



Te Hunga Rōia Māori o Aotearoa
Māori Law Society Incorporated

AGM Report

November 2016

CONTENTS

AGM Agenda.....	1
2015 AGM Minutes.....	2
Tumuaki Report	10
Executive Committee Reports.....	21

**Special General Meeting and
Annual General Meeting
Agenda**

Rā: Saturday 19 November 2016

Wā: 9.00 am-10.00 am

1. Karakia
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of previous AGM meeting held on 5 September 2015
4. Tumuaki Report
5. Financial Report
6. Executive Committee Reports
7. Elections
8. General Business
9. Closing Remarks
10. Karakia

THRMoA 2016 AGM

Venue: Copthorne Hotel and Resort, Waitangi

Date: 5 September 2015

Time: 9.00am

Attendees:

Rachel Hall, Aidan Warren, Ihipera Peters, Joshua Hitchcock, Heather Jamieson, Kiritapu Allan, Lee Belk, Haines Ellison, Te Aopare Dewes, Kiritapu Allan, Natalie Coates, Hemaima Rauputu, Renika Siciliano, Pania Newton, Cathy Murray, Haines Ellison, Lynell Huria, Stevie-Rae Hart, Caitlin McKay, Phoebe Monk, Marcia Murray, Anthony Rawiri, Tyler Paki-Te Huia, Georgia Woodward, Camille Ware, Kathleen Roberts, Nephi Pukepule, Ben-Jean Ryder, Aperahama Hurihanganui, Ashlee Peacock, Camell Hepi, Campbell Gin, Ihipera Heke Sweet, Stacey Mareroa, Anaru Adams, Shonnitta Herewini, Ani Bennett, Tamihana Coxhead, Te Tuanui Paki, Jamie-Lee Tuuta, Miaana Walden, Harriet Enright, Ashleigh Turner, Ahera Carlson, Alana Thomas, Maia Wikaira, Kerensa Johnston, Jackie Haskell, Jamie Rihia Gaeme Elvin, Daniel Taumihau, Hiria Te Kauru Green, Leon Wijohn, Mariana Te Tai, Steffen Van Lieshout, Corin Merrick, Chris Merrick, Nikora Nitro, Philipa Smith, Annette Sykes, Haylee Putaranui, David Green, Erin Carr, Terena Wara, Jason Pou, Kirikaiahi Mahutariki, Harvena Cherrington, Precious Clark, Ebony Duff, Tavake Afeaki, Desiree Williams, Kiriana Tan, Tama Potaka, Ophir Cassidy, Tracey Norton, Sharyn Otene, Stormie Waapu, Paranihia Walker, Marama Mariu, Rachael Watene, Te Ringahuia Hare, Wiremu Rikihana, Joshua Wall

Agenda

Karakia / Timatanga

I whakatūwhera a Lee Belk i te hui ki te karakia.

Apologies

Damian Stone, Spencer Webster, Whetu Taukamo

RESOLUTION:

Moved Josh Hitchcock

Seconded Ani Bennett

KUA MANA

Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLUTION:

Moved Stacey Mareroa

Seconded Lee Belk

KUA MANA

Tumuaki Report

Tumuaki Tane, Aidan Warren, and Tumuaki Wahine, Rachel Mullins, took the attendees through the Co-Tumuaki Report:

Strategic Plan: The Strategic Plan put together by Deloitte and endorsed at the 2013 AGM has been the basis of the Maori Law Society's game plan for the past year. Key focus has been on building the profile of THRMōA, building stronger relationships with third parties and improving communication with our members. The Executive held a planning session in November 2014 to review the strategic plan and map out our goals for the next two years.

Mana Wahine: Rachel speaks to a key topic this year regarding mana wahine. Following the presentation by Angela Hansen and Paranihia Walker at last year's conference, a sub-committee has been established to progress a mentoring programme for our Māori women lawyers. Looking at securing funding to progress this take further over the next 12 months. Looking at putting together a memorial award for former Tumuaki Wahine, Jolene Patuawa-Tuilave and it is hoped this will be launched in 2016. Rachel and Aidan attended on behalf of THRMōA the Justice Susan Glazebrook workshop on 'Women and the Corner Office' which was significantly beneficial for this kaupapa. Both Deputy Chief Judge Caren Fox and Judge Stephanie Milroy presented a Māori perspective on the issues facing women progressing in the profession.

Policies: (Aidan) We have started to develop some internal policies to deal with issues that regularly occur including:

- Attendance at tangihanga by our Executive members and the process to confirm funding for that
- A media policy
- A koha policy to provide guidelines for the Executive when extraordinary events occur, such as the Whanganui floods and other natural disasters and personal tragedy where it is appropriate to provide financial and other support.

NZ Secondary Schools Moot Competition: (Rachel) We commissioned a taonga on behalf of THRMōA as an annual award to the best Māori students mooter in the annual National Secondary School Mooting Competition run by Te Piringa, Faculty of Law at the University of Waikato. This event included 36 secondary schools from across the country from Invercargill to Auckland and a total of 46 teams competed. This year's winner was Rebecca Te Rito. Rachel presented the winner with the taonga at an official function held in Hamilton. The intention is that we will lean on a law firm each year to sponsor a modest prize to support this award. McCaw Lewis sponsored the prize this year.

