILDING CAPABILITY THROUGH DATA AND INSIGHTS

We continued to strengthen our reporting and data capability, providing meaningful regional insights that supported decision-making, strategic planning and continuous improvement. We've focused on using information to empower rohe, rather than simply meeting reporting obligations.

STRATEGIC FOCUS

Our work continues to support the implementation of Te Pītau Whakarei, our 10-year strategic plan. By aligning operational support with strategic priorities, we help our rohe, their communities and the wider kapa haka movement to flourish.

Throughout 2025/2026, we remained focused on:

- strengthening trusted relationships with all rohe
- supporting culturally grounded delivery through tikanga Māori and te reo Māori
- building capability through guidance, mentoring and shared learning
- providing consistent operational and governance support
- improving communication between rohe and the national office
- using data and insights to inform planning and future growth
- enabling sustainable, people-centred outcomes for the kapa haka movement.

We are much more than operational. We are a trusted partner to our rohe, connecting people, strengthening capability and supporting our collective vision. Through strong relationships, cultural leadership and practical support, we continue to help create the conditions for our communities and kapa haka to thrive.

Te Tai Tokerau

Rohe Society: Waitangi Cultural Committee

- **Chairperson:** Blake Ihimaera
- **Deputy Chairperson and Mana Kuratahi Delegate:** Rōpata Diamond
- **Secretary:** Leanne Tamou
- **Treasurer:** Piri Kake
- **Tai Tokerau Delegate:** Marcia Hopa
- **Members:** Tutors, Kaihaka, Kaitautoko, Kaiako
- **Pou Takawaenga:** Chris Henare

Maimai aroha

He kura tangihia he maimai aroha ki ngā mate huhua o te motu kua haoa e Taramainuku. Waiho mai ko ngā mahara, ko ngā akoranga me ngā taonga tuku iho hei koha ki a mātou kua mahue ake nei.

Message from Marcia Hopa, Delegate for Te Tai Tokerau

Serving as Te Tai Tokerau's Te Matatini delegate continues to be both a privilege and a responsibility. This year has seen important conversations at the national table that will shape the future of Te Matatini well beyond 2027.

Being part of the Te Matatini National Board has been an incredibly valuable learning experience. It has provided me with greater insight into the work taking place to strengthen our kaupapa at a national level, and it has been encouraging to see many of these discussions evolve into practical initiatives that will benefit our kapa, our rohe, our whānau, and future generations.

One of the highlights of the past year has been the opportunity to travel throughout the motu and witness live and direct the best kapa haka in the land. Haramai tētahi āhua! I was also privileged to serve as a kaiwhakawā at the Te Arawa, Tāmaki Makaurau and Waitaha regional competitions.

These experiences continue to strengthen my own capability while ensuring Te Tai Tokerau has a strong presence and contribution on the national stage.

Back home, our rohe continued to go from strength to strength. Maranga Mai e te Iwi once again showcased the depth of talent, commitment and passion that exists throughout Te Tai Tokerau. We are especially proud to congratulate Te Uri o Manumanu, who officially placed fourth and secured qualification for Te Matatini 2027. They will join Muriwhenua, Hātea Kapa Haka, and Te Kapa Haka o Waerenga Te Kaha as the four kapa proudly representing Te Tai Tokerau on the national stage.

As always, e rere tonu ana ngā mihi ki ngā kapa, ngā kaiako, ngā whānau, ngā kaitautoko me te Waitangi Cultural Committee. Your unwavering commitment continues to strengthen kapa haka across our rohe and ensures our traditions remain vibrant for generations to come.

I look forward to continuing to represent Te Tai Tokerau as we prepare for Te Matatini 2027.

Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

Partnerships with iwi, hapū, marae, local government, education providers, sponsors and community organisations continue to deepen. These relationships are creating greater opportunities for collaboration, investment, and long-term planning as we work towards hosting Te Mana Kuratahi 2027 and, ultimately Te Matatini 2031.

Our regional competitions remain the heartbeat of our work. Despite weather challenges, Maranga Mai e te Iwi was successfully delivered and, once again, demonstrated the strength, resilience and quality of kapa haka throughout Te Tai Tokerau. The standard across both senior and rangatahi competitions continued to rise, reflecting the dedication of tutors, kaihaka and whānau who invest countless hours into sustaining our artform.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Rangatahi development continued to be one of our greatest priorities. Investment in Te Mana Kuratahi pathways, judging development, leadership opportunities, and programmes such as Tōkihi ki Tua continued to strengthen succession across the rohe. Our young people are increasingly stepping into leadership roles, ensuring kapa haka remains vibrant and future focused.

BUSINESS GROWTH AND INNOVATION

This year also saw continued investment in governance and organisational capability. The Waitangi Cultural Committee strengthened its operational systems, governance practices and strategic planning. Work is under way on a long-term regional strategy that aligns with Te Matatini's Vision 2050, ensuring Te Tai Tokerau remains well positioned for sustainable growth over the coming decades.

Nationally, Te Tai Tokerau continued to make a significant contribution through experienced kaiwhiriwhiri, governance representation and active participation in discussions around broadcasting, judging systems, digital innovation and the future direction of Te Matatini.

As we look towards 2027, we celebrate the four kapa who will proudly carry the mana of our rohe onto the national stage:

- Muriwhenua
- Hātea Kapa Haka
- Te Kapa Haka o Waerenga Te Kaha
- Te Uri o Manumanu, who secured the final qualifying position after placing fourth at Maranga Mai e te Iwi 2026.

Our momentum continues to grow because of the collective commitment of our kapa, tutors, kaumātua, volunteers and whānau. Together we are not simply preparing for competitions, we are strengthening our communities, nurturing our language, and ensuring that the legacy of kapa haka in Te Tai Tokerau continues to flourish for generations to come.

Tāmaki Makaurau

Rohe Society: Tāmaki Makaurau Senior Kapa Haka Society

- **Chair:** Jonathan Whaikawa
- **Deputy Chairperson:** Paora Sharples
- **Secretary:** Eli Marino
- **Treasurer:** Thomas Rawiri
- **Te Matatini Delegate:** Reikura Kahi
- **Pou Takawaenga:** Patsy Whaanga

Life Members

- Tā Dr Pita Sharples
- Aroha Paenga
- Ope Maxwell
- Kahu Pou
- Te Kepa Stirling
- Tāwhirimātea Williams
- Katarina Williams
- John Tapene

Maimai aroha

He hau angiangi hauraro mātaratara
E wawara nei, e wawara nei.
Kei hea rā koutou e aku onge kahurangi?
Kua kore e rangona o koutou reo wainene,
a koutou kupu āki,
o koutou ringa mākohakoha.
Motu-rikiriki te aroha.
Ngau kino te mamae hārukiruki e.
Haere koutou ki te ripo ki whakatere,
ki whakangaro, ki whakaoti atu rā e.

He Kupu nā te Māngai – Reikura Kahi

Tāmaki Makaurau, Tāmaki Herenga Waka.

Rangiwhāwhā te rere o ngā mahi a Tāne-rore, a Hine-rēhia i Tāmaki Makaurau. E arohanuitia ana te haka me te waiata e a tātou pīpī o te Kōhanga Reo, ngā kōhungahunga o te kura tuatahi, ngā taiohi o ngā kura tuarua tae atu ki ngā pakeke, ki ngā kaumātua o ngā kapa taikura.

E rea mai ana ko ngā kaitito hou, ngā kaiako hou, ngā kaihaka o āpōpō. E kitea ana, e rangona ana ngā kōrero onamata tae atu ki ngā waiata o nāianei. Puritia, tāmaua tō tātou reo kia ita. Toitū te reo Māori. Toitū te Ao Haka.

Acknowledging Annette Wehi

Tāmaki Kapa Haka celebrates the contribution Annette Wehi has made to the preservation, development and promotion of kapa haka within our rohe, throughout Aotearoa and internationally over the past 23 years as the Tāmaki Makaurau delegate.

Our haka community in Tāmaki Makaurau has benefited from her many leadership roles as a performer and tutor alongside her husband Tapeta Wehi. Annette has developed and nurtured generations of kaihaka through Te Manu Huia, Te Wehi Haka and Te Waka Huia, one of Aotearoa's most successful kapa. During her time at Te Wānanga o Awanuiarangi she contributed to the growth and sustainability of te Ao Haka through the development of our future leaders in Māori performing arts.

Annette has represented Aotearoa at many festivals and events around the world, This includes the Venice Biennale, the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, World Expo as well as Olympic and Commonwealth Games promoting Māori culture as an integral part of Aotearoa's identity.

Through Annette's guidance, Te Matatini Herenga Waka, Herenga Tangata 2023 became one of Te Matatini's most successful national festivals with over 1.8 million tuning it to watch the competition.

Kei te ringa tōhau nui, kei te ringa houhere, kei te tuhi māreikura, tēnei ngā kapa me ngā hapori o Tāmaki Makaurau e tuohu nei, e whakamānawa nei i a koe mō āu tukuihotanga mai me tō whakapau kaha i roto i ngā tau.

Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

- Tāmaki Makaurau is committed to achieving kapa haka excellence through the many events we support throughout our rohe.
- Tāmaki Kapa Haka's main objective in 2025/26 was to increase our engagement with communities throughout Tāmaki Makaurau across all age groups.
- Through the regional development fund, we supported various kaupapa across Tāmaki Makaurau, including:
  - Hakangahau (June 2025); Autaia (Aug 2025); 40th anniversary of Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Hoani Waititi Marae kapa haka event (Oct 2025)
  - Kura Tuarua competitions – Te Ahurea Tino Rangatiratanga (Oct 2025)
  - Polyfest (March 2026)
- Our kaumātua are our tuarā, who support all Tāmaki kapa haka events throughout the year. They remind us of the legacy we must continue to uphold for future generations. We support our kaumātua to attend the annual Taikura Kapa Haka event and celebrate them through our annual kaumātua lunch and dinner.
- Tāmaki Hakangahau continued to bring multiple generations of whānau together to celebrate our culture and connection through haka. Hakangahau is an opportunity to perform with whānau where the pressure of competition is replaced by the joy of kapa haka. Aside from the performance on the day, this event encourages whānau to retain and share waiata and remember our past leaders to ensure their legacy continues.
- We acknowledge Ngāti Whātua and its board chair, Whaea Marama Royal MNZM, who ensures we have the support needed to run our regional competitions. E rere ana te aroha nui ki a koutou.
- We celebrate our hāpai-ō, who continue to ensure all kapa haka events in Tāmaki Makaurau are supported and co-ordinated well. E rewa ana te pōtae.
- The positive impact of our collective efforts was seen in the many events and initiatives we develop and support.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Tāmaki Kapa Haka continue to develop and empower the next generation of leaders through various events. Our rohe is in a unique position where we have two annual secondary competitions: Polyfest – Te Paparewa Māori (March and April) and Te Ahurea Tino Rangatiratanga (October).
- Polyfest celebrated 50 years in 2025. Over the past five decades, Polyfest has become one of the most significant educational and cultural events in Aotearoa, providing ākonga in Tāmaki Makaurau the opportunity to strengthen identity, develop leadership and achieve excellence. The 2025 Polyfest celebrations was a moment to acknowledge past performers, organisers and the many host schools who have contributed to its ongoing success.
- Tāmaki Kapa Haka provided financial support to both events. A total of seven kura tuarua represented Tāmaki Makaurau at Te Tāwharau o Ngā Waka – Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua o Aotearoa, Mātaatua.

› Autaia is an annual event for rangatahi that nurtures the next generation of Māori leaders by fostering excellence in haka theatre, celebrating te reo Māori and tikanga. Autaia aligns learning experiences with NCEA achievement to support educational growth. It also provides opportunities for rangatahi to pursue a career in the performing arts industry. Tāmaki Kapa Haka provided financial support to this event.

KAPA HAKA EXCELLENCE

› Tāmaki Kapa Haka has an enduring legacy of kapa haka excellence, which we are committed to upholding through the kaupapa we support and promote.

› Tāmaki Kapa Haka acknowledges all 22 kapa who competed at Tāmaki Makaurau regionals in May 2026. We celebrate our six qualifying kapa: ANGITU, Te Waka Huia, Ngā Tūmanako, Te Rōpū Manutaki, Te Taha Tū, and Te Poho o Hinekahukura who will represent Tāmaki Makaurau at Te Matatini.

› Ngā Tumanako represented Aotearoa at the 75th Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Brisbane in February 2026. More than 1,000 performers from around the world united in a seamless blend of military precision, intricately choreographed items, cultural performances and multiple languages during this international event. The celebrations then travelled to Aotearoa, held at Ngā Ana Wai. ANGITU represented Aotearoa in Tāmaki Makaurau with a tribute to our 28th Māori Battalion.

› Our Tāmaki kura Kura Tuarua continue to uphold the legacy of kapa haka excellence with two kura advancing to the finals, in June and July 2026. Te Wharekura o Māngere and Te Kapa Haka o Te Wharekura o Hoani Waititi Marae competed in the finals with Te Wharekura o Māngere taking second place overall. The quality of the compositions and the leadership of Te Wharekura o Māngere and their tutoring team reflects the growth and commitment within our whānau in south Auckland.

› Tāmaki Kapa Haka celebrated 45 years of Te Waka Huia, whose dedication and achievement exemplifies kapa haka excellence. Te Waka Huia, founded by Koro Ngāpō and Nāni Pīmia Wehi, is one the most successful kapa haka groups in Aotearoa. The overall Te Matatini championship trophy is now named after Koro Ngāpo and Nāni Pīmia in recognition of their legacy and contribution to kapa haka.

› Te Waka Huia achieved national titles at the Aotearoa Traditional Māori Performing Arts Festival and Te Matatini biennial national kapa haka festival in 1986, 1992, 1994, 2009 and 2013.

Throughout their 45 years, Te Waka Huia has shaped modern kapa haka performance standards and influenced generations of composers, tutors and kaihaka.



Auckland Anglican Māori Cllub



Angitu

Tainui

Rohe Society: Te Whare Haka o Tainui

Committee

- **Chairperson:** Haani Huata-Allen
- **Secretary:** Hariru Roa
- **Treasurer:** Rerewha Pita

Ngā Māngai

- **Te Ahurei:** Ataahua Papa
- **Kapa Pakeke:** Anthony Walker
- **Kura Tuarua**: Mere Clendon-Smallman
- **Kura Tuatahi:** Ruita Taiapa
- **Pou Takawaenga:** Frankie West

He Maimai aroha

Ka tahuri ake te titiro ki te uira e hiko i te rangi, naa runga o Karioi.
Kaahore ia nei ko te tohu o te mate.
E tangi haere ana ngaa tai o Te Uru.

Ngaa tini o Tainui waka, ngaa mano o te iwi Maaori. Tangi mapu kau ngaa aituaa o te tau, nau mai haere te maimai aroha, auee taukuri e.

Message from Anthony Walker, Delegate for Tainui

Māku anō tōku nei whare e hanga, ko ngā pou o roto he māhoe, he patetē, ko te tāhuhu he hīnau" Nā Kīngi Tāwhiao te tongikura hei kupu ārahi i Te Whare Haka o Tainui. Ko ngā pou o roto, he taitamariki, he taipakeke, ko tōna tāhuhu he taikura. E whakataukī ana ki konei ngā aka matua o Te Whare Haka o Tainui hei amo Te Matatini:

Te Aka Pū Matua: To uphold and enrich kapa haka within Tainui Waka.

Te Aka Rangatira: To inspire and create enduring opportunities to nurture and enable Rangatira of tomorrow, today.

Te Aka Hapori: To cultivate strong relationships toward mutual benefit and enrich Te Whare Haka o Tainui.

Te Aka Hiranga: To elevate and maintain a high standard of integrity within Te Whare Haka o Tainui.

Te Aka Whairawa: To secure the financial sustainability of Te Whare Haka o Tainui.

Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

Te Aka Pū Matua

Te Whare Haka o Tainui continued to strengthen leadership and capability across the rohe. The successful taurimatanga o Te Mauri o Te Matatini united iwi, Te Matatini representatives and communities in a strong expression of kotahitanga, marked the journey toward hosting Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027.

Te Aka Rangatira: Building on Te Mauri o Te Matatini, Te Whare Haka o Tainui will host Te Mauri Kia Whakakotahi ai Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua Ā-Motu, received from Tauranga Moana, ahead of Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua o Aotearoa 2028.

Te Aka Hapori: Te Whare Haka o Tainui continued to strengthen relationships across the rohe by supporting major tribal events, including Waenganui Games, Hauraki Cultural Festival, Te Nehenehenui Tribal Festival, Rangiriri Festival, and Kīngitanga kaupapa throughout the year.

Te Aka Hiranga: Governance and event management processes continued to be refined to provide clear expectations and deliver high-quality festivals that meet the needs of kapa, whānau and stakeholders.

