

# Kopoua ana he toa mō te reo Māori ki te Poari o Te Aratuku Whakaata Irirangi Māori

Ko te kōkiri i te reo Māori hei reo ūkaipō mō ā tātou tamariki (atu i nāiane ki tua) kei te iho o te kopounga tuatahi a Te Mātāwai ki te Poari o Te Aratuku Whakaata Irirangi Māori.

I whakaungia e te Mātāwai i te rangi nei te kopounga o Kingi Kiriona (*Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Apa*) ki te Poari o Te Aratuku Whakaata Irirangi Māori. Kua hau te rongō mō te whakapau kaha a Kingi ki te whakarauora i te reo Māori i ngā mahi a te rēhia, i te ao mātauranga me te ao pāpāho.

Hei tā tētahi o ngā Hoa Toihau, a Te Waihoroi Shortland, “He teitei te whāinga mō te reo, engari he teitei noa ake ngā wawata mō te reo. Heoi anō, kei a Kingi ngā pūkenga e tika ana, e rite ana anō tana kohara nui me ōna wawata mō te whakarauora i te reo Māori ki ō Te Mātāwai. E whakaponono ana mātou ka whai uara te Poari o Te Aratuku Whakaata Irirangi Māori i a Kingi, he āwhina anō kei a ia ki te ārahi i ngā mahi whakarauora i te reo a te whakahaere.”

Ko Kingi tētahi o ngā rangatira me te kaiwhakahaere matua o TupuOra Education me te Development Ltd, e ārahi ana i te whanaketanga o ētahi kaupapa matua mō te whakarauora i te reo Māori i te rohe me te motu. He reo pāpāho anō ia i tōna wā, he tā i te kupu, he tuku i te kupu i te reo irirangi i mua i tana haere ki Te Reo Tātaki hei wahapū, hei kaitohutohu, hei mātanga reo Māori mō *Marae* me *Te Karere*.

Hei tā Kingi Kiriona, “Ehara tēnei kopounga i a au i te mea hauwarea noa iho, e mārāma pū ana au ki te nui o te mahi kei mua i a tātou katoa e pono ai tā tātou pukumahi mā te iwi me tō tātou reo. Ka ū tonu au ki ngā mahi whakahaumanu i te reo kia noho anō ai hei reo ūkaipō i ngā kāinga me ngā hāpori, me te whai kia noho mātāmua mai tēnei i Te Aratuku Whakaata Irirangi Māori.”

Ko tā Te Ture mō Te Reo Māori 2016 he tohu kia haere kōtui a Te Mātāwai ki te Minita Whanaketanga Māori me te Minita Tahua ki te ārahi me te noho tūtei mō Te Aratuku Whakaata Irirangi Māori. Ka kopou tangata anō a Te Mātāwai ki ngā poari o Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori me Te Māngai Pāho.

Ka tīmata a Kingi ki tana tūranga ā te 10 o Paengawhāwhā mō te toru tau.

## KA MUTU

Mō ētahi atu pārongo, whakapā mai ki a: **Roihana Nuri 021 225 7575**

## Te Reo Māori champion appointed to the Board of the Māori Television Service

Championing te reo Māori as a first language for our children (now and in the future) is at the heart of the first Māori Television Service Board appointment made by Te Mātāwai.

Kingi Kiriona (*Ngāti Ruanui, Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Apa*) known for his commitment to Māori language revitalisation through performing arts, education and broadcasting, was confirmed today by Te Mātāwai as the new appointment to the Māori Television Service Board.

“The stakes are high and the expectations are even higher. Kingi has the skills, and shares the same passion and vision Te Mātāwai has for the revitalisation of te reo Māori. We believe his appointment will add value to the existing Māori Television Service Board membership and help guide revitalisation efforts of the service,” says Te Mātāwai Hoa Toihau, Te Waihoroi Shortland.

Kingi is the co-founder and managing director of TupuOra Education and Development Ltd, where he has led the development of key te reo Māori revitalisation initiatives both regionally and nationally. He is also a former broadcaster, working in print and iwi radio before taking up a career in television with TVNZ, as a reporter, director and Māori language consultant for flagship programmes *Marae* and *Te Karere*.

“I don’t take this appointment lightly, I know there is an enormous task ahead of us all to ensure we do the very best we can for our people and te reo,” says Kingi Kiriona. “I am personally committed to restoring te reo Māori as a nurturing first language in homes and communities, and prioritising this at the Māori Television Service.”

Te Ture mō Te Reo Māori 2016 provides Te Mātāwai alongside the Minister for Māori Development and the Minister for Finance a joint leadership and oversight role of the Māori Television Service. Te Mātāwai also makes appointments to Māori Development for the boards of Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori and Te Māngai Pāho. Kingi will officially be in the role from 10 April 2018 for a three-year term.

**END**

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