AUT Law School Top Maori Student: We were approached by the AUT Law School to sponsor an award. Jamie Rihia did some ground work for us and it was decided that this year we would donate \$500 as a one-off prize with a view of commissioning a taonga as an on-going award with no monetary contribution. We have an intention to widen that scope to all universities and put in place a similar taonga for each of the law schools to enhance Māori achievement and build stronger relationship between our organisation and our Law Schools. We will look to different firms to sponsor the award. As a result of the support given to AUT, they agreed to sponsor the 2015 Hui-ā-Tau and send a number of students.

MOU signed with Te Piringa: (Rachel) We approached and developed an MOU with Te Piringa, Faculty of Law at the University of Waikato to establish an on-going internship with Māori Law Students. This was to assist THRMōA on a number of projects as well as to assist the student to obtain practical

experience of areas of law reform, drafting policies and other tasks. An MOU was signed by the Tumuaki with the Dean of Waikato Law School, Wayne Rumbles on 1 May 2015. Georgia Woodward was appointed as our inaugural intern. She has assisted the Executive with law reform (particularly the Te Ture Whenua Māori Bill), developing internal policies; reviewing our constitution and translation work. Thanks to Claire Charters for the suggestion of engaging a student to assist with admin role.

Tumuaki Visit to Otago Law School: We agreed to start regular visits by, in particular, the Tumuaki, to various parts of the country to engage with our members including law students, Deans of Law and other people we wanted to build a relationship with. The Tumuaki visited both Dunedin and Christchurch in early 2015 and met with the Deans of Law, the Māori law student and law practitioners. As a result of that trip we have identified the need to profile our Māori lawyers in that rohe and we have been liaising with LawTalk to get profiling of our members in that publication.

Inaugural Jolene Patuawa-Tuilave Maori Leadership in Law Award: In May 2015 Rachel was invited to Otago University to present the inaugural Jolene Patuawa-Tuilave Māori Leadership in Law Award. The inaugural recipient was Adam Tapsell.

Te Ture Whenua Maori Act Reforms: THRMoa have been heavily involved in the Te Ture Whenua Māori Reform. Three of our members sit on the Ministerial Advisory Group ("MAG") which provides advice directly to the Minister on the exposure draft. As an organisation we met Minister Flavell on the reform and also with the MAG to discuss some of the finer detail of the reform. A workshop was held prior to the filing date for submissions and we invited our members to attend and brainstorm the detail of the exposure draft. This was well attended by our membership and a comprehensive submission was filed by THRMoa. Thanks especially to Rachel Mullins, Bernadette Arapere, Spencer Webster, John Kahukiwa and others who worked on the submissions on behalf of THRMoa. We have been invited, as a key stakeholder, to meet again with the MAG to look at the development of other work streams involved with the reform.

Samoa Conference 2016: (Aidan) Aidan and Ihipera have been progressing the logistics around this proposal that was suggested at the AGM in 2014. Through this we are building a relationship with the New Zealand Pacific Lawyers Association and this year we have Judge Ida Malosi, Justice Mata Tuatagaloa and Judge Leilanga Tuala-Warren attending our Hui-ā-Tau as speakers. The Chief Executive of the Samoa Law Reform Commission is also in attendance. It is proposed that a joint conference with Samoa Law Society will be held on 7-10 July 2016. The idea proposed is to have a day and a half of conferencing with key note panels on take relevant to both peoples. There are some differences that are interesting. They have a written constitution, NZ does not. The detail will come later e.g. costs, numbers etc. This will not be a substitute for our annual Hui-a-Tau – discussed later under General Business. It is intended to be a user pays conference.

Regular newsletters / communications We have tried to be consistent with our newsletter communications. To date, we have produced four newsletter covering a variety of topics including Hui-ā-Tau updates, sponsorship, news, law reform, as well as profiling individual members of our Executive. We would appreciate feedback on the nature and pitch of these newsletter so we can improve going forward. Our website and Facebook pages are generally well monitored with a number of members posting relevant posts for the benefit of our members. There is still work to be done in regards to the overall proposed

rebrand of THRMoA but we have done a lot of work internally ensuring that our email, letterheads and other tools to make us professional and modern have been brought up to standard.

Financial Position: We continue to have a reasonable surplus based on successful events such as the World Indigenous Lawyers' Conference and last year's conference. Given that the only major income stream is organising the Hui-a-tau, the Executive have looked at a number of ways to increase revenue including but not limited to:

- Introducing a membership fee;
- Holding CLE workshops outside the annual conference on a user pays basis for our members;
- Holding a corporate boxing event as a fundraiser;
- Developing on-going corporate sponsorship.

Celebrating the Achievements of our Members: The Tumuaki congratulate our taura who have graduated or been admitted to the bar. Special mention of our new judges – Judge Sharyn Otene, Judge Dianne Partridge, and Judge Miharo Armstrong.

The Co-Presidents formally acknowledged:

- All Executive members for their support, particularly outgoing members who have served the Executive for a number of years, including Jamie Rihia (Tamaki Makaurau rep), Kiritapu Allan (Whanganui-a-Tara rep) and Heather Jamieson (Waikato rep).
- The Hui-ā-Tau sponsors Westpac, Chapman Tripp, Deloitte, Konica Minolta, New Zealand Law Foundation, Maori Law Review and AUT.
- The Hui-ā-Tau organising Committee, particularly Heather Jamieson.

RESOLUTION:

Moved	Rachel Mullins
Seconded	Precious Clark
KUA MANA	

Financial Report

Joshua Hitchcock spoke to the Financial Report. In summary:

He acknowledges Heather Jamieson and McCaw Lewis in organising this year's conference; Leon and Deloitte for preparing our financial statements.