Te Aka Whairawa: Financial sustainability continued to strengthen through improved reporting to funders, ensuring legislative compliance and accountability.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Te Aka Pū Matua: Te Whare Haka o Tainui continued to grow kapa haka across tamariki and rangatahi, supporting five kura at Te Mana Kura Tahi and four Wharekura/Kura Tuarua kapa at the National Secondary Schools Competition. Achievements include Te Wharekura o Kirikiriroa winning Te Mana Kura Tahi, Te Wharekura o Rākaumangamanga placing second, and Te Wharekura o Kirikiriroa placing third nationally, with Te Kaokaoroa o Pātetere and Te Maurea Whiritoi also reaching the finals of the Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua o Aotearoa national competition.

Te Aka Rangatira: With Te Puaingo Limited, the Te Whare Haka o Tainui Intern Programme was successfully established in partnership with Waikato-Tainui. Interns gained practical kapa haka experience across communications, logistics, stakeholder engagement and event delivery.

Te Aka Hapori: Kura and Wharekura representatives participated alongside pakeke and kaumātua, strengthening intergenerational relationships and collaboration across iwi and hapū.

Te Aka Hiranga: Ongoing event reviews have strengthened delivery, providing kura with consistent, well-organised competitions supported by experienced kaimahi and tūao.

Te Aka Whairawa: Strong partnerships with kura representatives and tumuaki ensured a balanced and sustainable financial contribution to regional and national competitions.

BUSINESS GROWTH

Te Aka Pū Matua: Recruitment of new event leads strengthened organisational capability and prepared Te Whare Haka o Tainui for delivering larger-scale events leading into Te Matatini 2027.

Te Aka Rangatira: Rangatahi volunteer opportunities at kura events provided valuable event management experience while developing future leaders.

Te Aka Hapori: Increased vendor participation and volunteer engagement reflected growing confidence in Te Whare Haka o Tainui and expanded event delivery capability.

Te Aka Hiranga: Te Whare Haka o Tainui continues to strengthen partnerships with long-term and prospective partners.

Te Aka Whairawa: Sustainable growth remains centred on strong kapa haka leadership, creating pathways that connect kapa with community and commercial opportunities.

EVENT QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS

Te Aka Pū Matua: The ongoing partnership with H3 Group has ensured reliable, cost-effective delivery of regional kapa haka events while maintaining high-quality experiences for participants and whānau.

Te Aka Rangatira: The Tainui Regional Kapa Haka Festival 2026 achieved record outcomes, attracting more than 10,000 attendees, 858 performers, 22 kapa haka, 59 stalls and 110 volunteers.

Te Aka Hapori: Free entry to all events removed barriers to participation, increased community engagement and reinforced the iwi-led vision of mana motuhake.

Te Aka Hiranga: Strong participant and audience satisfaction continued to drive increasing attendance and kapa participation at regional competitions.

Te Aka Whairawa: Recognition as a finalist in the New Zealand Event Awards highlighted the quality of event delivery and strengthened industry partnerships.

KAPA HAKA EXCELLENCE

Te Aka Pū Matua: Te Whare Haka o Tainui contribution to Koroneihana 2025 was successful. More than 200 kaihaka participated in collective practices, contributing to powerful performances showcasing Tainui excellence.

Te Aka Rangatira: Regional judges' wānanga brought pouako and kaiwhakawā together to strengthen judging capability and consistency.

Te Aka Hapori: Continued support for Taikura kapa haka sustained intergenerational knowledge transfer and revitalising waiata tawhito.

Te Aka Hiranga: Tainui kapa continue to achieve outstanding national results, including two of five kura finishing in the national top three, three of four wharekura in the top nine, two of four senior kapa in the top 12 at Te Matatini 2027, and two representative kapa at the National Taikura Festival.

Te Aka Whairawa: Te Whare Haka o Tainui continued to invest in kapa haka excellence across all regional and national competitions.

PUBLIC IMAGE

Te Aka Pū Matua: Te Whare Haka o Tainui strengthened its public profile through the launch of its website, YouTube channel and LinkedIn presence.

Te Aka Rangatira: Social media growth was substantial, generating more than 7.8 million Instagram content views in quarter one alone, and increased engagement with whānau, sponsors and stakeholders.

Te Aka Hapori: Merchandise sales and expanded digital promotion increased organisational visibility and strengthened community engagement.

Te Aka Hiranga: Te Whare Haka o Tainui sponsored kākahu for all kapa haka representatives at Te Matatini 2027, Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua o Aotearoa and Te Mana Kuratahi. A visual symbol promoted Tainui kapa haka excellence and kotahitanga.

Te Aka Whairawa: Continued regional and national success has strengthened the profile of Te Whare Haka o Tainui, opening new opportunities for partnerships, sponsorship and organisational growth.

Te Arawa

Te Arawa Kapa Haka
CHARITABLE TRUST

Rohe Society: Te Arawa Kapa Haka Charitable Trust

- **Chair:** Rangitihi Pene
- **Deputy Chair:** Sarah Asher
- **Secretary:** Tamihana Hamiora-Reweti
- **Treasurer:** Candice Waiti Richards
- **Te Arawa Māngai:** Dan Vaka
- **Members:** Hiria Vaka, Jaylene Tamati, Kahurangi Milne, Renata Curtis, Ruakiri Fairhall, Tūpoutama Paki
- **Te Matatini Life Members:** Trevor Maxwell and Wetini Mitai-Ngātai
- **Pou Takawaenga:** Watu Mihinui



Dr Ken ‘Keneti’ Cameron Kennedy



Te Tawhero Haitana

Maimai Aroha

DR KEN ‘KENETI’ CAMERON KENNEDY (8 MAY 2026)

Ka raranga ngā hau i te muri
Ka raranga ngā hau i te tonga.
Whakapupuke ai ngā ngaru i Te Ngarue, ko ngā pōtiki a Hinehopu e heru mai rā,
i Te Matarae I Orehu.
Tangi piē ana ngā manu kāuru tapu i runga o Matawhau, i a Ngongotahā.
Ko te kākā tarahae o te pōkaitara nui, kua riro.
Te kākā wahanui a te nuipuku, kua ngū.
Te kākā kura o te Ati Nui, kua hinga.
Takahia te ara tukutuku, ki te ara taiahoaho i te rangi. Whakamau atu ki te Pūtahitanga nui o Rēhuaariki i te pō.
E Koro, e moe i te reka o te pō matirerehau, taihoa koe whakaoti atu e!

Koia ia te ika toto nui o Te Arawa, o Ngāti Pikiao, Dr Ken Kennedy i riro atu ki ngā mana nui o te pō. 75 tau tōna pakeke nōna i takahi i te nukuroa ā, ko ngā tai o wai whakaoti atu ērā e kauria ana. He nui ōna riwha, ko ia tērā ka noho hai kaumātua o te Kaunihera Māori o Aotearoa, he kaumātua mō te Kaunihera o te Pāti Reipa, he mema o Te Arawa Fisheries me te Kotahitanga o Te Arawa Fisheries Trust. I whakawhiwhia ia ki te tohu honore mō te Tohu Kairangi i āna mahi whakairimatamata e rangatira tonu ai te reo me te ahurea Māori. He kanohi kitea, he kākā tata kī i ngā hui huri i te motu, ka mutu koia hoki tērā i whakataituarā i ngā oinga kōtore tapu o Te Arawa. Kaupapa atu, kaupapa mai, nāna ngā paetara o te wānanga i whakarākei ki ngā kura huna ōna, ki ngā whakapapa, ki ngā kōrero tuku iho otirā, ki ngā hōmaitanga e ora tonu ai ēnei taonga haere nei te wā.

E koro, Ken, te pūratoke o te pō, te mīreirei o te kupu, te waha ika o te tūroa, tangi mōteatea tonu nei ō iwi i te korenga ōu e whakanikonikohia ai te oranga tangata, e whakakōmārohitia ai ngā tikanga o te tika, o te pono me te māramatanga, e rangatira ai te iwi Māori ki runga i tōna ake whenua, kai te manu tuauru o kupu rirerire, waihape atu rā ki ngā wahapū o ngā kāwau pū wairua, hāro, hoka, omaki atu rā!

Whērokiroki nei e
Te whānau mārama i te rangi e
Kia rere noa au i ngā parihau
O te waka ātea
Kia mihi noa au
Ki te hunga whetu rangi!

TE TAWHERO HAITANA

Ko ō hekenga werawera ka noho hei wai whakaika i a ngāi pia mā.
Ko ō turuturunga roimata ka noho hei puna toiora mō ngāi taura mā.
Ko ō kupu takataka ka noho hei kura titi ki te upoko o ngāi tauira mā.
Kua takina te ara uruuru-rangi e Rongmai, whāia!
Kua takina te ara uruuru-whenua e Hurukareao, whāia!
Kua takina te ara uruuru-wai e Horomatangi, whāia!
Tū te ihu, tū te kei, pātatai atu ki Hawaiki, kei taku tenoteno, ē!



Te Tawhero Haitana

Message from Dan Vaka, delegate for Te Arawa

Haul the canoe of Te Arawa , may it plunge into the sea, who will haul it, who will grip the gunwales of my chiefly canoe, of my canoe who makes the world shake in fear!

I am very fortunate to be the one representing the district of Te Arawa among all of the esteemed champions of Te Matatini. I have been the leader of the people for more than 8 years, as a spokesperson for my iwi, for my district whereby the voice and thoughts of Te Arawa were heard. I have been helping to encourage the development of kapa haka throughout the country. I acknowledge all those who prepared the way, who worked so hard to make these opportunities available for their descendants, and similarly, I salute them, were it not for their steadfastness Te Arawa would not have become renowned in the kapa haka world. I thank my people for Looking after me and allowing me to walk in their footsteps, to allow me to serve humbly at this high level on behalf of Te Arawa.

Throughout this hear there have been may dificulltiers afflicting all generations and all levels of kapa haka for Te Arawa:

There have been new plans affecting the direction of kapa haka throughout the country, and its future. Ko ētehi anō he kaupapa tokatū moana e whanake tonu ai, e pahau tea tonu ai i ngā kura wawana o Te Arawa. I should say first, there is no doubt that the support of TAKCT has ensured that Te Arawa has remained at the forefront in performing arts and that traditions of kapa haka continue to grow among our iwi:

- 5 senior kapa stood to compete in the regional competitions of Te Arawa
- This was the first time the senior kapa haka competition was held outside, to be seen by the general public, with many increased benefits compared to previous years
- 6 kapa qualified to compete at Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027 in Waikato
- 10 kapa were supported by Te Arawa Kapa Haka Charitable Trust (TAKCT) to appears overseas so the richness of kapa haka could be shared with their audiences - Asia (3), Australia (1), Europe (2), Pacific Islands (3), United Kingdom (1)
- 3 iwi wide festivals were held
- 2 regional school competitions were held, both supported by TAKCT- Primary schools - Manukura Tahi (3); National secondary schools (3)
- The play ‘Tērā te Auahi’ which was staged in Rotorua was supported by TAKCT
- 2 wānanga mau rākau (traditional martial arts) were held to teach the arts of traditional weapons
- 1 wānanga for judges was held to boost the skills of performing arts judges, both newer ones and judges of long standing
- The region had two teams become national champions during the year – champions at Te Matatini (Ngāti Whakaue, 2025), and champions at national secondary schools - Kura Tuarua o te motu (Te Kura o Te Koutu, 2026)

Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

- Through investment from Te Matatini and the Rohe Development Fund, Te Arawa strengthened the foundations required to grow and sustain kapa haka across the rohe. Governance, planning, financial management and reporting systems were embedded and refined, ensuring accountability and effective delivery of priorities throughout the year.
- A significant achievement was establishing dedicated communications platforms, which greatly increased the visibility of Te Arawa kapa haka. Within three months of launch, Te Arawa Kapa Haka Charitable Trust achieved more than 9.7 million Instagram and 730,000 Facebook views and gained over 6,000 followers. Strategic partnerships with Te Matatini, Te Arawa FM, Aukaha, Mai Rotorua, Tūwharetoa On and Te Karere amplified the reach of Te Arawa kaupapa and strengthened connections across the cultural sector.
- Targeted funding support enabled participation in many rohe initiatives, including iwi ahurei, cultural exchanges and community-led events. These investments strengthened whanaungatanga, cultural identity and community engagement while increasing opportunities for Te Arawa representation locally, nationally and internationally.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Youth participation remained a key area of impact throughout the year, with significant investment supporting tamariki and rangatahi engagement in kapa haka and cultural learning.
- Five Te Arawa kura received support to attend Te Mana Kuratahi, while the Rotorua Primary School Cultural Festival provided opportunities for 33 schools and hundreds of tamariki to perform and celebrate their cultural identity. Additional support was provided for Tapuika Ahurei and Te Reo a Tū, creating further opportunities for youth participation alongside whānau and kaumātua. The whakaaturanga Tērā te Auahi showcased the brilliance of Te Arawa rangatahi who brought to the stage a story of the eruption of Tarawera maunga through both theatre and kapa haka mediums, proudly supported by Te Arawa Kapa Haka Charitable Trust.
- Importantly, these initiatives strengthened progression pathways into senior kapa haka. Increased participation in regional events and the integration of rangatahi performance opportunities within Te Arawa Senior Regionals created visible pathways for future leadership, performance excellence and continued involvement in Te Arawa kapa haka.
- Te Kura o Te Koutu situated in Rotorua are the 2026 National Secondary Schools kapa haka champions, held at the Bay Park Stadium in Tauranga earlier this year. This completes a back-to-back win for Te Arawa kapa haka at this level.

EVENT QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS

- The year culminated in the successful delivery of Te Arawa Senior Regionals, which exceeded participation, audience and engagement targets and showcased the capability of the rohe to deliver large-scale, high-quality events.
- The competition brought together 24 kapa and approximately 900 kaihaka, attracting more than 10,000 attendees across two days at Rotorua International Stadium. Strong planning, effective event systems, clear rules and judging guidance, and extensive engagement with kapa contributed to a well-delivered event experience.
- Te Arawa Kapa Haka Charitable Trust also supported the Te Matatini judges’ wānanga, strengthening alignment between national judging standards and regional delivery. This contributed to greater consistency, transparency and quality across competition processes.
- Beyond Regionals, support for kaupapa such as Ruia Taitea – Tūwharetoa Ahurei attracted approximately 8,000 attendees and further strengthened cultural participation across the rohe. Collectively, these events significantly exceeded annual audience reach expectations and demonstrated the growing profile and influence of Te Arawa kapa haka.

KAPA HAKA EXCELLENCE

- Excellence was further strengthened through initiatives such as Te Reo ā Tū (National Mau Rākau Symposium), specialised masterclasses and international cultural exchanges in Rarotonga, Papua New Guinea, Oxford University and indigenous global forums. These opportunities enhanced cultural knowledge, leadership capability, performance standards, and international connections, helping position Te Arawa as a leader in kapa haka excellence while strengthening the transmission of mātauranga Māori to future generations.
- A two-day Te Arawa judges’ wānanga cultivating and fostering the growth of kaiwhakawā was held to increase the capacity of judges within Te Arawa. A first of its kind throughout the motu, the wānanga provided personal and professional development where attendees could acquire, develop, refine, improve and reflect on their craft as kaiwhakawā.

Mātaatua

Rohe Society: Mātaatua Kapa Haka Society Incorporated

- **Chairperson:** Professor Te Kahautu Maxwell
- **Deputy Chairperson:** Tamati Waaka
- **Secretary:** Anameka Paenga
- **Treasurer:** Teraania Ormsby
- Dr Turuhira Hare
- Mike Panapa
- Dawn Hill
- Renee Delamere
- **Pou Takawaenga:** Naomi Herewini-Houia



Danie Poihipi



Hone Wharepapa



Tarere Temple



Karo Hare

A tribute of love to the pillars of Mātaatua

Farewell, farewell, farewell to the many losses of the year 2026. The great and proud tōtara of the forest of Tāne has fallen. Go to the night, to the gathering of our ancestors. Leave us here, the descendants, weeping.

This has been a heavy year for the world of kapa haka in Mātaatua. The pillars who planted knowledge, language, customs and the spirit of kapa haka for generations have passed on.

Farewell, Nehumoana Gage, a formidable exponent of haka, a warrior who embodied awe-inspiring power and commanding presence. A champion who led Te Kapa Haka o Te Whānau a Apanui to victory at Te Matatini in Papaioea in 2007.

Farewell to Danie Poihipi. A composer, performer, orator and fountain of knowledge. You enriched Ngā Pōtiki, Waioweka Youth Club, Te Whānau a Tūtawake, Te Whānau-ā-Apanui, and Ōpōtiki Mai Tawhiti.

Farewell to Hōne Wharepapa. A founding member and teacher of Te Kapa Haka o Te Whānau-ā-Apanui, whose group earned three Te Matatini championship titles. You carried the prestige of Mātaatua to FestPAC across the Pacific.

Farewell to Tarere Temple. A founding member of Waioweka Youth Club, a member of Waioweka Nui-a-Kiwa, and a steadfast supporter of Ōpōtiki Mai Tawhiti and Waioweka Kapa Haka o Te Whakatōhea.

Farewell to Karo Hare. A pillar of strength for your spouse, Dr Turuhira Hare, and a loyal supporter of Te Karu o Ruatoki.

