**Te Ao Maramatanga – New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses, Maori Caucus, 4th Biennial Waananga 2014**


**Date of event:** 12th – 14th November 2014

**Venue:** Makaurau Marae

**Reporters name and contact details:** May Hart
Co-Convener
Te Ao Maramatanga – Maori Caucus
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Waananga Organising Committee
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**Name and Type of Event**

2014 Waananga theme is - “Ki Te Ao Marama- Ngā Taonga Tuku Iho” - “From the soles of the feet to the tip of the crown and everything in between.”

**No of participants** 100

The Waananga theme is - “Ki Te Ao Mārama-Ngā Taonga Tuku Iho” - “From the soles of the feet to the tip of the crown and everything in between.” This theme was gifted to us by Whea Koromiko Richards, the meaning is as follows:

kua tupu ahau i te taha o Te Moana o kaipara ki Otakanini. Ka tu kaha mai ra ahau ki raro nei o nga manakitanga o oku nei tupuna. Ka mautia mai ta ratou nei tikanga i te ao. Penei mai te kaupapa o te hui nei " Te Ao Maramatanga - Nga mea tuku iho" (From the soles of your feet to the crown of your head and everything in between.

The purpose of the Waananga theme is to explore the body of indigenous mental health nursing knowledge under three themes: Te Ao Huri (Innovation), Te Ao Ora (Well Being), and Te Ao Kanapa (Inspiration).

Maori Nurses, Whanau, Kaumatua and Kuia practicing in mental health and additions have benefited from this Waananga by way of whakawhanaungatanga, Māori nursing best practice, whānau ora, Maori workforce retention strategies; professional development and supporting Maori provider development.
The life of Matua Timoti George.

Timoti George, Te Arawa - Timoti commenced his nursing career at Oakley Hospital in 1971 where he registered as a Psychiatric Nurse in 1974. Through-out his career Timoti had held the positions of – Psychiatric Home Visitor, Psychiatric District Nurse, Mediator (Human Rights Commission), Manager National Secure Unit, Manager Regional Forensic Psychiatry Services & Addictions, Clinical Manager, Clinical Director, Kaiako (Te Ngaru Learning Systems), Unit and Service Manager. Timoti last role was service manager for Whiti Maurea MOKO Service (Waitemata DHB) Mental Health and Te Atea Marono Māori Regional (covering Auckland, Waitemata & Counties Manukau DHBs) Addictions Services, a position he had held since 2001. Our Waananga commenced with a traditional Powhiri, where close to 150 people gathered, including Matua Timoti’s Te Arawa whanau. We celebrated the life of Timoti George as being a significant mentor, leader and inspirational in particular to the development of the Maori mental health profession. We reflected on the conceptional meaning of the “Whetu Kanapa” awards and indeed agreed that Matua Timoti deserved to be an inaugural awardee of Whetu kanapa for his contributions to Maori mental health nursing.

Whetu Kanapa

We celebrated and acknowledge Maori nurses who through leadership have made a significant contribution to the sector through the Whetu Kanapa Awards. The pursuit of excellence in the nursing profession amongst Maori is vital to recognise and to ensure nursing care that is effective, efficient and focused toward whanau ora. Many Maori nurses’ contributions are appreciated at a personal level by tangata whaiora, their whanau and communities but less often Maori nurses are openly appreciated by their own peers or the nursing profession proper. Te Ao Māramatanga - Māori Caucus Whetū Kanapa awards honour, career long nursing contributions in the fields of Māori mental health and nursing as acknowledged by their peers. Whetū Kanapa, brilliant and gleaming stars, personify Māreikura and Whatukura. They are living aspirations for all. We had the privilege and Honour of an evening journeying through the lives and careers of the 2014 “Whetu Kanapa Recipients”
**Key Note Speakers:**

Dr Reena Kaimanu (PhD, Maori & Pacific Health), shared her life story from under the roof of her grandparents home in Kaikohe to the suburbs of South Auckland, encouraged by her whanau to be involved at an early age with a political suburban youth movements leading to activism, influencing how her children were raised and underpinning her nursing career. Her presentation was centered upon an exploration into indigenous research methodologies in centering whanau and women, the humble and strong voice – *U/AU /ME/ I* – in locating the many truths that speak to our reality. A true Wahine toa, bringing hope and aspirations to those whom walk a pathway of **ORANGA**.

