



Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o
WHANGANUI

2020-2021
ANNUAL REPORT



Contents

Pages

Elected and Advisory Trustees

4

Iwi snapshot

5

Trust Report and Insights

6 – 15

Year End Financial
Summary

16

Photo Collage

17 – 18

Directory

19

Elected & Advisory Trustees (September 2018 – 2021)



Left to Right:

Joey Allen Jnr – Trustee, **Siani Walker** – Advisory Trustee, **Hannah Rainforth** – Trustee, **Alaina Teki-Clark** – Trustee, **Sandy Nepia** – Advisory Trustee, **Dr Rāwiri Tinirau** – Deputy Chair, **Nancy Tuaine** – Trustee to May 2021, **Che Wilson** – Trustee, **Gerrard Albert** – Chairman.



He hokinga whakamuri kia haere whakamua Appointment of Kaihautū

Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui is pleased to acknowledge a return to the tried and true to take the aspirations of Whanganui whānau, hapū and iwi forward.

Nancy Tuaine was appointed as Kaihautū of Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui in May 2021 and brings a wealth of management and leadership experience to the role.

Most importantly, Nancy knows and has worked directly with our people previously and will ensure that the organisation is built to serve our whānau, hapū and iwi.

Iwi Snapshot

Iwi population



We have grown from **12561** to **16404** between **2013** and **2018**

2013
12561

2018
16404

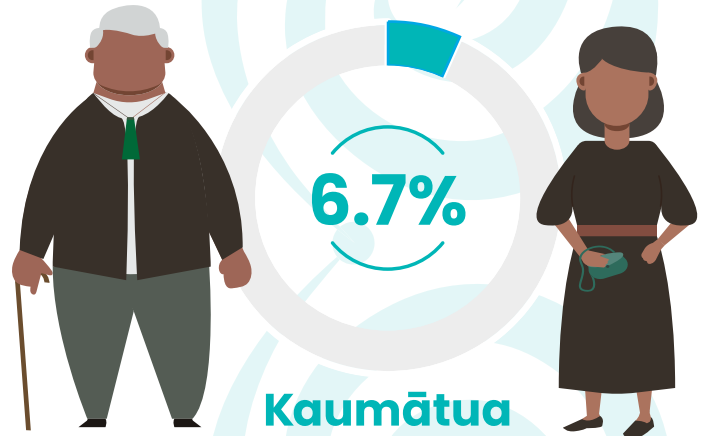
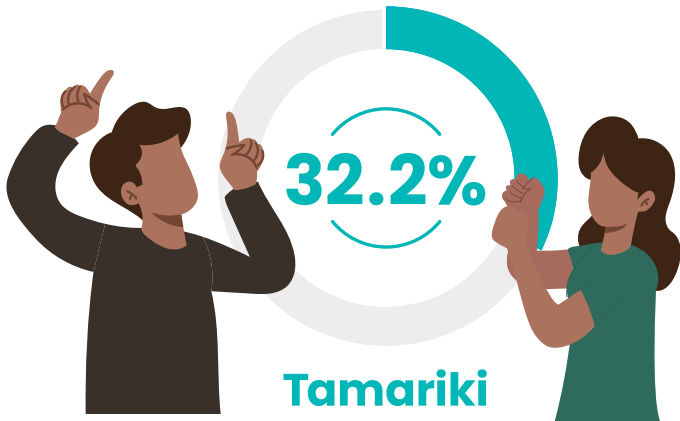
Wāhi kāinga



40.8%

of us lived in the **Manawatū Whanganui Region**

Age groups



Tertiary qualifications



24.6%

This is above the average for all Māori of **19.3%**

Our income has increased



21.9%

reported an annual personal income of more than **\$50k**

This data has been sourced from Census 2018 and includes statistics from Ngāti Hāua and Te Āti Haunui-a-Pāpārangi

He kupu whakataki

Kia mārama au ka titiro iho ki ngā wai whetū o te takutai, ki ngā puna whetū o te tuawhenua. Kua tangihia ngā mate o te tau tawhito, ka titiro whakamua ki te tau e huri mai ai.

Ko te ngaronga tērā o Puanga ki te Maruaonui, ko Matariki tōna kaiwhakahaere. Ko Whakaahu ka ngaro ki roto o Te Rangiaio, ko tōna kaiwhakahere ko Tautoru. He tau anō te tau, e huri te tau ki te whaiao, ki te ao mārama.