You are no longer seen by the eyes, but the treasures you have left behind will never fade. Your songs, haka, knowledge and love for kapa haka will remain as binding pillars for future generations.

Rest well, o tōtara of Mātaatua. Farewell, farewell, farewell.


Professor Te Kahautū Maxwell


Ngāti Awa Taikura

Message from Professor Te Kahautu Maxwell, Delegate for Mātaatua

Greetings to you all of Te Matatini

This is the voice of Mātaatua extending greetings to you, Sir Herewini Parata, and to your board.

Mātaatua is filled with great joy and gratitude for the opportunities and support received over the past year. These have enabled our rohe to advance and participate in many initiatives across our numerous performing arts groups throughout our tribal boundaries, stretching from Ngā Kurī-a-Whārei to Tihirau – the sacred and protected domain of Mātaatua.

Through your leadership, and through our collective efforts, the eternal flame of haka, embodied by Tānerore and Hinerēhia, continues to burn brightly. Its vitality has flourished from kōhanga reo, through primary and secondary schools, to adult and senior performers. These initiatives have been nurtured through the generosity, vision and enduring commitment of Te Matatini, whose leadership continues to uplift and strengthen the art of kapa haka for everyone.

We also acknowledge the Chief Executive, Carl Ross, and his team for faithfully implementing Te Matatini's strategic vision – to draw the distant horizon near, to secure it, and to ensure that together we flourish. Through this leadership, the benefits have flowed to the wider Mātaatua region.

Our sincere thanks also go to the Mātaatua committee. You have labored tirelessly, your brows marked by the sweat of commitment, ensuring that our canoe remains steadfast on its voyage toward a new horizon for future generations. Your dedication, perseverance and love for this kaupapa have ensured that the mana of Mātaatua continues to stand proudly upon the Te Matatini stage.

Finally, may the grace and blessings of the Lord rest upon us all. May they especially rest upon Te Arikinui Kuīni Ngā Wai Hono i te Pō, upon Te Matatini, its national leadership, Board, staff and all kapa haka groups throughout Aotearoa and Te Whenuamoemoeā.

Greetings to you all.

Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

- Mātaatua continued to strengthen opportunities for cultural participation, leadership, and the celebration of kapa haka across all reanga. Hosting Mātaatua Kapa Haka Regionals 2026 saw collaborative organisation on event planning, governance, financial accountability, media management and operational delivery. The regional festival also delivered substantial social and economic benefits to the rohe.
- A total of 23 kapa haka groups participated, attracting 7,857 attendees, including 1,150 kaihaka and tutors, 200 kaumātua, 130 volunteers and staff, and more than 6,000 ticket holders. Digital engagement further amplified the reach of the kaupapa, generating over 12.5 million Instagram and 1.24 million Facebook views, showcasing Mātaatua kapa haka to audiences throughout Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.
- Investment has also supported the ongoing development of Taikura kapa haka, ensuring kaumātua remain active participants and leaders in their communities. Ngāti Awa Taikura and Ngā Taipakeke o Tauranga Moana proudly represented Mātaatua at the 2026 He Kura Tangata National Festival at Te Papa Tongarewa. This included 104 kaihaka and 20 supporters, demonstrating the continued strength, vitality and intergenerational impact of kapa haka within the rohe.
- Support was also provided to iwi festivals and various wānanga including Tauranga Moana, Tauranga Tangata Festival 2025, attendance at the Koroneihana and Poukai ki Kokohīnau.
- Strategic planning wānanga provided valuable opportunities for robust discussion, strategic planning, and alignment of priorities for the committee to implement these to the rohe.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Strengthening pathways for rangatahi to engage in kapa haka, leadership and regional connection has been a priority. Mātaatua Kapa Haka Society supported participation across Te Mana Kuratahi and Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua, helping ensure tamariki and rangatahi have access to opportunities to celebrate and develop their cultural identity through collective learning and performance.
- At Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua 2026, hosted in Tauranga Moana, four Mātaatua kapa represented the rohe, with 216 kaihaka participating. This event fostered collaboration among kura, as rangatahi came together for joint practices to learn and share haka pōhiri and haka tūwaewae from across Mātaatua iwi. This strengthened cultural knowledge, regional relationships, and a shared sense of identity and belonging.
- Financial support was also provided to kura participating in the Delamere Cup, Rangitāiki Festival, and Te Waka Pererua competitions. These festivals continue to strengthen cultural participation, nurture future leaders and reinforce the vitality of kapa haka within Mātaatua.
- Further investment supported Te Mana Kuratahi 2025, which hosted 62 kapa, 2,480 kaihaka, and attracted 26,799 attendees.

KAPA HAKA EXCELLENCE

- Participation in Te Maeva Nui created opportunities to deepen cultural connections across Mātaatua while revitalising ancestral relationships with Ngā Pū Toru – Mauke, Mitiaro and Atiu – reinforcing whakapapa links and cultural exchange across the wider Pacific.
- Mātaatua strategic plan ‘He Kupu Whakari’ supports a coordinated kapa haka pathway spanning Kōhanga Reo, Kura Tuatahi, Kura Tuarua, Pakeke, and Taikura, fostering lifelong engagement in te ao Māori. Significant progress was also made in developing future-focused initiatives, including the establishment of PhD scholarships to promote educational excellence, research and leadership within the rohe.
- Planning for the 40-year celebration of Mātaatua Kapa Haka Incorporated Society marks another important milestone, providing an opportunity to honour past achievements, celebrate life members, and launch initiatives that will shape the future of wānanga and kapa haka development. Collectively, these investments are strengthening capability, cultural resilience, and long-term Māori-led outcomes across Mātaatua.

Te Tairāwhiti

Rohe Society: Tairāwhiti Cultural Development Trust

- **Chairperson:** Maui Tangohau
- **Deputy Chairperson:** David Jones
- **Trustees:**
  - Tā Derek Lardelli
  - Harata Gibson
  - Ria Smith
  - Aubrey Ria
  - Te Rauhuia Ngata Kutia

Maimai Aroha

Ko Matariki te whetū hei Arataki e
Ā tutuki noa ki te mutunga
Puritia nga tohutohu o te wā
Kia Manawanui, kia Rangimārie

Hui katoa ngā mate o te Tairāwhiti ki te papa haka o te pō
Ki reira haka ai, waiata ai, ngahau ai
Haere whoatu ki te pō

Tā Tamati Reedy – Poutuarā o te kaupapa

Kahurangi Te Kōingo Reedy - Kaiwhakawā

Taina Ngarimu – Tairāwhiti and Ngāti Porou Kapa Haka, Kaiwhakawā and pouako hoki

Tama Brown – Tamararo ringa kaha o muri

Joan Ella Ngata – Tamararo ringa raupā

E kore te aroha e taka e
I waho i taku manawa e
Uia e hika he aha ra
Te aroha e



Tā Tamiti Mutunga Reedy



Lady Kahurangi Tilly Te Koingo Reedy



Taina Ngarimu



Tamaruinga Brown



Joan Ellen Ngata

Message from Adn Maui Tangohau, Delegate for Te Tairāwhiti

I te tau 1952, i huitahi ai ngā pāpā o te rohe, kia whakatū i tētahi hui hei kohikohi pūtea mō te hāhi Mihinare. Na, i te tau 1953, i tū te hui tuatahi a Tamararo.

73 years on Tairawhiti has created a legacy that has seen the successive hosting of Tamararo every year since 1953.

As we acknowledge this legacy we must also move forward under the mantle of Tamararo. The rohe has recognised and initiated year one of its 25-year Strategic Plan and placed the focus on revisiting the foundation and early implementation of kapa in the rohe. The organisation of workshops, launching mentorship programs, instilling an emphasis on judging, developing and investing in youth and creating the opportunity for succession will form a major part of the drive to reclaim the standard of kapa haka in the rohe.

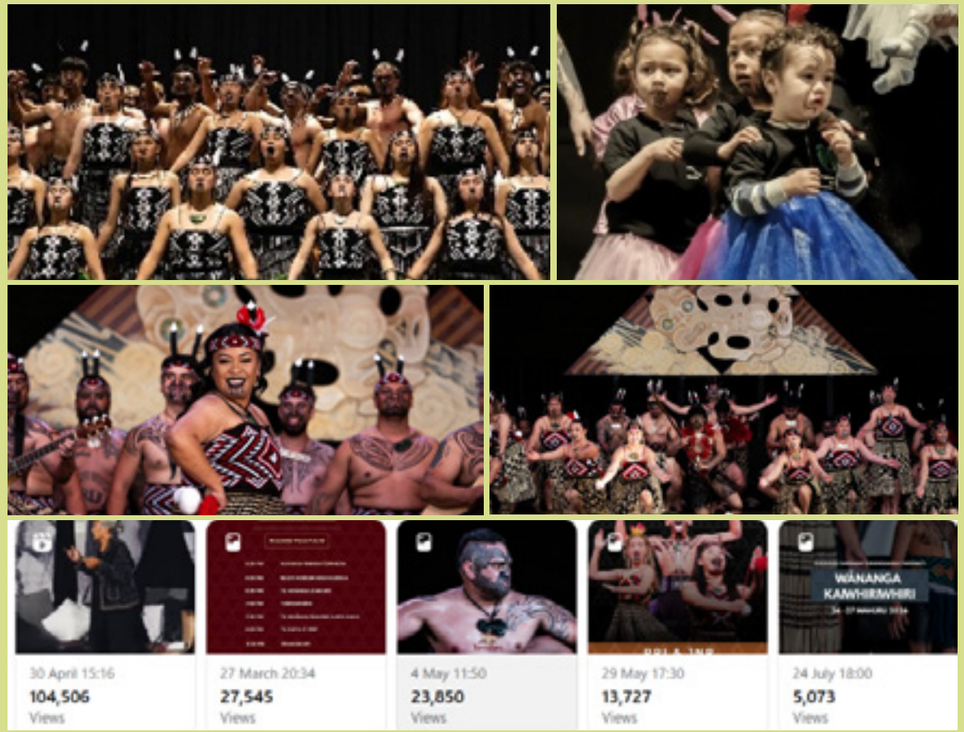
Alongside this, the planning of an exhibition celebrating Tairawhiti kapa haka has commenced and will honour the rich cultural heritage, history, and achievements of Tamararo. The desire is to provide an experience that will promote the cultural appreciation and education of kapa within Te Tairawhiti. By offering this exhibition the rohe can appreciate the appetite for kapa haka in Te Tairawhiti and provide the encouragement for greater participation in all sectors. This initiative will incorporate:

- Honouring the history and achievements of Tamararo
- Highlighting the talents of past and present kaihaka through live performances
- Providing educational opportunities through workshops and multimedia displays that highlight the art and traditions of Tairawhiti kapa haka
- Fostering greater community involvement by inviting cultural organisations and community groups to participate
- Facilitating a space for cultural exchange and dialogue among our communities
- Creating the event to strengthen the kapa haka bonds within the community and provide a strong sense of pride and unity
- Fostering mutual respect, leading by example and making genuine commitments at all levels
- Increasing the visibility of kapa haka in Te Tairawhiti, nationally and within the international arenas.

The exhibition will engage with the community to promote cultural pride and foster a deeper appreciation for Te Tairawhiti kapa haka.

Coupled into this is our mission:

'To honour and celebrate the rich cultural heritage and history of Tamararo as the oldest kapa haka competition in Aotearoa'.



Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

- The key strategic focus for Te Tairawhiti is growing Tamararo - its annual regional kapa haka event for tamariki, rangatahi and pāhake.
- Attendance at the wananga a motu in July provided the opportunity to enhance the standard of performances of kapa in the rohe.
- Office accommodation has been secured giving a much-needed boost to our administration and secretariat team
- Tamararo 2024 was held from 30 November – 1 December at Te Poho ō Rawiri marae in Gisborne. An estimated 860 performers from 21 kapa haka took the stage, including 17 primary school kapa and four high school kapa. The in-person audience was estimated to be 4,750, with an additional 243,400 live stream views.
- Development and succession planning for kaiwhakawā is a priority. A wānanga was held at Hauiti marae in Uawa with eight participants, including four rangatahi.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- The number of kapa haka from kura, kohanga and playcentres in the rohe is increasing. For Te Mana Kuratahi, 17 kapa performed including two new kura. For Mokotini, 10 kapa performed.
- The pool of knowledge and skills is also growing with rangatahi kaihaka learning the Te Tairawhiti anthems.
- Further initiatives for developing leadership and performance skills for rangatahi include the establishment of a Rangatahi Advisory Group to lift the standard and improve the level of performances and maintain regular rangatahi wānanga, with 3 held this year.

BUSINESS GROWTH

- Te Tairawhiti continue to actively look to diversify income sources to ensure financial sustainability and growth. The hire age of our stage has attracted usage by other rohe and the local Tairawhiti Schools Festival.
- The consideration to providing accounting services is being pursued.
- Tamararo branded merchandise has attracted good sales in this financial period.

PUBLIC IMAGE

- The rohe website continues to be worked on for Tamararo.
- In the interim, social media is being utilised to share the Tamararo brand and highlight events in the rohe, growing social media reach.
- Tamararo is a significant brand and has a strong presence within the rohe. The enhancement of the Tamararo kaupapa is highly regarded and dominant within Tairawhiti kapa haka.



Waihīrere

Ngāti Kahungunu

Rohe Society: Ngāti Kahungunu Rūnanga Arts and Culture Board

- **Chairperson:** Narelle Huata
  - Charles Ropitini
  - Tūhoe Huata
  - Lisa Paenga
  - Sheree Cotter-Spooner

Message from rohe Chair, Narelle Huata

Te Wairatahi Te Okanga mauri ora ki te whenua – Tākitimu!
Ki a tātou te hunga ora!

Te Maramataka marama mā toru o te tau Māori. Ngāi Hereturikōkā te iho matua ahiahi te paraparawai o ngā Rangi! Tama roto! Tūranga roto! Te maari kōmata atanga o te rangi.

Te ārai toto kore o te waka tapu o Tākitimu
Tihei Mauri ora!

Acknowledgement to Te Taiwhenua o Tamatea for hosting the Ngāti Kahungunu whakataetae ā-rohe and their outstanding effort of manaakitanga and presenting a memorable event for everyone. Appreciation and acknowledgement to all our teams who stood this year and to our qualifiers for Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027. We wish you well in your campaign.

1. Te Rangiura o Wairarapa – nō Ngāti Kahungunu ki Te Wairarapa
2. Te Kapa Haka o Kahungunu – nō Ngāti Kahungunu ki Heretaunga
3. Te Kapa Haka o Ngāti Ranginui – nō Tauranga moana
4. Te Rerengā Kōtuku – nō Ngāti Kahungunu ki Te Wairoa.

It has been another busy year for the Board to reaffirm and strengthen the relationships within the arts throughout the Ngāti Kahungunu rohe, supporting various kapa haka kaupapa and arts related events.

Kaupapa the Board has supported for the 2025/26 year.

- Koroneihana, Coronation for Te Kuini Ngawai Hono i Te Pō (inaugural)
- Kahungunu qualifiers (3) to compete in Te Mana Kuratahi (nationals)
- Takitimu Te Kahu o Te Amorangi Haka Symposium (inaugural)
- National Waiata Māori Music Awards (allied event)
- Toitū Te Reo Festival (allied event)
- Te Kura Raumati (Māori performing arts for rangatahi)
- Kahungunu Day (rohe event on Waitangi Day)
- Takitimu Te Kahu o Te Amorangi Whakataetae-ā-rohe 2026 (hosted by Tamatea)
- Takitimu waka, Ngāti Kahungunu iwi wānanga developments at Bennett Rd, Waipatu
- Ngā Manu Kōrero (regional)
- Kahungunu qualifiers (4) to compete in the Te Kura Tuarua (nationals).

Mihi to our board members Charles Ropitini, Tūhoe Huata and Lisa Paenga for their ongoing support and efforts for Ngāti Kahungunu Rūnanga Arts and Culture Board.

Acknowledgement to our new delegate Sheree Cotter-Spooner representing Ngāti Kahungunu on Te Matatini National Board. We also acknowledge the work of our Pou Takawaenga for Kahungunu rohe with Te Matatini, Elizabeth Clarke, providing continuity of our rohe development programme of events and helping the Ngāti Kahungunu Board transition to our new delegate.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the support and advocacy of Takitimu waka – Ngāti Kahungunu Rūnanga Arts and Culture.

Ngā manaakitanga
Narelle Huata
Chair, Ngāti Kahungunu Rūnanga Arts and Culture Board

Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

- Work within the Kahungunu rohe focused on strengthening relationships across all reanga to ensure cohesion, continuity and the long-term sustainability of kapa haka. This includes building strong connections with stakeholders and creating opportunities for intergenerational engagement, supporting the development of clear pathways for participation and growth.
- Ongoing support was provided to kapa haka and related events, enhancing engagement and overall experiences within the rohe.
- A key priority was refining data collection practices, with improved tools and processes being tested and aligned with best practice to ensure accurate and consistent evaluation across all events.
- These combined efforts supported strategic rohe objectives, strengthened collaboration, and contributed to sustainable, long-term outcomes for kapa haka and the wider Kahungunu community.