Our relationship with the first nations people of Australia, has always run very deep, making the wairua connection as carved in the kumete known as “Taranga”. The kumete adorns the whakapapa of our connection. The two figures represent Maaori and the Aboriginal peoples. The handles represents a lizard/kaitiaki found in both countries thus allowing us to connect all of our ancient cultural and historical links.

We had the privilege to host Barry McGuire and Carol Innes of the Nyungar Nations, Barry is a healer and leader and actively practices indigenous healing, whilst Carol is a strong leader and advocate for her people as they both bring the “Balance” of understanding to assist healing in their communities. Maaori caucus look forward to forging ahead a strong strategic relationship as outlined in our Maaori Caucus strategic plan.

Kerri Butler, another true wahine toa, shared her Journey through the mental health system which spanned almost 20 years encompassing inpatient, community and private settings. Her professional role in mental health is consumer leadership with a key focus on “empowering the voice of those who use the services”.

Her presentation not only exemplified her resilience as a wahine toa, whilst trying to make sense of whakapapa through times of psychosis, but she inspired the already converted clinician to work even harder to ensure their practice reflected consumer focused care.
Ropu Wawao

Reflections from the Whetu kanapa Neehi, which consisted of over a 100 years combined matauranga and practice. Their dynamic nursing careers, which span across a lifetime and developed and shaped Maori mental health service of today. The passion and desires of each and every one of these Whetu Kanapa to pass on their Matauranga, to be ongoing mentors to the younger generation. The attending audience asked that throughout the Waananga they whitiwhiti korero and give their whakaaro regarding the strategic way forward for Maori Mental Health. On day three the roopu reconvened with these words of wisdom in the form of a whakatauki.

“Pou te ora kia u”

The younger generation have to take up the challenge, stand steadfast and firm, accept the challenge to take up leadership, excel yourself to become an educated expert nurse, to lead our people to Oranga Hauora.

Here we have a rare photo opportunity where our Whetu kanapa neehi and our Tauira come together to join force and pave the way for Oranga Hauora Maori.
### Waananga Organising committee and support:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waananga Organising Committee</th>
<th>Ron Baker</th>
<th>Kaumatua</th>
<th>He Kamaka Oranga - Auckland District Health Board</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katrina Wahanui</td>
<td>Co-Convener</td>
<td>Te Puna Waiora – Counties Manukau Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>May Hart</td>
<td>Co-Convener, Sponsorship portfolio coordinator, Maori Caucus Bursary coordinator</td>
<td>Te Puna Waiora – Counties Manukau Health</td>
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<td>Tish Siaosi</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Community Mental Health – Counties Manukau Health</td>
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<td>Linda Wilkinson-Sewell</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Te Puna Waiora – Counties Manukau Health</td>
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<td>Tio Sewell</td>
<td>Whetu Kanapa Co-ordinator, Marketing and Advertising</td>
<td>Te Rau Matatini</td>
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<td>Sarah Williams</td>
<td>Program coordinator</td>
<td>MOKO Service – Waitemata District Health Board</td>
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<td>Carol Seymour</td>
<td>Student Bursary coordinator</td>
<td>MOKO Service – Waitemata District Health Board</td>
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<td>Donna Tearii</td>
<td>Logistic</td>
<td>Te Puna Waiora – Counties Manukau Health</td>
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<td>Barry Dunn</td>
<td>Logistic</td>
<td>Raukura Hauora O Tainui Ki Tamaki</td>
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Whakaae tatou i to tatou kaitautoko mo te haere tonu te tautoko me te ngākau nui ki te kaimahi te whanaketanga, Nga mihi nuinui koutou katoa

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**Te Ao Maramatanga**
Maori Caucus
New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses (Inc)

**Te Puni Kōkiri**
Realising Māori Potential

**Te Rau Matatini**

**Janssen**
Thank you to everyone who attended Te Ao Maramatanga – New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses, Maori Caucus, 4th Biennial Waananga “Ki Te Ao Marama – Nga Taonga Tuku Iho”, 2014. We Look forward to seeing you all at the next 2016 Waananga, which will be hosted in the “DEEP DEEP SOUTH”, by Southen District Health Board, under the leadership of our past kaiwhakahaere Hineroa Hakiaha. The tonu was won after a very robust and enticing debate between David Emerson of Nelson Marlborough District Health Board and Hineroa, whom projected enthusiasm passionate and determination. tou weriweri, me te ngākau nui ki te Māori, te hauora hinengaro mea honore e rua, mihi ki a koutou e rua.

Once again a special thanks to all the Sponsors, and Speakers at the Waananga for sharing their valuable message with the participants.