Highlights:

- Incredible financial success from Hui-a-Tau in Tauranga last year which gave us a net profit of \$24,918.
- Expecting a profit from this year's hui of around \$25,000. This will be used to fund trips that Rachel and Aidan do and progress some of the ideas and challenges set for our society.

- Operating expenditure for the year amounted to \$3,379 made up of bank fees; accountancy fees; koha paid to support activities of THRMoA managed by regional representatives; telephone and internet costs relating to the maintenance of the website and travel costs for the Executive, covering an annual kanohi ki te kanohi meeting of the Executive in November 2014.
- Overall tax owing for the year amounts to \$350 as THRMoA utilised the remaining tax losses carried over from previous years.

THRMoA is in a strong financial position. Total assets, primarily in cash, amounts to \$52,097. Liabilities of \$1,434 were owing at year end. This results in an overall Net Assets position of \$50,663.

Electronic copies of full Financial Report will be available on request.

RESOLUTION:

Moved	Joshua Hitchcock
Seconded	Desiree Williams
KUA MANA	

Executive Committee Reports

Academic Representative – Claire Charters – organised the national THRMoA kaupapa Māori moot, assisted by Heather, including writing and disseminating the moot problem and materials and coordinating with the various Law Faculties. Organised a hui to enable networking between Māori students and legal practitioners in Tamaki Makaurau with other Executive members.

Young Lawyer Representative – Phoebe Monk – Not much happened this year. Have plans for next year.

Tauira Representatives – Joshua Wall – MAPLA from AUT involved this year for the first time, largest numbers of tauira attending this year. Have focussed on a few main objectives – to hold tumuaki hui of the respective Māori law student associations in order to get their views, create stronger links amongst our future peers and colleagues and to expose the dynamic areas that Māori lawyers practice in.

Te Tai Tokerau – Lee Belk – Following one of the Waitangi Tribunal Te Papanahi o te Raki hearings, a post-hearing function was held this year to acknowledge the hard work of our esteemed Treaty lawyers. It was well attended.

Tamaki Makaurau – Jamie Rihia – Held an informal Christmas function in December 2014 for tauira and practitioners. Stepping down and passing the mantel on.

Wairiki – Ani Bennett – acknowledges Stacey Mareroa and her efforts this year in Tauranga. Had about 6 get-togethers in the rohe in Rotorua and Tauranga. Floated idea about working more collaboratively as Māori practitioners, referring work, being more aware of what people are doing.

Waikato – Heather Jamieson – Initiatives actioned or soon to be actioned include establishing a Facebook page for local employment opportunities and notices, establishing a database for locally based THRMoA members,

organising an informal function for taurā and practitioners to be held post-conference prior to Christmas.

Te Tai Rawhiti – Riki Donnelly – absent, no report.

Te Tai Hauāuru – Paranihia Walker – main event in our rohe was flooding in Wanganui, thankful for contribution from THRM to whānau affected, working on getting a database together for Te Tai Hauāuru.

Te Whanganui-ā-Tara – Kiritapu Allan – it has been a good year, key focus on building relationships between taurā and practitioners in contributing to the Māori legal environment. Highlights for 2014-2015 include endorsing the inspirational events run by Māori Law Review lunchtime seminars; engaging members of the judiciary and colleagues on key topics including the role of wahine Māori and the legal professions; organising formal and informal mentoring between practitioners and students; organising events including breakfast presentations of potential career trajectories in the law. Rachel acknowledges Kiritapu's facilitation of complaint raised against College of Law.

Otautahi – Jamie-Lee Tuuta – still building network in the rohe. Changes in the Canterbury Law School so focus will be on supporting taurā at various events and connecting with Māori practitioners working in the region. Our members in the region were fortunate to have the Tumuaki join us early in 2015 for a networking evening which was well attended.

Otepoti – Desiree Williams & Haines Ellison – two prominent events included Jolene Patuawa-Tuilave memorial award and celebrating Te Roopu Whai Putake's 21st in August 2015. In March 2015 hosted an evening with the THRMoA Tumuaki, Rachel and Aidan. A fair number of Māori practitioners attended along with our new Branch Manager, Debbie Ericsson. Great opportunity to catch up and for practitioners to meet the Tumuaki. Mihi to Rachel for leadership in putting together TTWMA reform submissions.

Family Law Section THRMoA Rep – Kiriana Tan – still 3 members on the FLS committee, Ophir, stepping down this year, useful to have rep on exec to have a flow of communication between Family Law Section and THRMoA exec. Tracey Norton nomination.

Legal Aid THRMoA Rep – Tavake Afeaki – no report. Annette Sykes – notes she was on the NZLS Legal Aid committee but suggests there needs to be a strong THRMoA rep to advance Māori interests.

Elections

The 2015/2016 THRMoA Executive as nominated and carried at the AGM is:

- Co-Tumuaki: Aidan Warren and Rachel Hall
- Secretary: Ihipera Peters
- Treasurer: Joshua Hitchcock
- Administration Officer: Ashleigh Turner
- Academic Representative: Claire Charters
- Taurā Representatives: Pania Newton and Joshua Wall

- Young Lawyers' Representative: Phoebe Monk
- Te Tai Tokerau Representative: Lee Belk
- Tamaki-makau-rau Representative: Arena Williams
- Waikato Representative: Renika Siciliano
- Waiariki Representatives: Stacey Mareroa & Kiritapu Allan
- Te Tai Rāwhiti Representative: Riki Donnelly
- Te Tai Hauāuru Representative: Paranihia Walker
- Te Whanganui-ā-Tara Representative: Tai Ahu
- Otautahi: Jamie Lee-Tuuta
- Otepoti: Desiree Williams and Haines Ellison
- THRMOA Representative Positions:
- Legal Aid Representative: Tavake Afeaki
- Family Law Section Representative: Tracey Norton

RESOLUTION:

Moved	Rachel
Seconded	Kiriana Tan
KUA MANA	

General Business

Annette Sykes – makes a point that we need gender balance, not imbalance in our Executive.

