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*Te Iwi o Rakaipaaka Inc.*

Submission to Developing a  
Comprehensive Bioprospecting Policy

FILE COPY



August 31, 2007

## TE IWI O RAKAIPAACA INC. (TIORI)

### Executive Board

1. **Pani Ngatai**, Chair, Ngati Rakaipaaka Kuaia, Marae & Community Development, Nuhaka Maori Committee, representing Te Poho o Te Rehu Marae and Tamakahu Marae
2. **Tamati Olsen**, Education, Social Services, Marae and Community Development, (TIORI Treaty Claims Mandated Representative), representing Te Manutai Marae;
3. **Pauline Symes**, Taiohi, Marae Development, Education, Social Services, representing Tanenuiarangi Marae;
4. **Leo Koziol**, Resource Management, Project Development, Policy Development, TPK - Kaiwhakarite;
5. **Graeme Symes** Resource Management, Marae Development, representing Kahungunu Marae no Nuhaka;
6. **Karen Bardell** Interim Secretary, Child protection, Hauora, Applied Science
7. **Tumanako Taurima** Mother Craft, Grandmother
8. **Sonya Smith** Nurse
9. **Brent Karangaroa** Treasurer, Youth, Community, Education, Social Services, Justice
10. **Eva Paea** Trustee

### Ex-Officio Members:

**John Whaanga**, Ex-Officio (TIORI Treaty Claims Mandated Representative), Government, Maori and community sectors - strategic public policy and planning for Maori; governance and management; review of organisational and service effectiveness; consultation and facilitation; Treaty of Waitangi research, negotiation and policy; under-graduate and post-graduate lecturing in Maori education and public policy) representing the TeKotahitanga - Unity Hall;

**Paora Whaanga**, Ex-Officio (TIORI Treaty Claims Mandated Representative), Historian, Ngati Rakaipaaka Kaumatua.

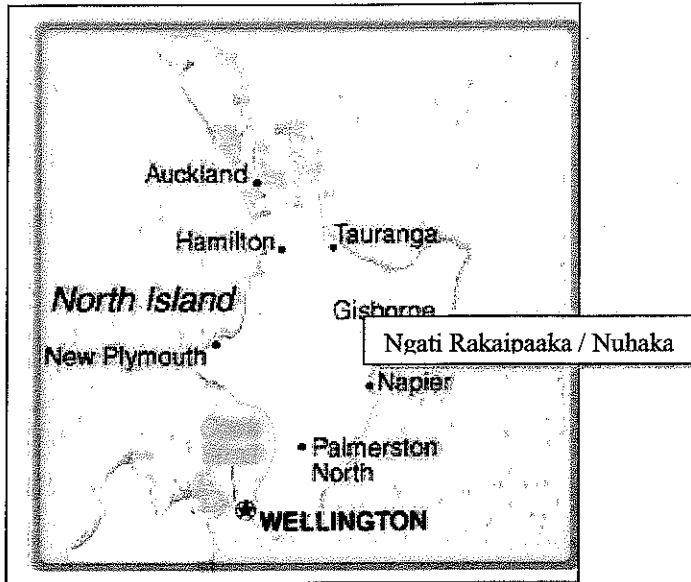
### Management:

The current Manager for TIORI is **Johnina Symes**, representing Te Poho o Te Rehu Marae and Tane-nui-a-rangi Marae no Nuhaka.