BUSINESS GROWTH

- The rohe continued to focus on strengthening systems, capability and long-term sustainability by developing key operational frameworks.
- Investment in IT capability remained a priority, with work under way to pilot systems that connect kapa haka practitioners and participants across the takiwā.
- Significant milestones included the successful launch of Takitimu – Te Kahu o Te Amorangi, strengthening cultural identity and collaboration.
- Further efforts will include developing mentoring programmes and succession planning to support future leaders. These initiatives enhance organisational capability, strengthen best practice, and support sustained growth and connectivity across the Kahungunu kapa haka network.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Rangatahi engagement has been actively strengthened through a wide range of cultural, leadership, and capability-building opportunities. Youth were encouraged and supported to participate in key kaupapa, including the Koroneihana celebrations, Haka Symposium, Ngāti Kahungunu Kapa Haka Regionals and the Waiata Māori Music Awards, where they also gained practical event management experience.
- Participation extended to regional competitions, summer wānanga, and major community events such as Kahungunu Day. This built performance capability, confidence and cultural identity. A dedicated rangatahi panel at the Haka Symposium further amplified youth voice and leadership.
- Ongoing encouragement to engage in kapa haka wānanga and national initiatives, including Ngā Manu Kōrero and Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua Nationals, continued to strengthen pathways for development. Financial support for qualifying kura reduced barriers to participation.
- Collectively, these initiatives foster leadership, intergenerational learning, and sustained engagement, ensuring rangatahi remain central to the future growth and vitality of kapa haka in Kahungunu.

KAPA HAKA DEVELOPMENT

- Financial and resource support was provided across the rohe to strengthen kapa haka development, participation and cultural connection. Key investments supported iwi representation at Koroneihana, Te Mana Kuratahi qualifiers, and the successful delivery of the Tākitimu – Te Kahu o Te Amorangi Ngāti Kahungunu Kapa Haka Regionals 2026 and Haka Symposium.
- Ongoing support enabled a wide range of wānanga, events and initiatives, including Taikura programmes, Kura Raumati, regional whakataetae and collaborative events such as the Toitū Te Reo Festival. These efforts enhanced capability across all reanga and strengthened relationships within the rohe.
- Further investment has supported event planning, delivery and participation, ensuring accessibility and engagement across communities.

Te Kāhui Maunga

Rohe Society: Te Kāhui Maunga Society Incorporated

- **Chair:** Elijah Pue
- **Deputy Chair:** Aroha Broughton-Pue
- **Treasurer:** Sarah-Lee Rangi
- **Secretary:** Janine Maruera
- **Māngai:** Tamzyn-Rose Pue
- **Patrons:** Te Taepa Kameta, Patricia (Bib) Ngarewa, Kura Simon
- **Māngai:** Tamzyn-Rose Pue
- **Ngā Purapura o Te Taihauāuru:** Nacole Pue, Renee Temara
- **Ngā Waihotanga:** Tere Diamond
- **Pātea Māori Cultural Theatre Trust:** Judy Marurea, Laura Maruera
- **Te Aiotanga o Houkura:** Matapaepae Urwin, Leslie Hughes
- **Te Kura Nui o Paerangi:** Ngahuia Kawau, Racquel McKenzie
- **Te Matapihi:** Mere Whanarere, Ina Whanarere
- **Te Pou o Tamahina:** Aiden Ngarongo, Pehikino Crown
- **Te Reanga Morehu o Rātana:** Rangimarie Tamou
- **Te Wainui-ā-Rua:** Jade Mill, Dr Rāwiri Tinirau
- **Tūtū Kā'ika:** Raymond Kaiki, Allana Prestney

Maimai Aroha

Ngā Pakeke o Rātana

- Mere Nepia
- David Kingi
- Rihari Rourangi

Te Reanga Morehu o Rātana

- Preston Te Ara Pumau Heremia

Kuia o Ngā Pakeke o Rātana me Te Reanga Morehu o Rātana

- Nanny Piki McFadyen
- Nanny Hannah Hineamo Nepia-Pukutohe

Ngā Pakeke o Rātana me Te Reanga Morehu o Rātana

- Rima Ririnui

Ngā Waihotanga

- Stormy Pehi
- Koro Henare Ngaia
- Tawhairiri Paenga

Te Aiotanga o Houkura

- Georgana Rawinia Tuari (nee Tito)


Ngā Purapura o Te Taihauāuru


Ngā Pakeke o Rātana

Message from Tamzyn-Rose Pue, delegate for Te Kāhui Maunga

Kei ngā kura tāwhiti, kei ngā pūreirei o te motu, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou.

Ka tukuna tonutia ngā whakaaro nui ki te hunga ku' takahi i te ara pūhana o ngā mātua ngutu atamai o tuawhakarere, e moe rā koutou i te moe e au ai te moe. Kāti, ki tātou te kaupapa tangata e ngana nei ki te whakakīkī i ngā whāwhārua, tēnā tātou.

Our region has witnessed a profound resurgence in kapa haka, deeply uniting our communities in Taranaki, Whanganui and Rātana. Through outstanding achievements at the Te Kāhui Maunga regionals and sustained progress across all ages, our performers continued to uplift our cultural identity, safeguard our heritage, and amplify the voices of our people.

The past year was a period of monumental growth. Participation has surged in both performers and haka enthusiasts, with exponential growth across junior and senior divisions, reflecting a strong intergenerational commitment to Māori performing arts.

The Te Kāhui Maunga senior regional qualifying competitions, which took place at Whai Tapuwae Nō Rongo in Waitara, beautifully demonstrated this steady growth. I would be negligent if I did not recognise the accomplishments of every rōpū. Ngā Purapura o Te Taihauāuru won the regionals for the first time and will represent our rohe alongside Te Reanga Mōrehu o Rātana, Ngā Waihotanga, and Te Kura Nui o Paerangi at Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027.

It is important to our rohe that our tamariki are immersed in te reo Māori and tikanga at the grassroots level. Initiatives included the Pae Tamariki festival in Whanganui, the Tātarakihi festival in Taranaki for primary and intermediate schools, and the Pae Rangatahi competition for Taranaki and Whanganui secondary schools. Our senior haka teams remain dedicated to the cause and provide the steadfast support of our kaumātua who performed at the Taikura festival at Te Papa Tongarewa.

The transmission of mātauranga Māori remained unbroken. We saw families practicing side-by-side, ensuring our language, history, waiata and haka are passed seamlessly from one generation to the next. As we look toward the future, the consistent development of these cultural practices ensures that our marae and communities will continue to thrive. This year's triumphs and our ongoing progress reflect a shared vision: empowering our whānau to live, breathe and celebrate their culture every day.

Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

› Investment across multiple initiatives strengthened cultural revitalisation, intergenerational learning, and community wellbeing. Funded events such as Puanga Festival and Taranaki Tū Mai successfully promoted te reo Māori, tikanga and inclusive spaces for cultural expression. Key kaupapa including the Rātana celebrations and Hui Aranga demonstrated strong national participation, high-quality performance, and deepened connections across whānau, with intergenerational learning and cultural identity outcomes.

› Targeted investment in Taikura continued to uplift Pāhake, recognising their critical role in preserving and transmitting mātauranga to future generations.

› Support for kaiako through Te Kāhui Whetū strengthened collaboration, cultural capability and consistent teaching practices, enhancing outcomes for tamariki and rangatahi.

› Overall, these initiatives reflect a cohesive strategy to grow kapa haka, strengthen identity, and build sustainable, culturally grounded communities through shared learning, leadership development and regional partnerships.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

› Funding supported four qualifying rōpū to compete at Te Mana Kuratahi, enabling tamariki to showcase their skills nationally while normalising te ao haka within education and fostering confident, resilient learners.

› Investment in Ngā Manu Kōrero ā Rohe has supported the development of articulate, confident rangatahi, with four speakers advancing to national level. The kaupapa continues to strengthen te reo Māori, leadership and cultural identity, with strong participation from kura, whānau and communities.

› Further investment in secondary schools kapa haka excellence supported three qualifying rōpū to compete at Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua nationals, including a first-time qualifier. This supported access to expert tuition, wānanga and logistical resources, strengthening performance, leadership and cultural grounding.

› Collectively, these initiatives enhance pathways for rangatahi, reduce barriers to participation and build capability, ensuring strong representation and continued growth of kapa haka across Te Kāhui Maunga.

KAPA HAKA DEVELOPMENT

› Regional competition planning for Ngā Whakataetae Kapa Haka ā Rohe progressed effectively, with milestones for logistics, registrations and judge appointments all achieved. Funding applications were submitted, and governance structures established to support delivery. The event, hosted by Ngā Purapura o te Taihauāuru, was highly successful, selling out and attracting strong community engagement through a vibrant marketplace and quality media partnerships. High standards were maintained through effective planning, skilled judging and strong volunteer support. Participation increased, reflecting growing confidence and commitment across kapa.

› Resourcing was allocated for Te Matatini 2027, supporting the four qualifying kapa to prepare for the national competition. This funding enables high-quality wānanga, strengthens reo, tikanga, leadership and performance capability, and supports intergenerational knowledge sharing.

› Overall, these initiatives enhance cultural identity, regional representation and long-term kapa haka sustainability, contributing to stronger community wellbeing and collective growth across the rohe.

BUSINESS GROWTH

› Te Kāhui Maunga governance and organisational capability were strengthened through a focused programme of compliance and accountability. Independent expertise was used to review systems, strengthen policies and enhance financial oversight.

› Capability building supported administrators and kapa to improve financial literacy, reporting and governance, resulting in more efficient processes.

› Marketing and branding efforts reinforced identity, with the 2025 rebrand and new visual assets enhancing regional visibility and cohesion.

› Collectively, these initiatives have strengthened organisational integrity, improved stakeholder trust, reduced administrative burden and supported sustainable development, ensuring kapa and kaupapa are well-positioned for long-term success and cultural impact.



Ngā Purapura o Te Taihauāuru

Rangitāne



Rohe Society: Rangitāne Māori Cultural Arts Society Incorporated

- **Chair:** Daniel Kawana
- **Executive Assistant:** Teia Whiting
- **Treasurer:** Hinemoana Durie-Shedlock
- **Committee Members:** Haimona Maruera, Pita Savage, Liza Whaiapu
- **Te Matatini/Rohe Delegate:** Haimona Maruera
- **Te Matatini Pou Takawaenga:** Nuwyne Te Awe Awe Mohi

Maimai aroha

He kura e tangihia, he mamae aroha, rehurehu ana te tihi mō runga o Tararua me Ruahine. Kua tau te kēkēao o mamae nui, o mamae roa o te tuarā-o-te-ika.

Turuturu roimata ana ki ngā riporipo o te Manawatū. He au here toroa ki ngā mate e tangi, e mōteatea ana e te iwi Māori, ki ngā kura whakahirahira, kua hinga ki raro e, takoto, e rarau!

Message from Haimona Maruera, Delegate for Rangitāne

Mai-arara te pou o tai-whakararo
Mai-arara te pou o tai-whakarunga
Mai-arara te pou mai te tai-uru ki te tuarā-o-te-ika
E ara e…
Ko tangata rau o uta, Ko tangata rau o tai
Ko ngā tangata rau o te ao haka
e mihi ana, e Rarau e!

We acknowledge, with sincere appreciation, the delegates and committee members who served the rohe before 2025. Their commitment, leadership and contribution laid an important foundation for our region and for the continued growth of kapa haka across our communities. We honour the work carried forward over many years and recognise the role it has played in sustaining te ao haka for current and future generations.

With a relatively new committee now in place, there is a renewed commitment to redesigning, strengthening and shaping a future-focused vision for te ao haka across the rohe. This includes supporting clear and inclusive pathways from kōhanga reo and early childhood through to mana kuratahi (primary schools), kura tuarua (secondary schools), and pakeke (senior kapa haka). By nurturing participation from the earliest stages, the rohe aims to strengthen identity, confidence, leadership and excellence across all levels of kapa haka development.

Current priorities included reconnecting with and reviewing the constitution to ensure it remains fit for purpose, reflects contemporary needs and supports strong governance into the future. Thoughtful consideration is also being given to regional naming, with the aim of better reflecting the breadth, identity and inclusiveness of the wider Lower North Region.

Recognising the value of unique collaboration, strengthening inclusion and growing the wider interests of the rohe continued to be important regional goals. Together, these priorities signal a positive step forward as the rohe works collectively to honour the past, strengthen the present, and prepare a sustainable pathway for the future of te ao haka. Tangata Rau kia ū, kia mau.

Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

- Te Matatini and the Rohe Development Fund enabled significant infrastructure and organisational development across the rohe. A major achievement was the procurement of a regional performance stage, which was transported, assembled and successfully used for the first time at Tangata Rau 2026. This strategic asset improves access to quality performance infrastructure, supports regional events and creates future opportunities for sustainable income through stage hire.
- Governance and operational capability were strengthened through constitutional and policy review, legal and professional support, improved financial systems, progress towards completing outstanding audits, and recruiting dedicated administrative support and new governance expertise.
- Work continued on the proposed Tangata Rau identity, regional naming discussions and development of a new website. These changes are intended to better reflect the breadth, identity and aspirations of the rohe, subject to engagement and confirmation by the rohe.
- The development of Whare Haka strengthened connections between primary, secondary, and senior kapa haka. This provides a more inclusive foundation for regional planning, engagement, data collection and future kapa haka development.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Investment in rangatahi delivered strong cultural, educational and leadership outcomes. Funding supported secondary and primary school kapa haka participation, regional competitions and national pathways, ensuring cost was not a barrier to involvement.
- Manukura also represented the rohe at Koroneihana and continued to build cultural leadership through an international cultural exchange to Japan.
- Partnerships with schools, iwi, Palmerston North City Council and community organisations further expanded opportunities through programmes focused on te reo Māori, te ao haka, literacy, leadership and wellbeing. These initiatives continue to strengthen confidence, identity and future leadership pathways for rangatahi across the rohe.

EVENT QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS

- Tangata Rau 2026 brought together nine kapa and approximately 360 kaihaka, creating opportunities for performance, whakawhanaungatanga, cultural exchange and collective celebration. Extensive planning and engagement with kapa leaders supported transparent judging processes, rule development, volunteer coordination and event delivery.
- The event also provided an opportunity to test the new infrastructure and strengthen its capability to deliver future regional events.

PUBLIC IMAGE

- The success of local kapa at civic, regional and national levels demonstrated the growing strength and visibility of kapa haka across the wider Rangitāne rohe.
- Local kapa supported numerous civic and community events including Waitangi Day celebrations, the Festival of Cultures, Palmerston North Civic Awards 2025, Massey University openings, New Zealand Secondary School Volleyball Championships, sports awards and Matariki / Puanga events. These performances enhanced the profile of kapa haka while creating fundraising opportunities for participating groups and strengthened community understanding and appreciation of te ao Māori.
- The development of the Tangata Rau brand, website and digital content positively strengthened the public profile of the rohe. By gathering and sharing regional stories, performances and achievements, Tangata Rau is helping to build a stronger sense of regional identity and providing an important platform to celebrate, promote and grow kapa haka excellence across the Rangitāne rohe into the future.

Te Whanganui-a-Tara

Rohe Society: He Kupenga Toi Manawa, Wellington Māori Cultural Society

- **Chair**: Merlene Maxwell
- **Deputy Chair:** Kura Moeahu
- **Financier:** Para Hiroti
- **Executive Administrator and Rohe Māngai**: Hollie Pohatu
- **Pou Takawaenga:** Ginny Maxwell

Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

- Over the past year, significant outcomes have been achieved across the rohe through the support of Te Matatini and the Rohe Development Fund.
- Our kura kapa haka festival grew from a one-day event in 2024 to a successful two-day event in 2025, doubling participating teams, creating opportunities for kōhanga reo to perform, and increasing both audience attendance and online viewership through livestreaming by Te Upoko o Te Ika. The event also strengthened cultural identity, with all Kura Auraki (mainstream) schools performing under Māori kapa names.
- Rohe-wide development has accelerated through financial support, tutoring, guest speakers, and advisory assistance. Between October and November, six new kapa were established, alongside the return of Tū Te Maungaroa.
- Participation in competitive kapa haka increased by 100% from the previous senior regional competition, with 240 additional kaihaka attending musters. Ongoing planning, stakeholder engagement, and support for teams preparing for Te Matatini 2027 continue to strengthen capability, participation, and long-term sustainability across the rohe.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Significant investment in rangatahi development strengthened kapa haka capability across the rohe. A panel of 10 expert facilitators were established, providing specialist knowledge in haka, poi, haka theatre, rākau movement, composition, musical arrangement, vocal distribution, and stage choreography.
- Through Haka Tipu, 65 rangatahi aged 14 to 18 participated in a dedicated development programme focused on growing skills, confidence, and excellence within Te Mahi a Rēhia and Tāne Rore traditions. The initiative created meaningful pathways for emerging leaders and performers while strengthening connections across the rohe.
- The impact of this investment above was evident in secondary school kapa haka participation, with five teams representing Te Whanganui-a-Tara and Te Awakairangi at the 2026 national secondary competitions in Tauranga. Additional support was allocated to all secondary representatives, ensuring equitable access to resources and opportunities to achieve and perform at their highest level.