WILC – this kaupapa was established a few years ago, two hui held, one in Hamilton and the second in Brisbane. Spencer and Aidan have been trying to make contact with them to progress.

Practical Workshops – looking at holding CLE type workshops in the next year.

Timing and location of 2016 Hui-a-Tau – still want to have our annual conference in Aotearoa. Where? Dunedin? Timing after exams in November? Desiree supports having a hui in Queenstown. Annette – says November is a difficult time for all practitioners. Ophir – tautoko going to the South Island. Need to make sure our students can get there. Desiree – a lot more flights to Queenstown so access shouldn't be an issue. Look at setting dates as soon as we can.

Tama Potaka – acknowledges the mahi of Rachel and Aidan. Addresses possibility of introducing a membership fee – Suggests it may provide more balance to the financial situation. Suggests we identify specific measures of success as touch stones for our membership e.g. could be financial or how happy we feel as members of this society.

Annette Sykes - concerned about the quality of our use of te reo. Suggests we have more workshops using te reo in written submissions etc. Our people can't afford to attend the advanced litigation skills workshops which is a hindrance to our people. THRMoA suggests we offer scholarships for people to attend workshops, particularly advanced litigation skills. Childcare facilities should be available at these hui. Rachel – in the past there just hasn't been the ability to provide any assistance but now that we have been in a more profitable position we can take those ideas into consideration. We focussed on scholarships for tauira this year.

Hui closed with karakia – Tavake Afeaki at 10.00 am.

Tūmuaki Report 2016

Introduction

1. This annual report is prepared by the Co-Tūmuaki, Rachel Mullins and Aidan Warren to give an overview of the activities undertaken by the Executive of Te Hunga Rōia Māori o Aotearoa – The Māori Law Society for the period September 2015 to November 2016.
2. We acknowledge again those that have passed away during the past 12 months with who have had a strong connection to Te Hunga Rōia Māori and in particular Matiu Dickson who was a staunch supporter of Te Hunga Rōia Māori. This Tūmuaki report is dedicated in his memory. It is dedicated to a man who was approached by Aidan many years ago to write a waiata for our Hunga. He accepted without issue and now his legacy will be remembered at every hui-ā-tau as we sing our waiata. Matiu we miss you. E te rangatira moe mai ra.
3. We also acknowledge the passing of our Tuahine Kathy Ertel. Kathy was a strong advocate for Māori and argued Māori legal issues with passion. E te tuahine, moe mai ra.
4. We acknowledge members of the Executive for their significant contributions over the last 12 and 24 months, and in particular Ihipera Peters (our Secretary), Joshua Hitchcock (our Treasurer), Renika Siciliano (IT) and our contracted administrators Tracey Whare, and more recently Liz Binns who have provided significant support in the administration and management of our Hunga this year.
5. We acknowledge Jamie Lee Tuuta who has taken a lead to manage the process to revamp how our Tauira are selected to sit on our Executive and Arena Williams who took a lead to amend and update our Constitution.
6. We acknowledge Haines and Desiree who have helped pull together another wonderful conference.

7. The two key objectives that were a focus over the last 12 months were to build the profile of Te Hunga Rōia Māori and build strong relationships with key stakeholders/third parties.
8. We have sought to make Te Hunga Rōia Māori more relevant, and to accept the wero set down by Justice Joe Williams last year at our conference to “find our island”.
9. So have we found our Island.....?
10. We outline below how we have sought to achieve these objectives over the last 12 months.

In Search of our Island

11. We set out below a number of activities that we have undertaken in the past 12 months that we believe have contributed to the growing profile and relationship building of Te Hunga Rōia Māori. These are listed in no particular order:

Te Reo Maori Strategy

- I tēnei tau i oti Te Rautaki Reo Māori a Te Hunga Rōia Māori o Aotearoa, e harikoa ana mātou ki tēnei āhuatanga. Nā Paranihia rāua ko Tai Ahu tēnei kaupapa i hāpai, he mihi ki a rāua.
- He tuhinga reo-rua te Rautaki, kua tuhingia ki te reo Māori me te reo Pākehā.
- Ka timata inaianei te whakaritenga o tēnei Rautaki.
- Hei tā te Komiti i tēnei tau, me whakamāori te Pouhere o Te Hunga Rōia. Ko te tumanako ka timata tēnei mahi a muri atu i te Hui-ā-Tau 2016, hei taua wā ka whai mana ngā menemana ki te Pouhere. Mā te Komiti hou e whakatinana tēnei whainga.

Sponsorship of New Zealand Secondary School Mooting Competition

- In 2015 we commissioned a Taonga on behalf of Te Hunga Rōia Māori o Aotearoa as an annual award to the best Māori student mooter in the annual National Secondary School Mooting Competition organised by Te Piringa at the University of Waikato.
- The event included secondary schools from across the country.
- As foreshadowed last year it is intended that we lean on a law firm each year to sponsor a modest prize to support this award. We acknowledge **Kahui Legal** from Wellington who provided the sponsorship for the award this year ngā mihi nui ki a koutou.