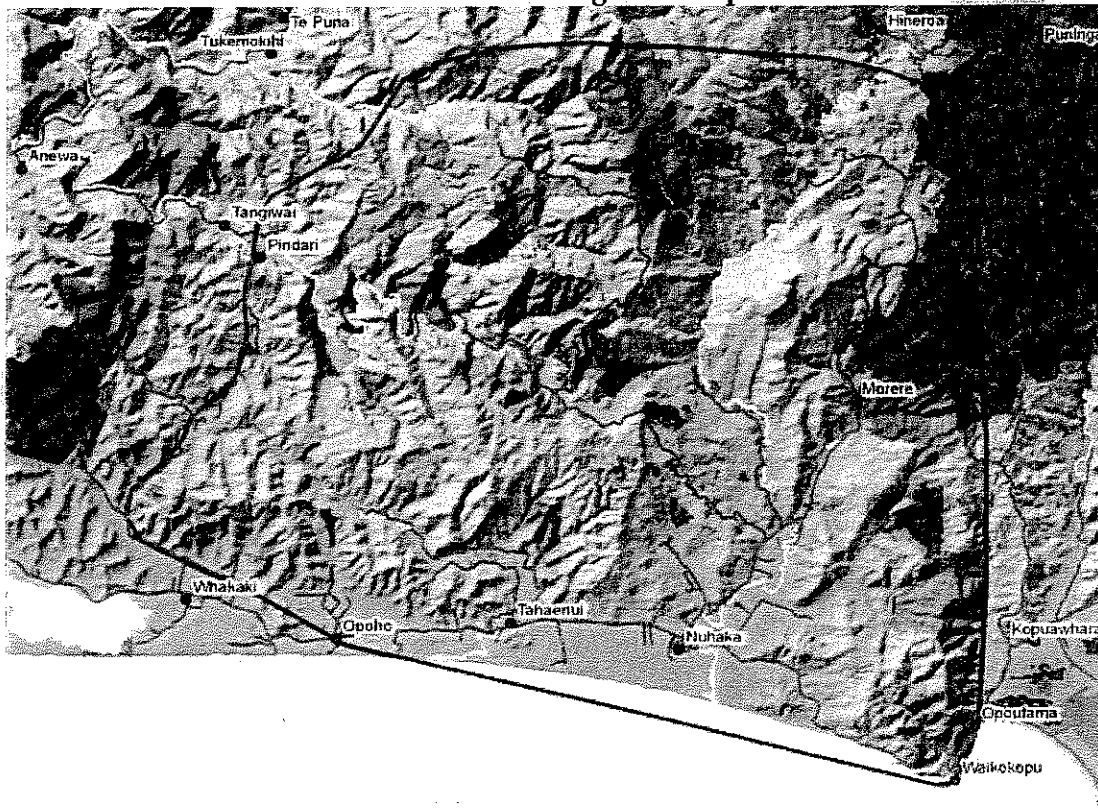
<b>Irene Walker;</b>	Community Liaison Officer
<b>Dennise Raroa;</b>	Youth & Life Styles Activities Coordinator
<b>Reg Solomon;</b>	Part Time Eco-Village Project Worker
<b>Murray Palmer;</b>	Part Time Eco-Village Coordinator

## MAP / DIRECTIONS

The Nuhaka Maori Committee and Te Iwi o Rakaipaaka Inc. is located on S.H.2, in Nuhaka, about halfway between Wairoa (Hawkes Bay) and Gisborne (East Coast). A map below shows the location of Nuhaka in Aotearoa New Zealand,



## Traditional Rohe o Ngati Rakaipaaka



**Pepaha Whakatuwhera**

***“Moumoukai te Maunga, Tu mai ra!***

***Te Whakaruru, Te Whare Korero***

***E kore e riro.***

***Waitirohia, te Awa Nuhaka, E rere ra!***

***Te matapuna o te ora***

***E kore e maroke.***

***Ka rere iho nga wai o Nuhaka,***

***katahi ka tae atu ki te tatahi,***

***kia whangai ai te moana, a,***

***ma nga hua o te moana,***

***ka ora ai te Iwi.***

***Rakaipaaka te Iwi, o ratou ma!***

***Kore, e kore e ngaro!”***

## **Submission to Developing a Comprehensive Bioprospecting Policy**

1. Te Iwi o Rakaipaaka retain tino rangatiratanga of our taonga, the whenua and all its natural resources, awa (rivers), wai (water), the airspace, the foreshore, sea and seabed within our traditional rohe.
2. These taonga are within the rohe where the tribe and our tipuna have always lived. Our tikanga, whakapapa, rohe whenua and moana and all our taonga are tapu to us. We have never surrendered these essential aspects of our heritage. Our custom dictates our connections to the elements, the environment, to our neighbours and to each other.
3. We hold the korero, the names, the places, the mahinga kai, the tikanga, the history, the rights, te tino rangatiratanga.
4. The Traditional rohe of Rakaipaaka includes all of the lands, water, water bodies, coastline, seabed and fishing rights, the air and space and all natural resources and resources, flora & fauna appurtenant to the land in the rohe. It includes our intellectual property rights.
5. Within our rohe:

As 'kaitiaki' of the ngahere, and other natural resources of flora and fauna, our Iwi Authority Te Iwi O Rakaipaaka Inc. (TIORI) have established a process for harvesting of natural resources from our ngahere or other resources for purposes of either rongoa, weaving or any other activity because of the many requests from Iwi and Maori organizations, hapu, whanau and individuals.

We understand the significance of this Taonga to Tane Mahuta, Rakaipaaka and Te Ao Maori and as guardians of that Taonga take seriously our responsibility to ensure the practices and processes of harvest ensure the protections, the maintenance and sustainability of our treasured resources.

Applicants are required to observe 'nga tikanga o Ngati Rakaipaaka' (documented below). Nga tikanga outlines our expectations for the processes and practices associated with our Taonga. Te Iwi O Rakaipaaka has the right to include other conditions and stipulations if and when required, at which time applicants will be advised.