KAPA HAKA EXCELLENCE

- The rohe continued to strengthen kapa haka participation, leadership, and excellence across all levels. Recognition awards celebrated outstanding contributions to community development, competitive kapa haka, kura-based delivery, national representation, and regional events, highlighting the breadth of commitment sustaining kapa haka within the rohe.

KAPA HAKA DEVELOPMENT

- Competitive kapa haka participation continued to grow, with five new teams established and supported through regular development hui, financial assistance, and competition guidance.
- Entries for the 2026 regional competition increased to 13 groups, a 160% increase from 2024, bringing total performer numbers to 520 and strengthening pathways to Te Matatini 2027 qualification.
- Taikura participation remained strong, engaging approximately 510 kaumātua performers.

BUSINESS GROWTH

- Governance and operational capability continued to strengthen across the rohe. A new Treasurer was appointed, while the executive committee progressed efforts to secure experienced personnel to support key operational functions.
- Focus areas included building organisational capability and providing business mentorship to newly established kapa, supporting sustainable growth, stronger governance, and long-term readiness for future regional and national participation.



Te Upoko o te Ika a Maui Taikura

Te Tauihu

Rohe Society: Te Tauihu Kapa Haka Incorporation

- **Chairperson**: Sonny Alesana
- **Treasurer:** Tania Alesana
- **Secretary:** Erina Tuhakaraina
- **Vice Chairperson**: Janis de Thierry
- **Vice Treasurer:** Ariana McKinlay
- **Vice Secretary:** Apitoni Filiai
- **Kaumātua:** Jane du Feu
- **Te Matatini Delegate:** Tom Alesana

Message from Tom Alesana, delegate for Te Tauihu Kapa Haka Incorporation

I salute both the female and male elders whose faces are no longer seen. My grief will never fade, it will always well up, again and again. You are the ones who nurtured us, who urged us on, who led us down the years, the crucible of Māori language and customs. Travel onward to the gathering of the precious ones, and rest in peace.

The haka tradition continues to develop in Te Tauihu (Northern South Island) – the numbers of kapa haka featuring children those made up of adults. Our task is to strengthen them, and develop their skills, in every district of the Northern South Island. We will achieve this through our competitions and all kinds of events

We have established learning events for children, for young people. We have developed a strategic plan for our area. There are many events planned for the future. In time, the dreams of our kuia and koroua wil be fulfilled

I acknowledge the work of the executive committee of Te Tauihu, you were the ones who made huge efforts, and perspired as you worked to lead the district. The whole kapa haka community sees the fruits of your work. If it were not for you many of the kapa haka events in this area would never happen.

I mention also our Poutakawaenga here, Melissa Barnett, who has only just left to take up a new position at the national office of Te Matatini. She has done such amazing work in past years, to you my friend Michelle, travel off in good health and we will see you in good time in good health.

Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

- Rohe development has progressed strongly, with consistent weekly committee hui enhancing collaboration, accountability, and momentum.
- Governance has been strengthened through a new constitution and elected committee. Governance and strategic development have strengthened significantly across Te Tauihu Kapa Haka.
- A major highlight was the Te Tauihu Kapa Haka Inc 55-year celebration, attended by over 250 people, showcasing excellence and unity. The event honored past and present life members and was successfully delivered within budget funded by the Rohe Development Fund.
- Ongoing initiatives include support for kaihaka attending key events, contributions at Koroneihana, and a regional photoshoot capturing kaihaka at significant sites for the development of a new website.
- Investment in future generations is evident through the sponsorship of community kapa haka initiatives and the upcoming Tamariki Enhancement Wānanga.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Rangatahi development across Te Tauihu remains strong, with meaningful participation in cultural, leadership, and community initiatives. Senior taiohi supported the 55th Anniversary Ball, gaining valuable experience in manaakitanga and event delivery.
- Rangatahi from Marlborough and Nelson secondary schools travelled to Ngā Manu Kōrero in Te Kāhui Maunga, proudly supporting speakers, with the rohe coming away with the E Tipu e Rea Award for highest aggregate.
- Youth voices contributed to strategic planning hui, while others engaged in waiata wānanga, tutoring and composition spaces.
- Rangatahi participation was a strong and visible feature of Kia Hūkere te Hoe regional kapa haka competition, contributing across all aspects of the event. Their involvement included performing as kaihaka within all senior rōpū that competed, while three rōpū also took part in the secondary school section. Beyond performance, they played a vital role in event operations, assisting with venue pack-in and pack-out, backstage coordination, side-of-stage management, floor ushering, and videography support. Their active participation highlighted the strength of rangatahi engagement and their valuable contribution to the success of the event.
- Additional highlights included engagement with the Governor-General's visit and ongoing support for Ngā Manu Kōrero participants.

EVENT QUALITY & EFFECTIVENESS

- Kia Hūkere te Hoe ki Wairau 2026 attracted approximately 5,000 attendees; it was a strong celebration of kapa haka and community participation over two days.
- Operational improvements include a new communications database, ongoing website development, and exploration of enhanced digital platforms.
- A formal Life Membership process has been established, while proven systems ensured the successful delivery of the 55th Anniversary Ball.
- Creative development progressed through new rohe waiata resources, while successful event delivery, volunteer recognition, and completion of the Te Reo Māori strategy reflect continued organisational leadership.

KAPA HAKA EXCELLENCE

- Kia Hūkere te Hoe and the 55th Anniversary Ball highlighted the legacy and sustained growth of kapa haka across Te Tauihu.
- Progress continues with the Tamariki Enhancement Programme, with content and logistics well underway, alongside Kapa Haka 101 wānanga aimed at building tutor capability and campaign readiness.
- Kapa support funding was effectively distributed, ensuring equitable support across 25 groups, including targeted travel assistance. Investment in judging capability and regional relationships was strengthened through wānanga, a Q&A session with experts, and representation at external regionals.
- These collective efforts reflect ongoing commitment to capability building, strategic alignment, and sustainable kapa haka development.
- A three-day wānanga in Wairau advanced the Strategic Plan for 2027 and beyond, incorporating insights from council representatives, whānau, rangatahi, and kaumātua to shape future direction.

Waitaha

Ngā Pākihi Whakatekateka o
Waitaha Cultural Council Trust

Rohe Society: Waitaha Cultural Council

- **Chair:** Taua Ranui Ngarimu ONZM
- **Vice Chair:** Thomas Aerepo-Morgani
- **Secretary:** Sherilyn Brown
- **Treasurer**: Paula Hutana
- **Kaumātua Advisors**: Tihi and Willy Puanaki
- **Patron:** Reihana Parata
- **Te Matatini Delegate:** Junior Tana

He maimai aroha

Nāia ake rā he maimai aroha ki a Hemi Te Hēmi, ki a Alex Toma Waihirere me ngā mate tāruru nui o te tau:

Tīoro! Tīoro! Kekē mai ana te manu taki ata, te manu haea, taupua ana ki ruka o Aoraki, ko te tohu rā pea o te mate, he whakauenukutaka i te riroka o kā ika pounamu, ko haoa rā e Aituā nopenope, e Aituā makitāunu. Watua rā koutou, kai ōhoku rau tītapu i te takutai o te raki, ko tai ahiahi ki a koutou, ko tai awatea ki a mātau, kā mahuetaka iho. Okioki mai rā i te auka o te moe.

Message from Junior Tana, Delegate for Waitaha

The past year has been one of growth, reflection and renewed purpose for Waitaha.

As delegate, I have had the privilege of representing our rohe in Waitaha and across the wider Te Matatini movement. Throughout that journey, one thing has remained clear: our greatest strength has never been found solely in what we achieve on stage, but in the people, relationships and kaupapa that sustain us long after the curtain falls.

This year we invested deliberately in our future. We have strengthened pathways for kaihaka, tutors and kaiwhiriwhiri, expanded opportunities for rangatahi, supported kura and communities, and continued to build the governance and organisational capability required to serve our people well. Every wānanga, hui and partnership contributed to something much greater than a single event; it has contributed to the future of kapa haka in Waitaha.

The launch of our Waitaha Manako Nui Strategic Roadmap marked an important milestone. It provides a shared direction for our rohe and reflects the aspirations expressed by our people: to grow capability, strengthen connection and build sustainable foundations for generations to come. It reminds us that excellence is not achieved by chance; it is built through deliberate investment in people, culture and leadership.

This year also reinforced the importance of kotahitanga. While we may come from different communities and bring different perspectives, we remain united by our commitment to protect and advance kapa haka as a living expression of our identity, language and culture. Our responsibility extends beyond preparing for the next competition; it is to leave Waitaha stronger than we found it.

I want to acknowledge every kaihaka, tutor, kaiwhiriwhiri, kaumātua, volunteer, whānau member and supporter who contributed throughout the year. Your commitment, often given quietly and without recognition, is what allows our kaupapa to flourish.

As we look ahead, I am filled with optimism. The foundations being laid today shape the experiences of future generations. If we continue to lead with humility, courage and shared purpose, I have every confidence that Waitaha will continue to thrive through the strength of our people and the legacy we leave for those who follow.

He tina ki runga, he tāmore ki raro.


Hemi Te Hemi


Alex Toma Waihirere

Overview of progress in the rohe

Guided by the Waitaha Manako Nui Strategic Roadmap and grounded in the enduring principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the past year focused on three interconnected priorities: Building People (Whakatupu), Building the Rohe (Whakahāngai), and Building Excellence (Whakauka). Through these pou, Waitaha has invested in capability, strengthened regional connections, and developed sustainable systems that position kapa haka to flourish for future generations.

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

- A significant milestone for the rohe was the Waitaha Manako Nui Symposium, which celebrated 60 years of Ngā Pākihi Whakatekateka o Waitaha Cultural Council and launched the Waitaha Manako Nui Strategic Roadmap. Bringing together kaumātua, kaihaka, tutors, governors and community leaders, the symposium honoured the legacy of those who have shaped kapa haka in Waitaha while establishing a shared vision for the future. Grounded in the enduring relationship affirmed through Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the roadmap provides a clear direction for growing capability, strengthening connections and ensuring the long-term sustainability of kapa haka.
- This strategic direction was supported through targeted investment in tutor and kaiwhiriwhiri development, Tihei Waitaha karanga workshops, the Waitaha Waiata Recording Project, and governance initiatives that strengthened leadership, succession planning and organisational capability. Regional and national engagement through Koroneihana, Wharekauri and strategic Te Matatini hui further strengthened cultural relationships and reinforced Waitaha's contribution within the wider kapa haka movement.
- Community initiatives, including Tūhono Festival and Moana Pounamu 10s, broadened participation and strengthened whanaungatanga beyond the competition stage. Continued investment in communications, digital engagement and organisational systems further strengthened regional connectivity, accountability and the sustainable delivery of kaupapa Māori throughout Waitaha.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Building people remained a central focus throughout the year. More than 50 rangatahi participated in Whanake Mai, while a further 30 developed performance and technical capability through dedicated upskilling initiatives. The Waitaha Secondary Schools Competition continued to grow, engaging approximately 360 performers and strengthening collaboration across kura.
- Financial support for Waitaha qualified groups attending Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua o Aotearoa reduced barriers to participation and reinforced pathways from kura to regional and national kapa haka. Together, these initiatives strengthened cultural identity, leadership capability, and long-term succession within Waitaha.

EVENT QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS

- Building excellence was reflected through investment in people, systems and event delivery. Tutor and kaiwhiriwhiri development improved technical capability, judging consistency and cultural integrity while aligning regional practice with national expectations. Strategic planning, strengthened partnerships and improved communications contributed to the successful delivery of the Waitaha Regional Competition, featuring 19 teams and five qualifiers to Te Matatini 2027. Continued investment in community events such as Mātāiwi Festival and participation in the World Buskers Festival broadened public engagement with kapa haka, strengthened cultural visibility and reinforced Waitaha's commitment to excellence both on and beyond the stage.

Te Whenuamoemoeā

Rohe Society: Kapa Haka Australia
Ngā Kapa Taumata Teitei Māori Performing Arts Australia Inc

Board Members

- **Chairman:** Ihaka Te Ao Cotter OAM JP, Kanipera, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Delegate
- **Treasurer:** Lucy Martin, Poihākena, New South Wales (NSW) Delegate
- Reverend Mervin Enoka, Te Urupu, Western Australia (WA) Delegate
- Kamanu Dennis, Poipiripi, Victoria (VIC) Delegate
- Te Teira Davis, Te Whenua Ariki, Queensland (QLD) Delegate

Message from Ihaka Cotter, Delegate for Te Whenuamoemoeā

This year marks a significant milestone, with 21 years of Kapa Haka Australia, from our humble beginnings in 2005 with the inaugural kapa haka festival at the Rosehill Gardens Racecourse in Sydney. We celebrated the 10th Te Whenuamoemoea Regional Kapa Haka Festival in 2026. Festivals have been held in Victoria, Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Western Australia and Queensland. We are very proud to celebrate 21 years as a national entity. This has come about by the hard work, dedication and support of many people over the years, some who are no longer physically with us. We miss them dearly, moe mai ra, rest in peace.

We congratulate our three qualifying kapa haka groups that were successful in qualifying at the 10th Te Whenuamoemoeā National Festival held on the Gold Coast on 27 to 28 March 2026. We must also acknowledge all nine groups that competed at our qualifying regional festival.

- First place: Te Kahu Ariki, Queensland
- Second place: Te Kapa Haka O Te Hau Tawhiti, Queensland
- Third place: Te Whare Haka O Nārama, Victoria

They will represent their state and Te Whenuamoemoeā at Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027.

We are very proud of their achievements and the three groups are now working very hard fundraising and preparing their dynamic performance brackets to attend Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027 to compete against the best kapa haka groups in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Kapa Haka Australia Incorporated delegates representing Western Australia, Victoria, Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Queensland continued to work hard engaging and liaising locally: reporting, data collecting, monitoring, face to face meetings with their groups and supporting the kaupapa. We all work collaboratively to support each other for what is best for kapa haka in Australia.

A very special acknowledgement to Mrs Tina Te Marama Elizabeth Harris who received an honorary award on 16 May 2026 from Kapa Haka Australia / Nga Kapa Taumata Teitei Māori Performing Arts Australia Inc in recognition for her many years of dedicated, selfless service to te ao Māori in Australia, Te Whenuamoemoeā.

He mihinui ki a Te Matatini mō ō rātou tautoko mai ki a mātou te rohe o Te Whenuamoemoeā. A very special acknowledgement of gratitude to Te Matatini for their continued support to our rohe. Our board and rohe is always very thankful for the support and financial contributions to be able to further progress kapa haka development in Australia.

Our board is privileged to humbly serve our people to foster, develop and encourage greater integration of traditional Māori performing and creative arts in the pursuit of excellence in Australia. This aligns with the mission statement of Te Matatini "... to foster, develop and protect kapa haka in the pursuit of excellence".

Te Whenuamoemoeā supports of the vision of Te Matatini: Mana Motuhake ki te Kainga. Matatū, Mataora, Matatini ki te Ao – rohe led, Te Matatini supported.

We are looking for a brighter future for all whānau wanting to venture to Australia. We also wish to encourage those whānau who have never been involved with Māori culture or kapa haka to be inquisitive and come and find themselves through our beautiful culture.

Tina Te Marama Elizabeth Harris



Overview of progress in the rohe

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

- Te Whenuamoemoeā strengthened regional capability and connectivity across Australia through establishing and developing state-based structures. Australian Capital Territory was set up in 2005, with New South Wales, Western Australia and Victoria this financial year. Regular engagement between delegates, kapa haka and community stakeholders improved communication, strengthened reporting mechanisms and increased participation in regional decision-making.
- The rohe successfully planned and delivered the 10th Te Whenuamoemoeā Regional Festival, bringing together kapa haka communities from across Australia. The festival strengthened relationships with Te Matatini, Te Matatini Enterprises, First Nations communities, local government representatives, sponsors and wider community stakeholders. It reinforced the role of Kapa Haka Australia in bringing communities together and supporting cultural wellbeing for Māori living across Australia.
- The Rohe Development Survey conducted over two days at Te Whenuamoemoeā Regional Festival highlighted the positive impact of kapa haka in Australia.
- There was significant success across digital engagement, media visibility and cultural storytelling over the festival period. Exceptional audience growth and reach occurred across Kapa Haka Australia social media platforms including:
  - Instagram growth from 538 followers pre-festival to 5,804 followers post festival
  - over 9.4 million Instagram views generated organically
  - strong engagement through reels, collaborative posts and live festival coverage.
- Te Whenuamoemoeā hosted an after pōwhiri networking meet and greet function with sponsors, and invited guests to celebrate and acknowledge their contributions and 21 years of Kapa Haka Australia.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- Rangatahi participation remained a focus and a strength throughout the year. Young people actively engaged in kapa haka, te reo Māori, mau rākau, harakeke, karanga and whaikōrero wānanga across all states and territories. These activities strengthened cultural knowledge, identity and leadership pathways for future generations.
- Youth were consistently involved in community events, pōwhiri and performing groups, with rangatahi participating not only as performers but also as volunteers and emerging leaders.
- At Te Whenuamoemoeā National Festival, rangatahi aged 14 to 17 years were represented across nine of the competing groups, demonstrating the strength of the future talent and the success of ongoing efforts to foster intergenerational cultural transmission.