Building Key External Relationships:

- Over the last 12 months we have developed a number of key external strategic relationships:
 -

We continue to meet with representatives of the **New Zealand Law Society** including having a further meeting in Hamilton with the CEO, Christine Grice this year. The

New Zealand Law Society continues to provide support where they are able, and Christine provides great advice to the Tūmuaki in terms of its strategic visions, particularly around law reform and CLE opportunities.

○

We have started to build a relationship with Lexis Nexis which has led to them sponsoring our conference in Queenstown this year. The discussions have been wider than that in the sense that they were also a great supporter of the inaugural conference between Te Hunga Rōia Māori and the Samoa Law Society.

We are looking to have a strategic discussion with representatives at our annual conference with a view of developing a wider long-term relationship. This relationship is likely to include support in producing a Māori Law Society publication which we outline below. **Lexis Nexis** is also an Inanga sponsor for the Queenstown conference in 2016.

○

We have developed a relationship with the Commissioners of the **New Zealand Law Commission**. The Tūmuaki have had two Skype conferences with the Commissioners as well as attended on behalf of Te Hunga Rōia the 30 year anniversary symposium held in Wellington where a number of our members presented (Justice J Williams, Claire Charteris, Natalie Coates and Te Ata Pirieni).

There has been agreement between the two organisations to develop a Memorandum of Understanding so that the Law Commission and Te Hunga Rōia o Māori can work more collaboratively on the work being undertaken by the Law Commission. This is particularly important given the statutory obligations that the Commission must take into account Te Ao Māori.

We also acknowledge the attendance of the Hon. Dr Wayne Mapp Law Commissioner at our conference this year.

○

We continue to have a strong relationship with a number of members of **the Judiciary**. Over the last year we have been approached to advertise workshops for our members aspiring to become judges. This has led to a wananga at this year's hui-ā-tau for those aspiring to become judges and ensuring they understand the process and have the best opportunity to succeed in that regard.

-

We have been approached recently by the Childrens' Commissioner Judge Beecroft to develop an MOU with the Childrens' Commission. This is something that the new Executive will no doubt pick up during their term in office.

Nomination to Significant Positions

- For the first time (we think) in our recollection we were asked to provide names for the appointment of **High Court Judges**. As a result of this request we developed an internal policy to ensure that we followed proper process given that, for the first time, we were required to make contact with judges of the Māori and District Courts to ascertain their interest in being nominated to the High Court.
- We were also invited by the Minister of Māori Development and the Solicitor-General to make nominations to the Commissioner to the New Zealand Law Commission.
- Although not directly through nominations by us, we note that there have been a number of Māori appointed to the bench in the last 12 months.

Maintaining Existing Relationships

- Although the focus has been on building new relationships, we have continued to retain and enhance existing relationships that we have including:
 - Westpac - we have successfully negotiated a three year sponsorship/partnership package with Westpac. In financial terms this equates to \$30,000 over three years. It may also include a level of administrative support. This aspect of the arrangement is yet to be finalised.
 - We have also retained the Toto Weka sponsorship of Deloitte and Chapman Tripp who continue to show great support to Te Hunga Rōia o Māori. For these major firms to show loyalty and support to our modest organisation is tremendous and shows their commitment to Māori professional work
 - We have also built on the relationship with the Institute of Professional Legal Studies, Konica Minolta and acknowledge one of our newest sponsors, Vo2 who will be official IT providers for Te Hunga Rōia o Māori for the next two years. We trust that you all enjoy the new App.
 - We also acknowledge and mihi to one of our members, Kerensa Johnston and her team at Wakatu Incorporation, plus Kono for their generous koha of beautiful wine for our conference.

Correspondence with Key Stakeholders

- Similar to what we did when we took office in 2014, we sent correspondence to a number of key stakeholders after the hui-ā-tau in 2015 to reintroduce ourselves and outline the desire to build a stronger relationship.

Mana Wāhine

- Following the 2015 hui-ā-tau the sub-committee has diligently progressed mana wāhine initiatives.
- The mentoring scheme Te Tikitiki-a-Taranga has been launched and mentors and mentees have been matched up. We are still looking for wāhine to be involved in this, so please put your name down if you wish to be involved. We would like to acknowledge Paranihia Walker for her work on this initiative.
- Rachel has also continued to attend a number of Wāhine workshops/conferences to advance issues facing Māori women progressing in the profession.
- We also acknowledge with pride the achievements of Professor Jacinta Ruru this year. Jacinta is our first Māori Professor of Law and Rachel had the honour of attending her inaugural Professional Lecture at Otago University in September. Adding to Professor Ruru's trophy cabinet this year is the position of Co-Director of Ngā Pae o te Maramatanga – New Zealand's Māori Centre of Research Excellence, the Prime Minister's Supreme Award for Tertiary Teaching Excellence and along with Professional Linda Tuhiwai Smith, were the first wāhine Māori to be elected as Royal Society of New Zealand Fellows.

Communication/IT

- We have continued to be consistent with our newsletter communication. Since our Hui-ā tau in 2015 we have produced numerous newsletters covering a variety of topics.
- Our website and Facebook pages are generally well monitored with a number of members posting positive and relevant posts on our Facebook page.
- Our IT strategy has been diligently implemented by Renika and Vo2 as funds have allowed.
- The Executive is now working off a single platform, Office 365, and all key executive members have their own email accounts. Our communications are now sent through our official letterheads, emails, email sign-offs, as opposed to our work emails.
- We have also successfully managed to prepare an online document management system whereby all key correspondence and documents are held and protected so that it is easy for the new Executive to take over the reins

without hard copies cluttering respective offices. In that regard our paperless strategy is working.

