

Preamble

Te Rōpū Taki Māori provides strategic Māori leadership, support, advice and input into Te Kahu Pairuri o Aotearoa (Te Kahu Pairuri)/Hospice New Zealand (HNZ) and to the HNZ Board on *tikanga me kawa* (procedures and protocols), initiatives and policies, and to ensure the values and preferences of Iwi Māori and Te Tiriti o Waitangi principals are reflected in Hospice NZ projects and initiatives.

Hospice NZ exists to support member organisations in their work to care for people who are dying. Their purpose is to ensure all New Zealanders have access to the best possible care at the end of their lives. There is a need for a specific focus on Māori access to hospice services given both cultural needs and equity issues in health care. This focus is highlighted by the following:

- The number of Māori living to an older age is growing and those who would benefit from palliative care at the end of life is also increasing (MoH 2014).
- Approaches to addressing Māori palliative care needs are reflected in *Mauri Mate; A Māori Palliative Care Framework for Hospices* (2020).
- Since Mauri Mate was launched, *Whakamaua, A Māori Health Action Plan* (2020) has been published. This Action Plan integrates and updates the strategic direction of *A guide to He Korowai Oranga* (2014) and integrates the report of the Waitangi Tribunal (2019) - *Hauora: Report on Stage1 of the Health Services and Outcomes Kaupapa Inquiry*.
- And finally, the Government has announced the establishment of a stand-alone Māori Health agency, alongside NZ Health Inc., that will replace District Health Boards (DHBs).

Te Rōpū Taki Māori was established in 2015 following discussion by the Hospice Kaimahi network and Hospice NZ and approval from the Hospice NZ Board. The 2019 Hospice NZ Rules state that the *Chair of Te Rōpū Taki Māori (Hospice NZ) (TRTM) shall be a voting member of the Trust Board.*

Accountability

Accountability is to Hospice NZ and the Hospice NZ Board.

There will be regular engagement with Hospice members, especially Ngā Kaimahi Māori, to undertake the annual Kaimahi network hui and to monitor alignment of current palliative care needs of Māori whānau, hapū and iwi, across Aotearoa.

The Role

The role of Te Rōpū Taki Māori is to provide and grow strategic Māori leadership from Te Kahu Pairuri/HNZ to support good compassionate palliative care in the lead up to, and after, the end of life for Māori, Māori whānau and Māori communities.

Examples of this approach include:

- The development of the Kaimahi network and annual hui (development and updates for the Māori hospice workforce who work with Māori whānau)
- Input and oversight into policies and guidelines that impact on Māori whānau (eg Hospice NZ Standards for Palliative Care, Foundations of Spiritual Care, Mauri Mate – A Māori Palliative care Framework for Hospices)
- Supporting *tikanga me kawa* at conferences and special events including other indigenous conferences or special events
- Māori or iwi issues that might arise locally or in the regions (discussed with Te Kahu Pairuri and local Hospice)
- Initiatives that align with Hospice NZ Strategic Plan

The focus areas will change over time and should be reviewed annually with Hospice NZ.

Membership

Membership shall be 6 – 8 person (including the Chair) who shall be appointed for a maximum of 3 years by 2 terms.

The following skills and experiences are sought:

- Knowledge of *te reo Māori, tikanga and kawa* and its application in *te ao Māori* and how it can be used in a contemporary mainstream setting,
- Knowledge and understanding of palliative and allied health care practice in a hospice and community setting,
- Familiarity with role and issues facing Māori staff in their development of relationships with Māori providers, communities, hapū and iwi (at the local level),
- Ability to operate in a working group and provide input into documents, guidelines and policies, and,
- Ability to relate and work well with diverse peoples.

Members will have had experience or employment with hospices (but do not have to be currently employed by a hospice); represent a geographical range of communities across the country as far as possible; and where possible, have a range of professional experiences.

A 'registration of interest' process will be used to consider nominations of those offering their services, and this process may be used in the event of a resignation or withdrawal from Te Rōpū Taki Māori. Following discussions/recommendations from TRTM, the Hospice NZ Board will select the Chair and group members.

Meeting Frequency

Te Rōpū Taki Māori will meet *kanohi-ki-te-kanohi*, subject to budget approval, twice a year, with teleconference as it is felt they are needed.

Meeting frequency will be reviewed yearly if needed.

Expenses

This is a voluntary Hospice NZ group. Travel expenses for face to face will be reimbursed by Hospice NZ. Further resourcing for the group will be explored in the future.

Review

The Terms of Reference for Te Rōpū Taki Māori will be reviewed biennially.