BUSINESS GROWTH

- Te Whenuamoemoeā continued to strengthen organisational sustainability through the successful execution of its 2025/2026 Service Agreement with Te Matatini Enterprises, maintenance of financial compliance obligations, and ongoing engagement with key stakeholders and funding partners. Strong governance practices ensured all reporting, planning and accountability requirements were met throughout the year.
- Te Whenuamoemoeā Regional Festival generated substantial community, stakeholder and sponsor engagement, attracting representation from First Nations leaders, local indigenous communities, elected representatives, businesses, sponsors, stallholders and supporters from across Australia and Aotearoa. These partnerships enhanced the visibility of kapa haka and positioned Te Whenuamoemoeā for future growth, investment and long-term sustainability.

KAPA HAKA DEVELOPMENT

- Kapa haka continued to thrive across the rohe, with the emergence of seven new kapa haka groups. Regular kapa haka practices, wānanga and leadership development opportunities strengthened capability within existing groups while creating new pathways for participation.
- A major achievement was the successful delivery of the 10th Te Whenuamoemoeā Regional Festival, where nine groups from Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia performed with a total of 292 performers taking the stage. Three groups qualified for Te Matatini 2027: Te Kahu Ariki (Queensland), Te Kapa Haka o Te Hau Tawhiti (Queensland) and Te Whare Haka o Nārama (Victoria). The event showcased the growing quality, depth and reach of kapa haka across Australia.

TE MATATINI KI TE AO



1. Rarotonga
Te Maeva Nui 60th Anniversary Constitution celebrations Rarotonga

2. Australia
Queen Elizabeth College Kapa Haka travelled to Australia

3. Japan
MANUKURA visit Japan as part of International Cultural Exchange

4. Thailand
Te Whirikōkō o Rangitāne travel to Thailand to participate in the Pearl High Season Festival

5. Italy
Muriwhenua Kapa Haka travel to Italy to perform at the Tocatii street festival in Verona

6. Australia
Ngā Tūmanako perform at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Showcase, Brisbane

7. New Zealand
Angitu perform at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo Showcase, Auckland

8. China
Aorere College visit China as part of International Cultural Exchange

9 + 16 + 20 Hawaii
Ngā Puna o Waiōrea visit Hawai'i as part of International Cultural Exchange

Tom Alesana and Bailee Tava travel to Hawai'i to speak on a youth panel hosted by the Lili'uokalani Trust

Fielding High School travel to Hawai'i as part of international cultural exchange

10. South Korea
Wheiao Haka - South Korea (Festival)

11. Malaysia
Te Kapa Haka o Ngāti Whakaue represent Aotearoa in Kuala Lumpur at ASEAN Commemorative Summit

12. Vietnam
Ngāti Rangiwewehi represent Aotearoa at a ceremony celebrating 50 years of Vietnam-New Zealand relations

13. England
Descendants of Māori scholar Mākereti Papakura receive posthumous degree

14 + 15. Tahiti
Tahupōtiki Maori Club travel to Tahiti to perform at the Matari'i Raro Festival

Waerenga Te Kaha senior rōpū & Regional Concil delegation travel to Tahiti to perform at the Raromatai festival

17. Bali
Kōkō Tangiwai ki Nusantara International Folklore Festival i tū ki Ubud, Bali

18. Belgium
Te Ahikaaroa ki International Taptoe Belgie i tū ki Belgium. I haere ngātahi me te Highland Dance Company of New Zealand

19. Rarotonga
Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Whānau Tahi visit Rarotonga

Te Kuru Marutea



SHARED SERVICES

– ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE

Overview

Shared Services was established in August 2025 to provide an integrated organisational platform to support the effective delivery of Te Matatini and Te Matatini Enterprises' priorities. It brings together business functions under one model to strengthen alignment, consistency and organisational capability across both entities.

Shared Services ensures that systems, processes and organisational practices are coherent, sustainable and aligned to the strategic direction of Te Matatini.

Purpose

Shared Services exists to:

- Enable Te Matatini and Te Matatini Enterprises to focus on the delivery of strategic and kaupapa outcomes.
- Provide consistent, coordinated and reliable organisational support.
- Strengthen stewardship of financial, digital and organisational resources.
- Support informed and effective decision-making through robust systems, policy frameworks and communications.

Scope of services

Shared Services delivers a coordinated suite of organisational functions.

- **Information technology and digital** – development, maintenance and enhancement of systems, infrastructure and digital capability.
- **Organisational and policy development**, review, and maintenance of organisational policies and frameworks.
- **Organisational advisory** – Provides practical guidance to directors and managers on performance, development, conduct change and workforce planning.
- **Communications** – provides clear, consistent and kaupapa-aligned communications.
- **Finance** – financial management, reporting and stewardship of organisational resources.

These functions operate collectively to support effective organisational performance and accountability.

Establishment rationale

The establishment of Shared Services reflects a deliberate response to an organisational review and improvement activity, including work done across IT systems, policy frameworks and operational structures. This work identified the need to:

- Strengthen alignment and integration across functions.
- Improve the consistency and maturity of systems and processes.
- Enhance visibility, coordination and organisational oversight.
- Build sustainable capability to support organisational growth.

The Shared Services model reduces duplication, strengthens governance and supports a more cohesive and efficient operating environment.

Delivering value

Shared Services contributes to organisational performance by:

- Strengthening core organisational infrastructure and foundations.
- Enabling consistent and effective ways of working.
- Improving access to reliable information to support planning and decision-making.
- Supporting coordinated delivery across Te Matatini and Te Matatini Enterprises.

Focus for 2025/26 and 2026/27

Over the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years, Shared Services is progressing a set of critical organisational improvement programmes.

- **Policy review programme** – Following a comprehensive policy review and gap analysis undertaken in 2025/26, a full programme of work will be delivered in 2026/27 to update existing policies and develop new policies. This will ensure alignment with best practice, legislative obligations, and the organisation's values and strategic direction.
- **IT systems review programme** – Building on the commissioned review of IT systems across Te Matatini and Te Matatini Enterprises, 2026/27 will focus on implementation through a structured systems review and mapping project. This will establish a clear roadmap for system improvements, resource allocation, intellectual property management and risk mitigation, supporting sustainable and integrated IT operations.

These programmes are central to strengthening organisational capability, improving operational effectiveness, and supporting the delivery of Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027 and beyond.

Special project

- Automated Judging System – AJS will be redesigned, rebuilt, and tested during 2026/27 to modernise the competition judging process. This work will improve the transparency, accuracy and timeliness of results, with the system to be fully tested, refined and ready for Te Matatini o Ngā Taniwha 2027.

Shared Services' commitment

Shared Services operates with a commitment to:

- Uphold kaupapa Māori principles in organisational practice.
- Build strong, enduring relationships across the organisation.
- Continuous improvement and capability development.
- Transparency, accountability and disciplined stewardship.

TE MATATINI ENTERPRISES

AOTEAROA KAPA HAKA LIMITED (AKHL)


Te Matatini Enterprises

Te Matatini Enterprises (TME) is the social enterprise subsidiary of Te Matatini Society Incorporated. We are guided by the vision: "to protect, promote, and practice Māori cultural and creative excellence, contributing to Māori wellbeing through kapa haka excellence."

We are committed to developing and protecting our intellectual property and commercial assets to optimise creating value and impact for kapa haka and its communities. By leveraging commercial opportunities, we generate sustainable revenue for continued investment in the growth, development and advancement of kapa haka.

As a profit-for-purpose organisation, we reinvest commercial returns to support the growth and advancement of kapa haka in Aotearoa and the world. We are committed to social responsibility and sound corporate stewardship, balancing positive community impact with sustainable commercial success.

This was the second year of *Te Matatini Ki Tua 2024–2029*, our strategic framework. It reflects our commitment to sustainable growth, global expansion, kapa haka excellence and social responsibility.

During the year, TME and the National Office worked together to develop the new Te Matatini strategic plan, which contributes to the organisation's long-term direction and priorities. The themes emerging from this work align closely with Te Matatini Ki Tua and will ensure a cohesive and unified approach across the organisation as we continue to strengthen our impact, performance and future growth.

This annual report outlines our progress for the financial year ending 2026 and reflects the achievements of our strategic priorities.

1 Whai Hua

BUSINESS GROWTH

We grow our business so we can invest in our culture and people to contribute to Māori wellbeing.

Outputs:

- Foster a culture of continuous improvement that drives business growth
- Increase sustainable revenue streams from commercial, private, philanthropic and Crown investment and partnerships
- Foster economic growth opportunities for our communities
- Preserve and grow cultural activations by investing in talent building, workforce development, training and cultural sustainability initiatives

Financial Sustainability Strategy

A key objective for the year was finalising the Financial Sustainability Strategy. This included an international expansion framework, sponsorship framework and segmentation framework. It established a clear direction for revenue growth, revenue diversification, globalisation and long-term asset development, positioning us for sustainable long-term success.

To support the Financial Sustainability Strategy, we developed a Digital Partnership Prospectus to enable targeted engagement with prospective partners.

These initiatives opened new pathways for growth in domestic and international markets, strengthening revenue sustainability and supporting our long-term objectives.

Improved systems and processes

We established our Shared Services function to strengthen our organisational capability and support the strategic priorities of Te Matatini and Te Matatini Enterprises. Developed in response to organisational review and improvement activity, Shared Services is designed to improve coordination and efficiency across organisational services, organisational oversight, and corporate stewardship.

Māori procurement target

Our annual plan set an 80 percent Māori procurement target. We prioritised cultural fit in our recruitment strategy as part of an organisational restructure.

2 Tūhono Tāngata

STAKEHOLDER EXPERIENCE

We focus on growing our connections with people and engaging new audiences in our cultural activations.

Outputs:

- Foster a sense of cultural inclusivity by actively engaging diverse audiences
- Design integrated audience experiences across various audience touchpoints
- Streamline the end-to-end stakeholder journey, reducing friction points and enhancing overall satisfaction rates

Engagement and reach

The Senior Kapa Haka Regionals 2026 and Te Mana Kuratahi 2025 were pivotal engagement events, connecting with stakeholders and achieving unprecedented audience reach, participation and support across our platforms and communities. Among the year's highlights were the 1,464,281 total live broadcast and video on-demand (VOD) views of the Senior Kapa Haka Regionals 2026 , a 4.2 percent increase from 2024, demonstrating continued audience growth.

Our social media performance delivered exceptional results, reaching 695 million views across all platforms, a 418 percent increase on the previous year and a clear indication of the growing influence, visibility and appeal of kapa haka worldwide.

We achieved significant audience growth across social channels:

- 798,000 TikTok followers (378 percent growth)
- 471,000 Facebook followers (391 percent growth)
- 361,000 Instagram followers (162 percent growth).

Digital platforms and experience

Following a robust procurement process and thorough assessment, we selected a preferred supplier to scale our social media presence from two to seven channels.

The next phase of our digital roadmap is to bring 50 years of heritage content to light in a financially sustainable way. We are developing and testing a new app, to shape a digital experience that reflects and serves our kapa haka community.

3 Whakaaweawe Whānui

GLOBAL INFLUENCE

We take kapa haka to the world, creating a global brand that supports international interest and investment.

Outputs:

- Build a sustainable global network of partners committed to advancing mutual strategic objectives
- Execute targeted campaigns tailored to key markets to enhance global brand visibility
- Identify opportunities to expand to new markets

International reach and brand visibility

We delivered a 21-day social and promotional campaign celebrating the legacy of kapa haka in Australia. We achieved strong audience engagement across Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia while extending global brand visibility and building momentum ahead of the senior regional competition. Te Whenuamoemoeā senior regionals event marked 21 years of kapa haka in Australia, and our campaign featured archival footage highlighting this cultural legacy while enhancing brand presence and showcasing the global growth of kapa haka.

We successfully delivered a global campaign in conjunction with the launch of the Ngā Whakataetae ā Rohe 2026 – Matariki Collection album on 26 June 2026. Featuring 14 regional tracks representing all Te Matatini rohe, the album formed the cornerstone of an international campaign aimed at positioning kapa haka as a globally recognised cultural export.

The 24-hour campaign featured global digital advertisements, led by a high-frequency digital billboard in New York Times Square, complemented by a wider rollout across major international centres including Toronto (Yonge-Dundas Square), Las Vegas (Strip & Fremont Street), London (Piccadilly Circus) and Tokyo (Shibuya Crossing).

The campaign generated 118,302 impressions through 31,901 digital placements delivering strong brand visibility and audience reach. It enabled global storytelling across each location and initiated opportunities across multiple global markets. The campaign positioned Te Matatini in the global indigenous and cultural performance landscape and established a model for future global campaigns and markets.

4 Whakaaro Hihiri
INNOVATION

We are a gateway to Te Ao Māori driving transformation while protecting the integrity of cultural assets.

Outputs:

- Promote and celebrate multi-disciplinary cultural innovation
- Showcase the use of cultural assets for innovation
- Explore the integration of modern technologies with traditional cultural assets

IP protection technology

As kaitiaki of significant cultural and creative taonga, protecting intellectual property remains a key strategic priority.

We continued to strengthen our digital intellectual property protection framework using automated rights management technology, verified rights metadata and platform-based copyright protection systems. Content distributed through our channels was registered with the major platform Content ID and rights management systems, enabling the automated identification, monitoring and management of unauthorised use.

No intellectual property infringements were identified or reported during the year, demonstrating the effectiveness of the technology and rights management controls that are in place.

We also commenced due diligence on a global artificial intelligence-based intellectual property detection and infringement management platform. The proposed solution will:

- provide enhanced monitoring of online and social media environments
- automate the detection of unauthorised use across a broader range of digital platforms
- strengthen enforcement and reporting capabilities.

Subject to completion of procurement and implementation, this technology is expected to be deployed during the next financial year.

A significant component of our long-term intellectual property strategy is digital fingerprinting of archival taonga through the Taonga Repat programme. Digital fingerprinting creates a unique digital signature for each audio and audiovisual recording, enabling content to be accurately identified wherever it appears online, even where it has been edited, shortened or incorporated into other material.

This work is critical to protecting our cultural and intellectual property. It:

- supports automated copyright recognition
- improves the identification of unauthorised use
- preserves provenance and ownership information
- strengthens future licensing opportunities
- ensures our historical archive can be effectively protected and managed across current and emerging digital platforms.

We also reviewed our intellectual property framework settings. This work reflects our commitment to protecting the integrity, ownership and long-term value of our intellectual property. It ensures future management practices align with kaitiakitanga, Māori data sovereignty, and evolving digital opportunities while protecting the cultural integrity of kapa haka and supporting sustainable long-term value for performers, composers, rōpū, iwi, and hapū.



Muriwhenua

This review represents an important step in strengthening our stewardship of taonga and positioning us to maximise opportunities for future growth, engagement and impact.

Digital content innovation

The launch of the Ngā Whakataetae ā Rohe 2026 – Matariki Collection album on Spotify, Apple Music, and other major streaming platforms represented a key innovation in content distribution.

Backed by our Te Matapuhou internship programme, we are preparing to launch The YouTube Funnel. Harnessing the natural intuition of the digital natives generation alongside tried-and-tested social media strategies, this campaign builds on the market-leading digital statistics we've achieved to date, positioning us for continued global growth. Our ongoing commitment to intellectual property protection culminated in a strategic partnership with our music distributor, DRM NZ. Together, we are implementing the IP protection safeguards of The Orchard – Music Distribution to safeguard our content and digital assets across YouTube platforms.

Photography and video

We archived and catalogued 17,292 high-quality visual assets, including 16,241 kapa photos and 530 kapa reels. These provide a comprehensive and diverse representation of the events throughout the year.

Continued growth

The financial year ending 2026 has been pivotal, marked by continued growth and achievements across our strategic priorities. Through strengthened partnerships, expanded audience engagement, and the successful delivery of key events, we have continued to elevate the reach, impact, and influence of kapa haka in Aotearoa New Zealand and globally.

Looking ahead, we are positioned to align with the refreshed Te Matatini Group Strategy as we continue to protect, promote and champion Māori cultural and creative excellence. Guided by our commitment to sustainable growth, cultural integrity and innovation, we remain focused on strengthening the long-term wellbeing, influence and success of kapa haka and its communities for generations to come.

Financial Statements

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TE MATATINI SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Statement of Responsibility

The Executive Committee and Management of the Te Matatini Society Incorporated accept responsibility for the preparation of the financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2026, and the judgements used therein.

