
Session 1 : Scene Setting

SESSION CHAIR – John Green, LakesWater Quality Society

TE ARAWA – KAITAKI OF TE ARAWA LAKES

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Sir Toby has been teacher, principal, lecturer, researcher, and a senior academic in tertiary education. Today, he is very much involved and committed to Iwii development and the advancement of the Maori economy. He has also chaired various Ministerial Committees that promoted health, broadcasting, education and social development.

He also chaired the North Harbour Secondary Schools Union, and the National Maori Sports Association. He is currently Chair of Te Arawa Lakes Trust, Chair of Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Strategy Group, Deputy Chair of Te Wananga o Aotearoa Council and a member of both the Iwi Leaders Forum and the Police Commissioner's Forum.

TRANSCRIPT

Kia hiwa rā! Kia hiwa rā!	Stay watchful, stay watchful
Kia hiwa rā i tēnei tuku,	at this lookout
Kia hiwa rā ki tērā tuku.	At that look out
Whano, whano! Haramai te toki!	Behold, behold, our defender has come
Haumi ē! Tāiki ē!	Peace and tranquillity will prevail

Cultural Framework

The Te Arawa Lakes Trust has embarked on a project to develop a Te Arawa Cultural Values Framework, in regard to the 14 lakes located in our tribal region. There are a host of positives that we believe can accrue as an outcome of this exercise. Already the calibre of people acknowledged for their cultural expertise have added a lot by their attendance. Their presence and contribution injected a level of enthusiasm and confidence in the compilation of the final draft. It is hoped that distribution among the wider community will elicit constructive feedback.

Rights and Interests in Freshwater

Negotiations on iwi rights and interests have been ongoing for a number of years now, between the Crown and the Iwi Leaders Group. The word 'ownership' was deemed unhelpful in the process. It tended to highlight the exclusive element. Hence 'rights and interests' were seen as a neutral term and therefore more preferable. At this stage the Land and Water Forum, together with Local Government NZ, are keen for Iwi and the Crown to come to an agreed understanding re 'rights and interests', by yesterday if possible!

Hon Minister, I could not forfeit this wonderful opportunity to emphasise the sooner timeline, rather than later. On behalf of the Iwi Leaders' Forum, thank you for resourcing the Land and Water Forum, to enable them to continue their sterling work.

Again, I join our Chair John Green and his team to welcome you all to this conference.

A, kāti. Ngā manuhiri tūāurangi, ngā mātāwaka, ngā mana hurihuri noa tō tātau whare
- tēnā koutou, tēna tātau katoa.

E kore te aroha e maroke i te rā.