- Thanks to Renika/Vo2, we have also produced our first Te Hunga Rōia app which will be used for the first time during our conference. It is our recommendation (subject to available funds) to have our App as an ongoing tool for our members to engage with the Executive and to ensure key information is disseminated as quickly and clearly as possible.

Law Reform and National Issues

- Te Ture Whenua Māori Bill

We have continued to be heavily involved in Te Ture Whenua Māori Reform. Three of our members continue to sit on the Ministerial Advisory Group ("MAG") which has provided advice directly to the Minister on the exposure draft.

We note that a number of the points we raised in our submission on the exposure draft were taken into account in the final Bill that was introduced earlier this year.

Unfortunately a submission was not prepared and filed on the Bill for the purposes of the hearing before the Māori Select Committee. This was despite requests to our membership to assist the Executive in preparing the submission. We, however, note that a number of individual members in their varying capacities made submissions on the Bill and also acknowledge those of our membership that have been invited to present and comment on the Bill and its impact in various forms.

We were also part of the key stakeholders group that the Crown engaged with on a monthly basis around the Bill detail and the various enabler work streams. This work is ongoing.

We were also approached by the Minister prior to introduction of the Bill seeking our support for the introduction. Given the diverse views of our membership on the Bill we made the decision not to support the introduction.

- Media Comment

We have tried to comment more publically on key issues facing our people as time allows.

We issued media releases and/or made comments in the media in relation to: the pronunciation of Te reo Māori; the closure of legal aid offices in certain regions; the number of Māori judges appointed to mainstream courts; an interview/article regarding Māori in large law firms; articles in Law Talk in relation to the Samoa and Queenstown conferences plus a number of radio interviews on Radio Waatea.

- We recently wrote a letter to the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Māori Development about the proposal to

restructure the Courts whereby up to 40 senior experience Māori Land Court workers may lose their jobs

Samoa Conference 2016

- A number of members attended the inaugural joint conference between the Samoa Law Society and Te Hunga Rōia o Māori in Samoa in July 2016.
- The feedback from a range of people has been excellent and work is being done by the Executive to continue to build the relationship between the two Rōpū.
- We acknowledge those that represented us so well in Samoa. Faafetai tele lava.

Our Story

- We have started the process to write a book on the history of Māori Lawyers and the Māori Law Society. We have been in discussions with Lexis Nexis and the New Zealand Law Foundation about funding this project. Associate Professor Linda Te Aho, with the support of John Chadwick are very interested in taking a lead for us on this project.
- This is something that we invite the new executive to complete and we challenge them to have this ready by the time of the 2018 hui-ā-tau.

WILC

- A number of our members attended the World Indigenous Law Conference in the United States of America recently. We understand that the conference was well attended and that other countries such as Canada are keen to host the next event.
- Although there are some issues with the nature and scope of the conference as it has evolved since its original inception, it is pleasing to see that something that we established in 2012 continues to grow.
- We encourage the new Executive to continue to support, and at times guide, the WILC waka given that the original intention was for it to be a lawyers conference as opposed to a general law conference that anyone could attend.
- The Executive was pleased to be able to financially support, in a small way, the members who attended on our behalf.
- We also acknowledge those of our members who stayed on to support the indigenous people of the USA in regards to the Standing Rock situation. In particular, Natalie Coates and Kiritapu Allan.

CLE Workshops

- One of our objectives over the last two years was to provide our members with practical training as opposed to simply seminars

and papers that are common at our hui-ā-tau. The idea was to build capabilities in key areas in a Māori context and/or be taught by Māori experienced practitioners.

- To that end, we are pleased that the Cross-Examination Workshop which will be held for a full day on the Thursday of our conference has taken shape. We acknowledge the Judges and senior practitioners who have given up their time and the members who have registered for the workshop.
- We acknowledge Judge Stephen Clark and David Clark for their leadership in pulling this together.

Financial Position

12. We continue to have a reasonable surplus based on successful events in recent times. As we know, we had over 300 attendees at our Waitangi conference in 2015 contributing to our financial position. Even at the time of preparing this report, we were tracking towards having 260 plus attendees in Queenstown. This is a great effort by you all, given the costs involved.
13. In terms of the overall costs for the 2016/17 financial year, we are looking to break even (depending on whether we receive any more registrations for the Queenstown conference). This in the scheme of things is not a bad effort in light some of the activities that we have undertaken this year, including implementing our IT strategy, the costs involved with participating in the Te Ture Whenua Law Reform, attending other conferences such as the New Zealand Law Commission Conference, and supporting the Samoa Law Society Conference.
14. In our 2015 annual report we identified a number of potential ideas by which we could generate income, some of which had been developed this year in some way or another. These include:
 - Putting in place a membership fee. This has yet to be progressed and it is an issue that the new Executive will need to grapple with in the future.
 - Holding practical training workshops outside of the annual conference on a user pays basis for our members. This has been achieved this year with the Cross-Examination Workshop.
 - The idea of holding a corporate boxing event which through experience is a significant fundraiser.
15. Although we have built further relationships, the new Executive will need to work through building wider relationships with the likes of Lexis Lexis and the New Zealand Law Foundation to assist with the running the conferences.

Administrative Support

16. We identified last year that we needed paid administrative support. We implemented this for the first time through a paid administrative

assistant. This role was initially undertaken by Tracey Whare, and in more recent times Liz Binns.

17. Both Tracey and Liz have provided significant support to the Executive to progress a number of projects.
18. This is something that we highly recommend the new Executive to continue if funds allow.