The Executive Committee and Management accepts responsibility for establishing and maintaining a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of financial reporting.

In the opinion of the Executive Committee and Management, the consolidated financial statements fairly reflect the financial position and operations of Te Matatini Society Incorporated and its subsidiary undertaking Aotearoa Kapa Haka Limited.

These consolidated financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board on 25 September 2026.

Tā Selwyn Tanetoa Parata KNZM
Tiamana | Chairman

Carl Ross
Te Manahautū | Chief Executive

Consolidated Statement of Service Performance

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

OUR PURPOSE

Ki te whāngai, ki te manaaki, ki te whakatipu i ngā mahi kapa haka kia puāwai ki ōna taumata

Fostering, supporting and growing kapa haka in the pursuit of excellence

OUR VISION FOR 2050

Mana Motuhake ki Te Kāinga.
Matatū, Mataora, Matatini ki Te Ao

Contribute positively to the overall health and social wellbeing of Aotearoa whānui, through kapa haka

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Strong rohe delivering excellence through kapa haka

TE MATATINI SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Statement of Service Performance

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

Throughout 2025/26, we continued to build on the aspirations set out in our vision: Mana Motuhake ki Te Kāinga.

A significant area of focus over the past three years has been rohe development. In the first year, we focused on laying a strong foundation and setting up the infrastructure to support and implement the rohe development model.

Significant progress was made in 2023/24 on implementing the model, including appointing 12 Pou Takawaenga across Aotearoa and all 12 rohe entities achieved compliance. In 2024/25 we embedded the rohe development model and continued to distribute funding to rohe to support development of kapa haka at the grassroots level.

In 2025/26, Te Matatini continued to actively broaden our scope of delivery to support and recognise the contribution of kapa haka in the community, to strengthen the positive contributions kapa haka makes to our diverse communities.

Changes in Statement of Service Performance reporting from previous financial year

The Statement of Service Performance (SSP) is based on the Outcome Agreement between Te Matatini and Manatū Taonga, which is negotiated each year in consideration of the following factors:

› level of government funding provided by Manatū Taonga
› whether it is a national festival year, or a regional competition year

The year 2025/26 was the first year of increased baseline funding (beyond the original two-year stimulus funding package provided through Budget 2023). This increased baseline funding has continued to support the growth of kapa haka across our communities.

Te Matatini National kapa haka festival is a biennial event. As 2025/26 was a regional competition year, a significant focus was on delivering regional events. Many of the key activities reported on in this year's SSP therefore differ from those of the 2024/25 year.

We have reported on all eight key result areas, demonstrating progress against all areas of our strategic plan *Te Pītau Whakarei*, ahead of the launch of our next strategic plan, *Hawaiki Hou*, by the end of September 2026.

Consolidated Statement of Service Performance

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

KEY RESULT AREA 1

TE WHANAKE I NGĀ ROHE

ROHE DEVELOPMENT

Rohe development remains a significant area of focus. Increased funding enables us to actively support and recognise the contribution of kapa haka to our whānau, hapū, iwi and diverse communities across Aotearoa New Zealand.

OUTCOMES	SERVICE (FUNCTIONS)	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	2025/26 TARGET	RESULT AND COMMENTARY
		Number of teams participating in the senior regional kapa haka competitions 2026	160	**201**
		Increase in participation (teams participating) in the senior regional kapa haka competitions 2026	5%	**0%** While the overall number of kapa has stayed the same, there has been a 7.3% increase in the number of kaihaka participating in the senior regionals
Rohe are supported to achieve intergenerational growth, wellbeing and economic sustainability	**Support higher participation rates (from kōhanga to kaumatua) across all rohe through the regional kapa haka model**	Number of teams participating in Te Mana Kuratahi	40	**Achieved** **62 kapa performed**
		Increase in participation (teams participating) Te Mana Kuratahi	5%	**Achieved** **38% increase** (up from 45 kura participating in 2023)
		Number of teams participating in Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua	35	**Achieved** **41 kapa performed**
		Increase in participation (teams participating) Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua	5%	**Not Achieved** **42 kura participated in 2023.** Note: The number of participating teams is capped at 42 (this target has been removed going forward)
Those at the grassroots level of te ao haka continue to receive the direct benefits of rohe development funding	**Continue to develop rohe capacity through the allocation and distribution of funding to each rohe within Aotearoa to support growth in kapa haka**	Rohe Development Plans completed by rohe based on 2025/26 RDF funding allocation and approved by National Office	12	**Achieved**
		Progress updates completed by rohe and provided to National Office	36	**Achieved**
The wellbeing of kapa haka communities continues to improve	**Develop a mechanism to measure the wellbeing of kapa haka communities**	Draft wellbeing survey prepared, ready for distribution in 2026/27	Draft survey completed	**Complete**

Consolidated Statement of Service Performance

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

KEY RESULT AREA 2

WHAKATIPU PAKIHI

BUSINESS GROWTH

Te Matatini works closely with Te Matatini Enterprises (trading as Aotearoa Kapa Haka Limited), the social enterprise arm of the organisation to support long-term business growth to enable our diverse communities create a better future for our mokopuna.

OUTCOMES	SERVICE (FUNCTIONS)	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	2025/26 TARGET	RESULT AND COMMENTARY
Diverse Kapa Haka communities are enabled to create a better future for our mokopuna	**Diversify investment in Kapa Haka through sponsorship and strategic partnerships**	Investment diversification of 10 per cent achieved in 2025/26	10%	**Achieved**
Demonstrate the value Kapa Haka brings to Aotearoa New Zealand	**Delivery of Te Matatini 2025–2027 research programme to strengthen the evidence base on the positive impacts of kapa haka**	Research reports prepared in 2025/26	1	**Achieved**

Consolidated Statement of Service Performance

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

KEY RESULT AREA 3

TE KOUNGA ME TE HUA O TE MATATINI

EVENT QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS

Te Matatini aims to provide kapa haka experiences that are available for all New Zealanders whilst continually improving the standards of our traditional Māori performing arts.

OUTCOMES	SERVICE (FUNCTIONS)	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	2025/26 TARGET	RESULT AND COMMENTARY
Aotearoa indigenous culture is showcased, through Kapa Haka events at all levels	Te Matatini Senior Regional Competitions held	Successful delivery of 2026 Senior Regional Competitions	12 events held	**Achieved**
		Total number of attendees at 2026 Senior Regional Competitions	50,000	**70,000**
		Audience satisfaction rating for regional senior competitions	80%	**98%**
	Support for Te Mana Kuratahi (national primary school competition)	Collaborate on the successful delivery of Te Mana Kuratahi	1 event held	**Achieved** Te Mana Kuratahi held 3-7 November 2025
	Support for Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua (national secondary school competition)	Collaborate on the successful delivery of Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua	1 event held	**Achieved** Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua o Aotearoa held 29 June - 3 July 2026
	Support for Taikura Kapa Haka 2026 (annual kaumātua festival)	Collaborate on the successful delivery of Taikura Kapa Haka 2026	1 event held	**Achieved** Taikura Kapa Haka Festival is aligned with Matariki. The 2025 event was held 28-29 June. The 2026 event was held 4-5 July
Continued growth of the national festival	Early preparations for the 2027 national festival	Festival event team is in place by 31 August 2025 to ensure smooth delivery of the 2027 national festival	2027 Festival Event Team established	Te Matatini is trialling a co-governance event management approach to delivering the festival, which involves a higher number of stakeholders to engage. While this has taken longer, it has led to positive outcomes such as financial input from a larger number of sponsors. As a result, the Festival event team was in place by 25 March 2027.

Consolidated Statement of Service Performance

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

KEY RESULT AREA 4

TE WHANAKE RANGATAHI

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The sustainable future of kapa haka depends on developing effective leaders and communities who ensure the continuation of our kaupapa. We contribute to rangatahi development through supporting Te Mana Kuratahi, Ngā Kapa Haka Tuarua o Aotearoa and rangatahi scholarships.

OUTCOMES	SERVICE (FUNCTIONS)	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	2025/26 TARGET	RESULT AND COMMENTARY
Kapa haka is used to engage youth leadership and further education opportunities	Contestable tertiary education scholarships	Number of tertiary institutions that are supported to provide scholarships in traditional Māori performing arts	3	**Achieved**
	Provide internships to rangatahi Māori	Number of internships	2	**Achieved** 2 Matapuhou internships
Rangatahi Māori have a platform to participate in kapa haka	Provide governance funding to support Te Mana Kurathi and Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua	Funding provided to Te Mana Kuratahi governance committee by 31 August 2025	$150,000	**Achieved**
		Funding provided to Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua governance committee by 31 August 2025	$150,000	**Achieved** $225,000 was provided to ensure the full governance costs for Ngā Kapa Haka Kura Tuarua were met by Te Matatini

KEY RESULT AREA 5

TE HIRANGA O TE KAPA HAKA

KAPA HAKA EXCELLENCE

Te Matatini showcases excellence in kapa haka and performing arts through national and international events.

OUTCOMES	SERVICE (FUNCTIONS)	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	2025/26 TARGET	RESULT AND COMMENTARY
Kapa haka contributes to promoting a confident and connected culture	**Kapa haka experiences are available in the regions**	Locations across Aotearoa New Zealand reached by live performances	12	**Achieved** Events held in all 12 rohe
Māori performing arts are promoted and have a platform for excellence	**Provide support to national kapa haka champions to perform at international tours and festivals**	Distribute $350,000 funding for teams to perform in international tours and festivals	International Touring Fund allocation exhausted by 30 June 2026	**Not Achieved** This fund was underspent by $81,612 due to reduced demand for our participation in government delegations in 2025/26
			Three international tours and visits supported	**Achieved**

KEY RESULT AREA 6

TE WHANAKE I TE KAPA HAKA

KAPA HAKA DEVELOPMENT

Te Matatini provides funding and coordination to further promote and support the development of kapa haka activity and participation in the rohe.

OUTCOMES	SERVICE (FUNCTIONS)	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	2025/26 TARGET	RESULT AND COMMENTARY
Rohe and roopu are supported to develop capability within Māori performing arts	**Rohe Development Fund is administered, and funding is distributed to all rohe**	Number of Rohe supported through the Rohe Development Fund	12	**12**
		Local rohe wānanga supported	48	**183**
		Number of participants in local rohe wānanga	2,400	**7,439**
		Participant satisfaction rating from local rohe wānanga	75%	**97%**
Capability and capacity growth is prioritised by Te Matatini	**Continue to provide tools and training to lift the capability withing the rohe**	Bring Pou Takawaenga together for learning and development wānanga	4 wānanga held	**Achieved**

Consolidated Statement of Service Performance

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

KEY RESULT AREA 7

TE WHANAKE MŌTIKA WHAKAIRO HINENGARO

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS DEVELOPMENT

We act as kaitiaki to safeguard kapa haka taonga and intellectual property. The work ensures the rights of content that belong to kapa haka remain with them and any commercialisation is in accordance with tikanga values and principles.

OUTCOMES	SERVICE (FUNCTIONS)	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	2025/26 TARGET	RESULT AND COMMENTARY
The protection of kapa haka intellectual property rights are maintained and upheld	**Through the Taonga Repatriation Programme, cultural assets are retrieved, catalogued and archived**	Number of assets archived, digitised and catalogued	1000	**Achieved** 8,250 assets archived
	Technology implemented to counter intellectual property infringement	Number of intellectual property infringement cases reduces.	10% reduction	**Achieved** No intellectual property infringements reported across our digital channels, exceeding the target and demonstrating the effectiveness of existing rights management controls
	The value of kapa intellectual property increases	Intellectual property value increases 2024-2025	2%	**Achieved** 12 per cent increase (Te Mana Kuratahi 2025)

KEY RESULT AREA 8

TE KANOHI PAI O TE MATATINI

POSITIVE PUBLIC IMAGE

Our aim is for Te Matatini to become an inclusive and integral part of whānau, hapū and iwi. Positive public image influences the hearts and minds of our communities and is essential for our continued success.

OUTCOMES	SERVICE (FUNCTIONS)	PERFORMANCE MEASURES	2025/26 TARGET	RESULT AND COMMENTARY
Te Matatini brand has a strong reputation	**Kapa haka events are available to audiences online and via TV broadcast**	Audiences reached by television and online broadcasts for the Senior Regional Competitions 2026	500,000	**Achieved** 1,464,281
	The public is engaged through social media channels	Engagement on social media	2 million views	**Achieved** 695 million views

TE MATATINI SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026	2025
Income			
Non-Exchange Revenue:	2		
MCH Baseline Funding		19,137,000	19,972,000
Production		25,000	320,000
National Festival		-	514,060
Total Non-Exchange Revenue		19,162,000	20,806,060
Exchange Revenue:	2		
Production		990,666	848,080
National Festival		-	5,617,513
Other exchange income		1,066,985	89,439
Total Exchange Revenue		2,057,651	6,555,031
Total Income		**21,219,651**	**27,361,091**
Expenditure	3		
National Office		5,180,302	5,470,811
Governance		480,548	483,783
Developments & Projects		12,199,549	18,435,022
Production		2,510,332	2,437,128
Total Expenditure		**20,370,730**	**26,826,744**
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		**$ 848,921**	**$ 534,347**
Other Comprehensive revenue and expenses		-	-
Total Comprehensive revenue and expense for the year		**$ 848,921**	**$ 534,347**

The above statements should be read in conjunction with notes to and forming part of the consolidated financial statements.

TE MATATINI SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
Movements in Equity		
Net Surplus (Deficit) for the year	848,921	534,347
Total recognised revenues & expenses	848,921	534,347
Movements in Equity for the year	848,921	534,347
Equity at beginning of year	1,669,578	1,135,231
Equity at end of year	**$ 2,518,499**	**$ 1,669,578**

The above statements should be read in conjunction with notes to and forming part of the consolidated financial statements.

TE MATATINI SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2026

	Note	2026	2025
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents		1,977,177	522,081
Sundry Receivables - Exchange		422,262	219,586
Merchandise		85,598	87,028
Prepayments		36,095	30,731
GST Receivable		248,903	126,570
Total Current assets		**2,770,035**	**985,996**
Fixed Assets			
Property Plant, Equipment and Intangibles	5	1,473,163	1,569,022
Total Fixed Assets		**1,473,163**	**1,569,022**
Total Assets		**4,243,198**	**2,555,018**
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable - Exchange		1,594,699	885,440
Grants in Advance (Non-exchange)		130,000	-
Total Current Liabilities		**1,724,699**	**885,440**
Net Assets		**2,518,499**	**1,669,578**
Accumulated Funds			
Net Surplus (Deficit) for the year		848,921	534,346
Equity at the beginning of the year		1,669,578	1,135,232
Total Accumulated Funds		**$ 2,518,499**	**$ 1,669,578**

The above statements should be read in conjunction with notes to and forming part of the consolidated financial statements.

TE MATATINI SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026	2025
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash Receipts from services provided		(212,013)	5,640,075
Cash Receipts from grants or transfers and other appropriations made by central government or other public authorities		20,162,000	20,806,060
Cash Receipts from Rohe		1,130,000	676,564
Payments to suppliers		(15,903,245)	(23,302,611)
Payments to employees		(3,513,864)	(3,912,113)
Interest received		66,985	89,439
Net GST Refunded/(Paid)		(122,333)	334,659
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		**1,607,531**	**332,073**
Cash flows from investing activities			
Acquisition of property, plant, equipment and intangibles		(152,436)	(452,521)
Sale of Term Deposits		-	205,088
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		**(152,436)**	**(247,433)**
Net increase\(decrease) used in cash		1,455,095	84,640
Opening Cash		522,082	437,441
Closing Balance Cash		**$ 1,977,177**	**$ 522,081**
Cash made up of:			-
Cash & Cash Equivalents 30 June		**$ 1,977,177**	**$ 522,081**

The above statements should be read in conjunction with notes to and forming part of the consolidated financial statements.

TE MATATINI SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

1. Statement of Accounting Policies

Reporting Entity

Te Matatini Society Incorporated (the "Society") is registered under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.
These consolidated financial statements incorporate Te Matatini Incorporated Society (the controlling entity) and its subsidiary undertaking Aotearoa Kapa Haka Limited - together referred to as the 'Group'.

The Group is involved in the promotion of Kapa Haka for the benefit of Māori and tikanga Māori. The Group's primary objective is to provide these services for the social benefit of people and organisations and not for financial return to equity holders. For this reason it is designated as a Public Benefit Entity (PBE).

Basis of preparation

(a) Statement of compliance

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice ("NZ GAAP"). They comply with Public Benefit Entity International Public Sector Accounting Standards ("PBE IPSAS") and other applicable Financial Reporting Standards, as appropriate for Tier 2 not-for-profit public benefit entities, for which all reduced disclosure regime exemptions have been adopted.

The Group qualifies as a Tier 2 reporting entity as for the two most recent reporting periods it has had between $5m and $33m operating expenditure.

These consolidated financial statements were authorised for issue by the Executive Committee on 18 September 2026.

(b) Measurement Base

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical costs basis.

