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**He Pūrongo – Christmas 2017 Edition**

Nau Mai, Haere Mai!

In this panui:

* Update from the Chief Executive Officer
* Biennial Conference 2017
* Staff and Event updates.

**CEO CHAT …**

Ngā mihi nui to our members and supporters throughout Aotearoa and Australia.

As we conclude another year, I take this time to remember those members who passed away, our achievements, the support my team and I were able to provide to our members and the role of our Board has had in influencing policy and services delivered by the Crown.

Throughout the year our team of dedicated administration, field staff and volunteers provided advice and support to members and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge them and their commitment to our kaupapa.

As you will read this year was our biennial conference and it was an honour to work with our Waihopai members to showcase Invercargill and host our members, supporters, stakeholders and international guests. We also had our General meeting at which the 2017-2019 Te Kahui Tumuaki was announced with the retirement of two long serving board members and confirmation of two new members, our Vice President being elected President and our outgoing President being elected Vice President.

I take this opportunity to also acknowledge the relationships we have strengthened throughout the year, both nationally and internationally commencing with the hosting of the Global Network of Indigenous Peoples with Disabilities inaugural meeting in March and collaborative alliances with other disability providers, disabled persons organisations, corporate entities, government and non-government officials.

2018 will no doubt be another productive year with our key focus being to host regional member hui, hold a think tank hui with our rangatahi, revitalize our regional rōpu iti and expand the tāngata whaikaha Māori whānau support network. You will be notified about hui dates and location of hui in early 2018 and I hope you will attend because we need your input so to ensure that the initiatives we want to introduce during 2018 are what you want.

Well whānau that is all from me except to say **Meri Kirihimete me te Hape nū Ia** (Merry Christmas and a happy New Year) to you all. I hope you enjoy the contents of our last panui for 2017 and look forward to catching up with you in the new year.

Chrissie

**TE KAHUI TUMUAKI TIMES …**

The newly elected Te Kahui Tumuaki, 2017-2019 was announced at the General Meeting held on 10 September 2017 in Invercargill. Raewyne Lovich, Auckland and Poihaere Morris, Whakatane have joined as the newest members. To find out the remaining members, read on under Biennial Conference 2017.

**SPOTLIGHT … Hannah Pascoe**

Congratulations goes to Tangata whaikaha Hapori Māori, Hannah Pascoe who has been selected to represent Aotearoa New Zealand at the World Para Cycling Track Championships in Rio de Janiero in March 2018.  We wish her well in her preparations.  **Tau ke!!**

**DID YOU KNOW … Te Karere**

On 4 October 2017 Chrissie Cowan and Delayne Tutemahurangi appeared on TV One’s Te Karere, promoting the kāpō kete. Tangata Whaikaha Kaimahi (Hapori Māori), Delayne was able to demonstrate first hand his use of the kāpō kete and his white cane. If you missed it, you can view on the KMANZ Facebook page.

**BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2017**

The Biennial Conference was held in Murihiku, Invercargill during 9 and 10 September 2017. It proved to be jam-packed from beginning to end. Delegates came from as far as Australia to join in the festivities, who enjoyed interactive workshops, presentations and whanaungatanga.

The delegates were welcomed to Murihiku by mana whenua, Michael Skerrett and explained the background of the area. He was followed by David Lepofsky who journeyed from Canada to share his korero about Advocacy and Accessibility Rights, and his full speech can be found on our website, [www.kapomaori.com/learn](http://www.kapomaori.com/learn).

On Saturday 9 September, the conference was spoiled for presenters including Kasey and Karena Te-Awa-Bird who showcased local fare including Blue Cod Sliders, Deep-fried Oysters with Kina Vinaigrette and Tītī Bruschetta with Watercress Aoili. The recipes can be found on [www.kapomaori.com/learn](http://www.kapomaori.com/learn) They were assisted by members of the Southern Stags who distributed the kai among the members.

The delegates then line-danced into the afternoon led by Jamus Webster who was tasked with putting a Māori spin on the country-style dance.

Keri Opai addressed the delegation and shared the journey of Te Reo Hāpai – The language of enrichment, a glossary that provides translations for existing words and the creation of many new words in Te Reo Māori, to use in mental health, addiction, and disability sectors.

Sunday 10 September saw the General Meeting farewell two long-standing executive members, Victor West of Murihiku and Stevie Stevens of Waikato, they were honoured with a presentation of taonga. The 2017-2019 board was named as follows:

* Gayelne Te Rauna, President
* Nigel Ngahiwi, Vice President
* Lance Girling-Butcher, Executive Member
* Raewyne Lovich, Executive Member
* Poihaere Morris, Executive Member.

You can find their full profiles and images on our website under [www.kapomaori.com/about](http://www.kapomaori.com/about)/TeKahuiTumuaki and their first board meeting was held on Sunday 25 November 2017.

It was affirmed by the membership that the 2019 Biennial Conference would be held in Gisborne, Te Tai Rawhiti.

For a change of scenery, the delegates boarded two buses and ventured to the end of the South, Bluff where most took advantage of snapping photos with the infamous road sign. This was followed by a visit to the stunning Te Rau Aroha Marae and delegates heard its whakapapa.

Each evening, rangatahi led by the kaiako, performed kapahaka from James Hargest College and Te Wharekura o Arowhenua.

On behalf of the Society we acknowledge the sponsorship and contribution of the Ministry of Health, Blind Foundation, Ascot Park Hotel and the Invercargill Licensing Trust.

Photo: Group photo of BC2017 delegates, Ascot Park Hotel, Invercargill

**DISABILITY EQUIPMENT EXPO**

3am will host a series of disability expo throughout Aotearoa in 2018 commencing with Auckland, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Christchurch and Dunedin. For more information check the KMANZ Facebook page or contact them directly via website showyourability.co.nz or 021 240 8622.

**WHAT WE’VE BEEN UP TO…**

* **Staff Training**The Kāpō Māori Aotearoa Operations team met in December to discuss 2018 activities and work plans; we look forward to updating you all about it.
* **Website is LIVE**After a long wait the site is now LIVE and tracking well. Since its launch in August the site has had over 700 hits, a great result. The site is updated regularly and linked to our Facebook page, so keep checking in to be informed, [www.kapomaori.com](http://www.kapomaori.com)
* **Christmas/New Year Break**All of our offices will close 22 December 2017 and the national office will re-open 8 January 2018. Our 0800 free-phone 0800 770 900 and Facebook page will be manned during this period and any enquiries will be answered.

**What’s Coming Up**

* 22 December: Offices close for Christmas
* 8 January 2018: National Office open
* February 2018: Board Meeting, venue TBC