

Indigenous Transformation Through Research Excellence

Te Ahukaramū
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Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga

A Centre of Research Excellence

- Hosted by the University of Auckland (1 of 4 in total)
- ‘an inter-institutional network of collaborating researchers working on a commonly agreed research plan’ (leading to world class research)
- Emphasis upon capability building and national benefit (transformation/positive change)



Research Themes

- New Horizons of knowledge
- Economic Development
- Environmental Sustainability
- Health and Social Wellbeing
- Educational Achievement

- *Enlisting, incentivising and yielding the ‘creative potential’ of Māori people, communities, assets, resources to achieve these ends*



Distinctive, Successful, Relevant Approaches, Methods

- Creation of Knowledge
 - Questions posed
 - Methodologies
 - Research Answers
- Application of Knowledge
- Who gets to say what is researched
- How benefits are shared
- Ownership of research and its outcomes

**Distinctive Cultural
Creativity** Opportunity,
Innovation

Quest for
Social Justice,
retribution for
past wrong
doing

**Cultural
restoration**
and
revitalisation

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Four Inter-related Horizons/Themes

- Addressing **Needs, Issues** facing Māori Peoples
- Distinctive Cultural Creativity, Yielding the **Creative Potential** of Māori Peoples
- Building Relationships with **other Indigenous Peoples**
- Fostering **Indigeneity in the world** at large



Needs, Issues

- Health Disparities
- Educational Underachievement
- Imprisonment
- Poverty
- Cultural loss
- Violence
- Impoverishment



Creative Potential

- Rediscovery of the creative centre of a people
- Brings people to an experience of their own mana
- Being motivated by what we have rather than what we have lost
- Distinctive cultural creativity – whare wānanga, whare tapere, tā moko, taonga pūoro,



Indigenous Peoples

- Building nourishing relationships with indigenous peoples on the basis of common concerns
- Common experiences with colonisation and other kinds of oppression
- Rediscovery of one's own creative centre
- Fostering indigeneity



Indigeneity in the world at large

- Need to rework, recalibrate humankind's relationship with natural world environments
- Indigeneity is based upon a kinship based, creative and dynamic participation with the living universe
- We exist as 'children of the universe'