(c) Functional and presentation currency

The consolidated financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars ($) which is the controlling entity's functional and Group's presentation currency, rounded to the nearest dollar ($'s).
There has been no change in the functional currency of the Group during the year.

Use of judgements and estimates

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected.

(a) Judgements

Judgements made in applying accounting policies that have had the most significant effects on the amounts recognised in the consolidated financial statements include the classification of revenue as exchange or non-exchange.

(b) Assumptions and estimation uncertainties

Assumptions and estimation uncertainties applied in the consolidated financial statements include the following:
- Key assumptions underlying determining the recoverable amounts for impairment testing
- Useful life, recoverable amount, depreciation/amortisation method and rate
- Residual value of Mahau.

Significant Accounting Policies

The following particular accounting policies, which materially affect the measurement of financial performance and financial position, have been applied:

Basis of consolidation

i. Joint ventures

Joint ventures are those entities over whose activities the Group has joint control, established by a binding agreement and requiring unanimous consent for strategic financial and operating decisions.
Joint ventures that are not structured in a separate vehicle are classified as either jointly-controlled-operations or jointly controlled assets. The consolidated financial statements include the Group's share of assets, liabilities, expenses, and revenues from the jointly-controlled-operation or jointly controlled asset on a line-by-line basis.

ii. Transactions eliminated on consolidation

Intra-group balances and transactions, and any unrealised income and expenses arising from intra-group transactions, are eliminated in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

Unrealised gains arising from transactions with equity accounted associates and jointly-controlled-entities are eliminated against the investment to the extent of the Group's interest in the investee.

Unrealised losses are eliminated in the same way as unrealised gains, but only to the extent that there is no evidence of impairment.

Changes in Accounting Policies

There were no changes in accounting policies during the year

Subsidiary and jointly controlled asset

Aotearoa Kapa Haka Limited is a 100% owned subsidiary (production company) of the Society. The company was incorporated on 7 May 2004.

An agreement with New Zealand Māori Arts & Crafts Incorporated gives Te Matatini joint ownership of the Mahau asset. The agreement also provides for the sharing of cost and revenue on a 50:50 basis.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

Revenue

The Group derives income through the provision of outputs for the Crown through the Ministry of Culture and Heritage for services to third parties, and income from its investments. Such income is recognised when earned and is reported in the financial period to which it relates.

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably and it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the Group, and measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

The following specific recognition criteria in relation to the Group's revenue streams must also be met before revenue is recognised.

i. Revenue from exchange services

Provision of services

Revenue from services rendered is recognised in surplus or deficit when the service is rendered.

Amounts received in advance for services to be provided in future periods are recognised as a liability until such time as the service is provided.

ii. Revenue from non-exchange transactions

Non-exchange transactions are those where the Group receives an inflow of resources (i.e. cash and other tangible or intangible items) but provides no (or nominal) direct consideration in return.

Grants are recognised as revenue when the conditions associated with the grants have been fulfilled.

With the exception of services-in-kind, inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions are only recognised as assets where both:

- It is probable that the associated future economic benefit or service potential will flow to the entity, and
- Fair value is reliably measurable.

Volunteer services received are not recognised as the fair value of the services are not able to be reliably measured.

Liabilities are recognised in relation to inflows of resources from non-exchange transactions when there is a resulting present obligation as a result of the non-exchange transactions, where both:

- It is probable that an outflow of resources embodying future economic benefit or service potential will be required to settle the obligation, and
- The amount of the obligation can be reliably estimated.

Employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefit liabilities are recognised when the Group has a legal or constructive obligation to remunerate employees for services provided within 12 months of reporting date, and is measured on an undiscounted basis and expensed in the period in which employment services are provided.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Financial instruments

(a) Recognition and initial measurement

Trade receivables are initially recognised when they are originated. All other financial assets and financial liabilities are initially recognised when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

A financial asset or financial liability is initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs that are directly attributable to its acquisition or issue. At initial recognition, an entity may measure short-term receivables and payables at the original invoice amount if the effect of discounting is immaterial.

The Society derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred or in which the Group neither transfers nor retains substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership and it does not retain control of the financial asset.

(b) Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial assets

On initial recognition, all of the Groups's financial assets are classified and measured at amortised cost.

A financial asset is measured at amortised cost if it meets both of the following conditions:

- it is held within a management model whose objective is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and
- its contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

These assets are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The amortised cost is reduced by impairment losses. Interest income, foreign exchange gains and losses and impairment are recognised in surplus or deficit. Any gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in surplus or deficit.

Cash and cash equivalents represent highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into a known amount of cash with an insignificant risk of changes in value, with maturities of 3 months or less.

Financial liabilities

All of the Group's financial liabilities are classified and measured at amortised cost.

Financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Interest expense and foreign exchange gains and losses are recognised in surplus or deficit. Any gain or loss on derecognition is also recognised in surplus of deficit.

(c) Impairment of financial assets

The Group recognises loss allowances for expected credit losses (ECLs) on financial assets measured at amortised cost.

The Group measures loss allowances at an amount equal to lifetime ECLs, except for the following, which are measured at 12-month ECLs:

- bank balances for which credit risk (i.e., the risk of default occurring over the expected life of the financial instrument) has not increased significantly since initial recognition.

Loss allowances for trade receivables are always measured at an amount equal to lifetime ECLs. When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition and when estimating ECLs, the Group considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis, based on the Group's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward-looking information.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

The Group assumes that the credit risk on a financial asset has increased significantly if it is more than 30 days past due.

The Group considers a financial asset to be in default when the financial asset is more than 90 days past due.
ECLs are a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses. Credit losses are measured as the present value of all cash shortfalls (i.e., the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive). ECLs are discounted at the effective interest rate of the financial asset.

Leases

Classification and treatment

Leases in terms of which the Group assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. The Group currently has no finance leases.

Operating leases

Leases that are not finance leases are classified as operating leases.

Operating leases are not recognised in the Group's statement of financial position. Payments made under operating leases are recognised in surplus or deficit on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives received are recognised as an integral part of the total lease expense, over the term of the lease.

Statement of Cash Flows

Operating activities include amounts received from provision of services, investment income and other income sources and payments to employees and suppliers to manage the day-to-day operations of the Group.
Investing activities are those related to the purchase and disposal of investments and property, plant and equipment and intangibles.
Financing activities comprise loans and borrowings.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

All items in the financial statements are exclusive of GST, with the exception of Sundry Receivables and Accounts Payables which are inclusive of GST.

Income Tax

The Society is registered as a charity under the Charities Services and as such is exempt from the payment of Income Tax.

The Society has taken legal advice that Aotearoa Kapa Haka Limited will also be regarded as a non taxable charitable entity as it operates solely in furtherance of the Society's objectives.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, Plant and equipment are recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation.
Depreciation or amortisation is provided on a diminishing value basis on all items at the following rates:

Office Equipment	10% - 33%	DV
Computer Equipment	40% - 48%	DV
Computer Website	40% - 48%	DV
Leasehold Improvements	10%	DV
Mahau	Nil	

The cost of Mahau is 50% of its construction price to the other joint venturer, being the cost of labour and materials. Mahau is not depreciated as its residual value is considered to exceed its cost.
Purchased software that is integral to the functionality of the related equipment is capitalised as part of that equipment.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2. Operating Revenue

	2026	2025
The operating revenue includes		
a) Non-Exchange Revenue:		
Ministry of Culture & Heritage Baseline Funding (see note 6)	19,137,000	19,972,000
Production	25,000	320,000
National Festival (see note 4)	-	514,060
Total non-exchange revenue	19,162,000	20,806,060
b) Exchange Revenue		
Production	990,666	848,080
National Festival (see note 4)	-	5,617,513
Interest	66,985	89,439
Rohe Contributions to Digital Platform	1,000,000	-
Total exchange revenue	2,057,651	6,555,031
	21,219,651	**27,361,091**

3. The net surplus is after charging for

	2026	2025
- National Office Expenditure		
Audit	33,421	33,780
Depreciation	240,358	227,402
Marketing & Promotion	37,175	10,000
Office Systems	124,197	135,987
Personnel	3,513,864	3,912,113
Contractors & Professional Services	752,559	612,783
Property & Maintenance	266,847	279,467
Telecommunications	18,579	24,104
Travel & Accommodation	193,300	235,175
	5,180,302	**5,470,811**
- Governance Te Matatini Society Inc. Board		
Annual General Meeting	785	23,549
Board Fees	243,833	249,561
Travel & Accommodation Expenses	164,994	203,653
Board Secretariat	66,058	-
Board Expenses	4,878	7,021
	480,548	**483,783**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

- Development & Projects	2026	2025
Festival Expenses (see note 4)	192,499	6,264,099
Regional Development Funding	10,522,824	11,065,620
Board Advancement	-	70,239
Due Diligence Festival	6,074	5,933
Annual Report	21,366	-
Audit Risk & Finance	45,593	2,781
Haka Nation	-	20,000
Aroha Noa Case Study	-	12,092
Community Development Programme	56,245	15,973
Automatic Judging System Review	42,528	-
Judges & Competition Review	55,144	-
IT Review	30,188	-
Rohe Development Roadshow	26,830	-
Projects - Festival Economic Impact	-	59,333
Edinburg Tattoo Costs	42,915	-
Ngā Tohu Reo Māori 2025	20,000	-
Fostering Excellence	-	5,500
National Haka Performances	40,000	-
International Touring Fund	268,388	327,467
Kura Tuarua Governance	225,000	150,000
Mana Kuratahi Governance	175,000	150,000
Mitatini - Te Reo	-	50,000
Research	313,955	-
Hui a Motu	-	102,609
Taikura	50,000	50,000
Te Whenua Moemoea Development Fund	-	8,377
Tertiary Scholarship Program	65,000	50,000
Te Waka Toi Awards	-	10,000
World Choral Games	-	15,000
	12,199,549	**18,435,022**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

4. Te Matatini Kapa Haka Festival

This is a biennial event and the festival was held in February 2025. These accounts include the following revenue and expenditure associated with the festival

	2026	2025
Income		
Sponsorship & Grants	-	2,753,000
Ticket Sales	-	1,576,695
Stalls	-	488,000
Rohe Contributions	-	1,077,814
Other	-	236,063
	-	**6,131,573**
Expenditure		
Administration	3,310	120,516
Contractors & Project Management	187,963	451,594
Marketing & Promotion	-	814,268
Communications	-	95,527
Event	-	2,393,613
Venue	1,226	2,388,582
	192,499	**6,264,099**

5. Property, Plant & Equipment and Intangibles

a) Property, Plant & Equipment

	Office Equipment	Computer Equipment	Leasehold Improvements	Mahau	Total
At Cost:					
Opening balance	231,903	210,876	745,673	275,790	1,464,242
Additions during the period	2,225	14,486	56,190	-	72,901
Disposal during the period	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2025	234,128	225,362	801,863	275,790	1,537,143
Additions during the period	13,324	18,850	-	-	32,176
Disposal during the period	-	(3,488)	-	-	(3,488)
Balance at 30 June 2026	247,452	240,724	801,863	275,790	1,565,831
Accumulated Depreciation:					
Opening balance	28,879	59,480	24,856	-	113,214
Depreciation charge for the period	30,768	63,355	73,098	-	167,222
Depreciation recovered on disposal	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2025	59,647	122,835	97,954	-	280,436
Depreciation charge for the period	27,196	43,280	70,391	-	140,866
Depreciation recovered on disposal	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2026	86,843	166,115	168,345	-	421,302
Net book value 30 June 2026	**160,609**	**74,609**	**633,518**	**275,790**	**1,144,527**

In terms of an agreement between Te Matatini and NZ Māori Arts and Crafts Institute, the half share in Mahau must first be offered to the other party should one of the parties wish to dispose of their share in Mahau.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

b) Intangibles - Computer Software & Website	
At Cost:	
Opening balance	70,673
Additions during the period	379,620
Balance at 30 June 2025	450,293
Additions during the period	123,750
Balance at 30 June 2026	574,043
Accumulated Amortisation:	
Opening balance	66,340
Charge for the period	71,638
Balance at 30 June 2025	137,979
Charge for the period	107,426
Balance at 30 June 2026	245,405
Net book value 30 June 2026	**328,637**

	2026	2025
Net book value PP&E and Intangibles	**1,473,163**	**1,569,022**

6. Ministry of Culture & Heritage

$19,137,000 of the Society's income is baseline funding derived from the 2023/2024 Outcome Agreement with the Ministry of Culture and Heritage. Funding received within the Agreement is for one fiscal year. (2025: $19,972,000)

The Ministry and the Society have entered into an Outcome Agreement wherein the Ministry will fund the Society $18,822,000 for the 2026/2027 year.

7. Statement of Commitments

Operating Lease commitments are as follows:

	2026	2025
Operating Lease		
0 to 1 year	212,700	212,700
1 to 5 years	514,025	726,725
later than 5 years	-	-
Total	**726,725**	**939,425**

The Group's current office lease commenced on 1 December 2023 with an initial term of 6 years and a renewal for an additional 6 years with a final expiry of 30 November 2035.

8. Going Concern

The financial statements place continued reliance of the going concern assumption. The Executive Committee believes that the Society will continue to be able to meet its debts as they fall due. The validity of the going concern assumption on which the financial statements are prepared depends on the Society successfully achieving this.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

9. Related Parties

Name of related party	*Nature of Relationship*
NZ Māori Arts & Crafts Institute	Joint ownership of Mahau
Members of the Executive Board	Key Management Personnel (KMP)
National Committee Members	Key Management Personnel (KMP)
Directors of Aotearoa Kapa Haka Ltd	Key Management Personnel (KMP)
Director of Te Wehi Kapa Haka Ltd	Key Management Personnel (KMP)

Key Management Personnel	2026 Remuneration $	2026 Number of Individuals	2025 Remuneration $	2025 Number of Individuals
Fees paid to Committee and Board members	273,833	16 People	279,561	15 People
Remuneration of KMP's **	890,479	2 FTE	857,500	2 FTE
Director of Te Wehi Kapa Haka Ltd	10,000	1 Person	10,000	1 Person
** Includes Legal & reimbusements	180,000		187,500	

Close Family Members of Key Management Personnel	2026 Remuneration $	2026 Number of Individuals	2025 Remuneration $	2025 Number of Individuals
Paid to Family Members	114,519	2 People	110,000	2 People

Included in payables is $nil due to NZ Māori Arts & Crafts Institute(2025:$Nil). There are no other amounts payable to related parties.

Included in receivables is $Nil due from NZ Māori Arts & Crafts Institute(2025:$57,500). There are no other amounts receivable from related parties.

The Board of Te Matatini also have members on the Rohe listed below.

Funds paid to Rohe	$ 2026	$ 2025
Te Kāhui Maunga	814,296	857,100
Ngāti Kahungunu	814,296	857,100
Mātaatua	1,114,920	1,172,328
Rangitāne	814,296	857,100
Tainui	989,604	1,039,704
Te Tairāwhiti	989,604	1,039,704
Te Taitokerau	814,296	857,100
Tāmaki Makaurau	1,114,920	1,172,328
Te Arawa	1,114,920	1,172,328
Te Tauihu	563,688	591,864
Te Whanganui ā Tara	563,688	591,864
Waitaha	814,296	857,100
Total Funds paid to Rohe	**10,522,824**	**11,065,620**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Funds received from Rohe	$ 2026	$ 2025
Te Kāhui Maunga	77,384	-
Ngāti Kahungunu	77,384	-
Mātaatua	105,952	-
Rangitāne	77,384	81,500
Tainui	94,044	102,083
Te Tairāwhiti	94,044	-
Te Taitokerau	77,384	97,083
Tāmaki Makaurau	105,952	99,647
Te Arawa	105,952	133,250
Te Tauihu	53,568	-
Te Whanganui ā Tara	53,568	81,500
Waitaha	77,384	81,500
Total Funds received from Rohe	**1,000,000**	**676,564**

Income received from and expenses paid to Rohe

Te Matatini paid out $10,522,824 (2025:$11,065,620) in funding to the 12 Rohe across the country as part of a Regionalisation initiative to empower Kapa Haka.

Te Matatini requested that the 12 Rohe put funds forward to support the development and implementation of the Te Matatini Digital Platform. Out of the 12 Rohe, 12 paid this year. Last year 7 Rohe put funds forward to support the 2025 Te Matatini festival.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Te Matatini Society Incorporated gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of our core funder and strategic partners.

Core Funder

MANATŪ TAONGA – MINISTRY FOR CULTURE AND HERITAGE

We receive baseline funding through Vote Arts, Culture and Heritage, under the Performing Arts Services appropriation. We have received Crown funding since 1998/1999 for 'providing national and regional kapa haka competitions and presenting high-quality kapa haka to New Zealand and international audiences'.

Strategic Partners

- Te Puni Kōkiri – Ministry of Māori Development
- Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga – Ministry of Education
- Air New Zealand
- New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts Institute
- Te Taura Whiri i te reo Māori
- Te Māngai Pāho
- Whakaata Māori
- TVNZ