## Nga Tikanga

- Our request that there shall be “no smoking or use of drugs and alcohol” during the process shall be observed.
- Harvesting season is generally from May through to June or beginning of Autumn (these are the periods when the plant is resting and the best time to harvest). It is important to note that no harvesting will be permitted when the plants are flowering or fruiting.
- Rakaipaaka will accompany harvesters and guide them to the areas for harvesting. Successful applicants are expected to contact and organise a suitable time with Rakaipaaka.
- Traditional practices of karakia to be observed during the harvesting process (Rakaipaaka can advise if need be).
- The harvesting process is one of *‘light foot and hallowed hand’*<sup>1</sup>
- The natural resource is to be hand-picked in the traditional manner, that is, strictly no knives or cutting tools to be used, however, this is exceptional when harvesting flax.
- Every effort will be made to prevent the plants from being uprooted in the process.
- Rakaipaaka expects that approved applicants will utilise experienced harvesters.
- Rakaipaaka can decide on the number of harvesters dependent on the quantity of the plant approved and the experience of harvesters.
- The plant is to be harvested from ground level only – strictly no climbing of trees or causing unnecessary damage to trees, undergrowth and other life forms.
- Care not to disturb nga manu and their habitats must be taken at all times.
- Left over materials from the plants are to be kept and returned to the ngahere.
- Harvesting will not take place after daylight, or if it is raining or damp
- Flax paru can only be gathered when a representative from Rakaipaaka is present

## The Crown's Policy

6. Under Article Three, we are guaranteed the rights and privileges of British citizens, including a fair system of law that allows us to use due process. We have the right **not** to be prejudiced against by a racist system that steals our remaining taonga.
7. Te Iwi o Rakaipaaka, together with our hapu and whanau are the owners and also the kaitiaki of flora and fauna and sites of significance areas in our rohe.

## Management & Policy Development

8. Proper and firm management should exist, with tangata whenua and Crown in partnership with an equal status. Policy should be developed together, not just with Maori being told after the event. The Crown should put into practice their side of the Treaty partnership on policy issues.

## Established relationships with Key Government Environmental Institutes

Te Iwi o Rakaipaaka Inc. has a firm relationship with the Department of Conservation (DoC).

The relationship was established in 2001 with the Technical Support Officer, Department of Conservation Gisborne and the Manager.

This relationship has allowed us to work together in establishing processes regarding surveying specific flora and fauna in our Morere Reserve in particular the Kie Kie, establishing harvesting processes of specific flora and fauna including monitoring systems.

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<sup>1</sup> Paora Whaanga – Kaumatua me Kaikorero o Te Iwi o Rakaipaaka  
Te Iwi o Rakaipaaka Inc. State Highway 2, Nuhaka  
Ph/Fax: (06) 837 8608 Email [Rakaipaaka@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Rakaipaaka@xtra.co.nz)  
[www.Rakaipaaka.co.nz](http://www.Rakaipaaka.co.nz)

The most important relationship we have established and is most important to Ngati Rakaipaaka is that DoC recognize the Ngati Rakaipaaka Tikanga of its Natural Resources in particular flora and fauna, and if potential applications for harvesting of specific flora and fauna is required from within our Ngati Rakaipaaka traditional rohe, the applicants are directed by DoC to our Iwi Authority for approval.

### **Recommendations**

1. That the policy reflect our Ngati Rakaipaaka Tikanga values to align with the local, regional, international and national level policies.
2. That the Ngati Rakaipaaka Tikanga is considered without question in the development of this policy.



**Application Form for the harvesting of Flora & fauna from:  
Within the traditional rohe o Ngati Rakaipaaka**

All questions must be answered before the application can be considered.  
You will be contacted if we require additional information.

**Name of Organisation / Applicant:**

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**Contact Address:**

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**Contact Person:**

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**Phone Number/s:**

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**Please tell us what Flora & fauna (Natural Resource – Taonga) is required:**

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**Please tell us what the Flora & fauna (Natural Resource – Taonga) will be used for:**

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**Please tell us the size of the proposed work and the number:** (e.g. if you are intending to craft tukutuku panels for a wharenui, indicate to us the approximate sizes, measurements and number of panels)

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**What quantity of Flora & fauna are you asking for?** (e.g. number of heads or number of bags and what type of bag e.g. supermarket bags, refuse bags etc?)

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**Are you working to a deadline? If yes, what is the deadline?** (Please note, harvesting is not permitted while the Flora & fauna is flowering and/or fruiting)

**How do you intend using the end product?** (e.g. wharehenui, traditional use, art pieces for sale etc)

**If approved, will the/your harvester/s of the Flora & fauna be experienced in traditional harvesting methods?** (Preferable that they are, if not, Rakaipaaka can provide guidance for you in the harvesting)

- Yes
- No

**Do you understand and agree to abide by Rakaipaaka tikanga?**

- Yes
- No

**Please provide any other information you think would be useful when considering your application?**

- Approved**
- Not Approved**

**Rakaipaaka Comments:**

Print full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Authorised Representative of Te Iwi o Rakaipaaka Inc.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Authorised Representative of Te Iwi o Rakaipaaka Inc.*

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_