



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF AUCKLAND

NEW ZEALAND

Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau

“I have been given pearls of wisdom from kaumātua and kuia, which have stood me in good stead for all life’s challenges”

## Successful Māori Careers



### Jeremy Hema

Te Rarawa, Tainui and Ngāti Paoa

Bachelor of Science (Geography)

The University of Auckland

**Iwi Liaison Officer**

Rodney District Council

“ In my role as Poutakawaenga/ Iwi Liaison there is no such thing as a typical day. It could involve provision of pōwhiri to council guests and visiting dignitaries, meeting with officers from the planning, water services, and regulatory departments seeking iwi engagement, right up to co-officiating at the blessing of new motorways and civic buildings, and attending regional forums.

The greatest success has been taking the time and making a point of listening to my elders and what they have purposefully taught me over the years. Being sure not to waste pearls of wisdom stands you in good stead for all of life’s challenges, whether academic or professional.

Everything I do in life I think to myself ‘what would my tūpuna think of this?’ From this knowledge comes pono, integrity.

*Taawhirihai te kapura o te matauranga, kia kite ai o hao i taua kapura e paoa ana  
Fan the fire of knowledge so that others can see its smoke.”*

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