The Future

19. Although we would not have achieved everything we set out to achieve in the last two years, we believe that our executive has raised the profile and relevance of Te Hunga Rōia Māori.
20. If the overall objective was to build the professionalism and profile of Te Hunga Rōia Māori then we think we have achieved that.
21. Are there areas to work on? Absolutely. Are there areas that we could have or can do better? Absolutely.
22. In our assessment the key work-ons include:
 - The spreading of the workload across our membership is critical;
 - We need to ensure that Te Hunga Rōia Māori continues to be independent and self-sufficient. That is, we cannot rely too heavily on the goodwill of individuals and their particular law firms to effectively prop up and fund Te Hunga Rōia Māori to the extent that has happened in years gone by.
 - Most if not all things in the law have a Māori dimension or have an impact on our people. We simply do not have the capacity and the resources to respond to everything as well as we would like. We need to develop a better system to ensure that we are consistently able to respond and mobilise to deal with issues such as submissions on legislation, commenting in the media to advance particular points of view in regards to legal issues that arise. The issue is, do we try and comment on lots of things or simply focus on some key things and do them well. That is the balance and the challenge for the new Executive and ones to follow. The Executive needs its members to engage more than once a year at our hui-ā-tau.
 - A number of relationships have been built up over a number of years including some new ones in the last few years. We must ensure that we protect and enhance those relationships as appropriate. We cannot in the pursuit of new relationships, forget about those that have helped us get to where we are today;
 - Our wairua as an organisation has always been relaxed and accommodating. That can be magical, but it can also lead to us missing opportunities and not doing justice to the hard and real issues that face our people in the law and with the law. We must continue to keep our wairua, but at the same time we must not shy away from ensuring we are accountable and doing our jobs well. We should grow our hunga to the point

that people want to be the Tūmuaki, be on the executive and do the hard yards.

- Communication – we can and must get better at communicating in a more consistent and IT friendly way. IT does cost money, but it is vital to ensure that our organisation is relevant to our members including the tauira and young lawyers. We must make Te Hunga Rōia Māori relevant in the modern context.

Conclusion

23. Well have we found our Island? Perhaps not! But we think that we have navigated our waka to a place that provides us with the best opportunity to find that Island. A place where we are more than just an annual hui, more than just an Incorporated Society that anyone could establish.
24. We have done it with pride, with passion and importantly we hope, with our members on board.
25. We have enjoyed leading our hunga for the last two years and wish the next Tūmuaki all the best. Our wero to us all is to continue to make our roopu everything those in Rotorua in 1988 dreamed it could be.

Ngā mihi

Co-Tūmuaki

Financial Report 2016

Treasurer – Joshua Hitchcock

See attached Financial Statements.



Executive Committee Reports

To follow are the respective reports submitted by the Executive Committee Members for the THRMoA AGM 2016.

Academic Representative – Dr Claire Charters

1. I prepared the annual national THRMoA kaupapa Māori moot competition. This involved writing and disseminating the moot problem and materials and coordinating with the various Law Faculties for the event itself. I will also coordinate the competition itself in Queenstown, including the attendance of judges.
2. I attended most of the THRMoA hui and advocated for student registration fees to be kept to a minimum.
3. I also provided some advice on the preparation of a book on THRM.

Young Lawyer Representative – Phoebe Monk

No report received.

Tauira Representatives – Pania Newton and Joshua Wall

4. This year has been a very busy year for us as the tauira representatives particularly with the proposed changes to the THRMoA constitution and the work we have been doing assisting our tauira in attending this year's Hui-a-Tau.
5. We participated in a number of teleconferences with tumuaki to discuss ideas and opinions on how THRMoA can best provide support in the future for our tauira.
6. We are both thankful for the opportunity to be a part of a strong and experienced executive and extend our thanks to all those who have guided and supported us.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Te Tai Tokerau – Lee Belk

7. Kua tae mai ki te wa, e whakapuru ai tātou i nga kōwhao o te waka.
8. E rua ā tātou take matua i ngā tau e rua kua hipa nei – ko te whakawhanaungatanga me te whāngai atu i ngā akoranga ture nā ngā ika a Whiro o tō tātou hunga ki te tini o tātou kia whakapuru ai o tātou ake kōwhao. I tētahi o ā tātou hui i Kataia i tērā tau (whai muri ake i te Hui-a-tau mīharo rawa ake i Paihia), i puāwai mai ai te whakaaro – me hanga tātou i tētahi rautaki hei painga mō o tātou whānau Māori e tūtaki ana ki te ture. Ka whakatūria ai tātou tētahi wānanga parakuihi i te marama o Whiringa-ā-rangi o te tau nei. Nā tō tātou mātanga-ture, tō tātou manawa popore, Ko Judge Davis, ngā akoranga ture e pā ana ki ngā ripoata 'section 27', me ngā ture hōu i whāngai mai ki ngā rōia e mahi ana ki te Tai Tokerau me o mātou whanaunga e whakapapa ana ki te rohe.

9. E mōhio kētia ana e tātou, nō te ture-a-taihara te nuinga o ēnei kaupapa, erangi, ko te tūmanako ka whakatūria e tātou ētahi atu wānanga i ngā wā e heke mai ana e pā ana ki ētahi atu kaupapa, ētahi atu wāhanga o te ture rānei. Kāore e kore, ehara tēnei rautaki i te mea hōu – i timata kētia e te katoa o ia rōhe o tātou, nā reira me mahi pērā tonu, me koke tonu kia whakakoi tātou i a tātou. Ko ētahi atu take ko te nui o te rohe, ko te noho mokemoke o ētahi o tātou i ngā taiwhenua, me te tokoiti o te hunga e noho ana ki te kainga – ia 2000 tāngata Māori o te Tai Tokerau: kotahi anake te rōia Māori e taetae te awhina ki a rātou – nā reira, ko te hokinga mai o ngā uri o te Tai Tokerau ki te mahi ture te moemoea. Mā rātou anō ngā kōwhao o tō tātou ake waka e whakapuru.

Tāmaki Makaurau – Arena Williams

10. The review of the Rules of Te Hunga Roia Māori o Aotearoa has kept me busy, as has consideration of our annual and special general meeting processes. The review has highlighted rules which have fallen out of ordinary Exec practice, as well as a number of areas for further consideration in 2017 (such as representation of students and the split of administrative duties on the Exec). An informal social event was held in central Auckland for practitioners in late 2015. I assisted the Exec in its consideration of subscription fees and membership issues, and will hand these over to the leadership of 2017 with much of the leg work already done. I will be stepping down as Tāmaki Representative at this AGM, but I have enjoyed serving on this effective, passionate Exec. A special thanks to Aidan, Rachel and Josh for their service to the Te Hunga Roia Māori o Aotearoa.

Waikato – Renika Siciliano

11. This year we have had just the one function held for Waikato practitioners based in Hamilton. A further function will be held for practitioners within Waikato over the coming weeks, as an end of year catch up.
12. Initial collaboration was also had with the Waikato Bay of Plenty District Law Society Committee on Māori Legal Issues to plan seminars within both Hamilton and the wider Bay of Plenty on legal issues relevant to Māori. Whilst those seminars have not yet been able to take place, I remain in contact with the Waikato Bay of Plenty District Law Society and there is space available in 2016/early 2017 for a session on tikanga Māori in the law.
13. This year I have been heavily involved in the Digital Strategy for Te Hunga Rōia Māori and have worked closely with Vo2 to update our internal systems and Executive intranet, and also to put in place a formal database system for members which will be developed and utilised in different ways over time. As part of that digital strategy, I have worked with Vo2 to develop a phone app for use at the 2016 Hui-ā-Tau and beyond. I am passionate about making the wider digital strategy work and using our digital formats to communicate with members in new ways.

14. I am also involved, on behalf of Te Hunga Rōia Māori, in providing comment to the New Zealand Commission on the proposed reforms to the Property (Relationships) Act 1976 and changes affecting Māori in relation to the Public Works Act 1981.
15. I intend to stand for re-election as the Regional Representative for Waikato.

Waiariki – Natalie Coates and Stacey Mareroa

16. Kiritapu Allan and Natalie Coates “job shared” the Waiariki (Rotorua) Regional Representative Role this year. The main function that we organised was “Wahine Māori in the Law: Observations from the Bench”. This event took place on the 16th of February 2016 in Rotorua and was a celebration of the inaugural Māori Appellate Court sitting of a full wahine Māori Bench. Deputy Chief Judge Fox, Judge Milroy, Judge Reeves and Judge Wills shared their journeys, observations and reflections on being wahine Māori in the legal profession. This event was well attended by over 50 people and wahine Māori travelled from Northland, Wellington, Whanganui, Tauranga and Hamilton to celebrate the milestone. The event was sponsored by THRMOA, Kahui Legal and McCaw Lewis.
17. The Waiariki region was well represented at the World Indigenous Legal Conference (WILC) held in California Irvine in October 2016. The themes that Waiariki presented on at WILC ranged from family law, Treaty settlements, environmental and resource management.

Te Tai Rāwhiti – Manu Taumanunu

No report received.

Te Tai Hauāuru – Parahia Walker

No report received.

Te Whanganui-ā-Tara – Tai Ahu

No report received.

Ōtautahi – Jamie-Lee Tuuta

18. We are continuing to develop relationships with the Māori legal practitioners and students in Ōtautahi. As numbers are low for Māori Lawyers in the area, it is becoming apparent that we need to focus on retaining and encouraging Māori Lawyers to practice in our region. Our support network is continuing to grow and the aim is to ensure that this is sustainable into the future.
19. Ōtautahi plan to have a networking evening in December to close out the year.
20. After five years on the executive, I will be standing down this year and I am looking forward to continuing to support region and our new representative on THROMA.

Ōtepoti – Desiree Williams & Haines Ellison

21. This year we have not held any formally arranged events but we have had casual catch ups with the few members we have in Otago/Southland over the year and we have also attended events to celebrate the successes of our members in our region. Some of our highlights are:
22. Working to support a first time roopu of high school students from Invercargill to attend the Waikato moot competition;
23. Celebrating the significant achievements of Professor Jacinta Ruru, those being her appointment as the first ever Māori Professor of Law and also winning not only a tertiary teaching award but the Prime Ministers supreme teaching award – the highest teaching accolade one can win.
24. Celebrating and supporting Te Ihaka: Building Māori Leaders in Law initiative at the Faculty of Law Otago by attending those events we were able to;
25. Attending the Māori law alumni workshop at Otago University
26. Legal education initiatives to public such as lectures for tertiary students at Wananga and Polytechnic and hosting a wananga at the Puaka Matariki festival and also presenting on the panel hosted by Māori Law Review and Buddle Findlay in Wellington in regards to Te Ture Whenua Māori Bill
27. We have also spent a large amount of time this year preparing for our conference. We want to acknowledge the hard work that is put in by our tumuaki and others in this regard with special mention to Rachel and Renika.