"It is the whakapapa we share as whānau and hapū with our lands and waters – and connections to one another – that form the foundation of our rangatiratanga."

As well as a time for reflection, the period of Puanga is a very active time. Tuna and piharau run, kererū grow plump on the fruiting miro and toward the end of the season, new ground is broken in advance of spring planting.

Fishing nets, lines and lures are prepared long before coastal fish are set to run again. Thus, as much as we mark the rise of Puanga and Matariki, we anticipate the inevitability of their fall, and therefore the opportunities heralded by the rise of the stars, that are the harbingers of spring, and then summer.

The cyclical rise and fall of the heavenly bodies remind us that opportunity is not fixed at one point but comes via a succession of seasonal changes and contexts. The lesson is, that uncertainty will never be present where the inevitability of change is anticipated and appropriately prepared for.

Similarly, the rangatiratanga of our hapū and iwi is not fixed at one place or in one context, least of all in the context of a legal body such as Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui. Tiriti o Waitangi settlements, and the entities created to serve them, are means that are useful toward the ends we seek, but those settlements and entities are not themselves the anticipated ends.

Settlements and legal entities can help, but it is the whakapapa we share as whānau and hapū with our lands and waters – and connections to one another – that form the foundation of our rangatiratanga. An unbroken relationship with our lands and waters over millennia of observance of celestial and terrestrial cycles place our whānau and hapū in the optimum position to deliver what is best for them.

This year's annual report attests to the confidence our people have in themselves to drive that change and deliver at place. In addition to presenting the annual audited financial documentation and subsidiary trust reports, we are pleased to present a collection of stories told through the eyes of our hapū working as the agents for the change that they seek.

Having worked for the past seven years to build a sound platform, and with new Trustees and a new Kaihautū on board, Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui is poised more than ever to support whānau and hapū to deliver the outcomes and solutions they wish to drive.

E huri e te kāhui o mua. Nau mai, e ara e te kāhui whetū o te tau.

Nā Gerrard Albert



Chairperson

He mana nō tuawhakarere

Taking back control of our River

For decades, the Crown has effectively assumed control of hapū lands and a large portion of the Whanganui River without legal validity.

On 30th Hurae 2021, the first of a series of hui-ā-iwi was held at Morero Marae, Taumarunui to discuss placing our hapū and iwi at the centre of policy design and decision making over the way people access and behave on our Awa.

There are multiple central government agencies and local government bodies controlling aspects of use and access to the Awa.

Te Awa Tupua legislation provides scope to have this situation reversed in favour of the values, kawa and tikanga of Whanganui, and a proposition to that effect needs to be consolidated from the mountains to the sea to realise the potential of the legislation to give effect to that change.

Ngāti Hāua uri Dinnah Ngarongo described the readiness of the people to do the mahi.

“We have all of the pou of our whare in place here to do the mahi but we have none of the capacity,” she said.

“We know we can uphold the mana of our Awa, and what’s more we’re already doing it and have known how to do the mahi mai rā anō.”

Further hui-ā-iwi will be held throughout the Awa in the coming months to allow other hapū and iwi to voice their readiness to take back control of the Awa, whereupon a proposition will be put to the Government on the terms of the iwi.



Mouri tūroa

He taihono tāngata ki tōna awa, ki tōna whenua, ki tōna ora

Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui is looking forward to the improvements that will be made to our waterways and supporting employment opportunities for uri after working with the Department of Conservation to secure \$7.8 m over four years from the Jobs for Nature fund.

The Ngā Tāngata Tiaki approach to Jobs for Nature is guided by Tupua Te Kawa, the intrinsic values of Te Awa Tupua. The approach goes beyond creating nature-based employment benefiting the taiao to include the restoration and reclamation of tikanga associated with Mouri Awa, Mouri Tangata, Mouri Ora.

The approach supports the development of a system where the relationship between our people, lands, forests, and rivers are revitalised with purposeful investment and reciprocal benefit to the health and well-being of Te Awa Tupua.

In this respect, the Iwi seeks to create a strategic approach to the activities that meet ecological needs but restores traditional practices and builds capability across our tribal estate.

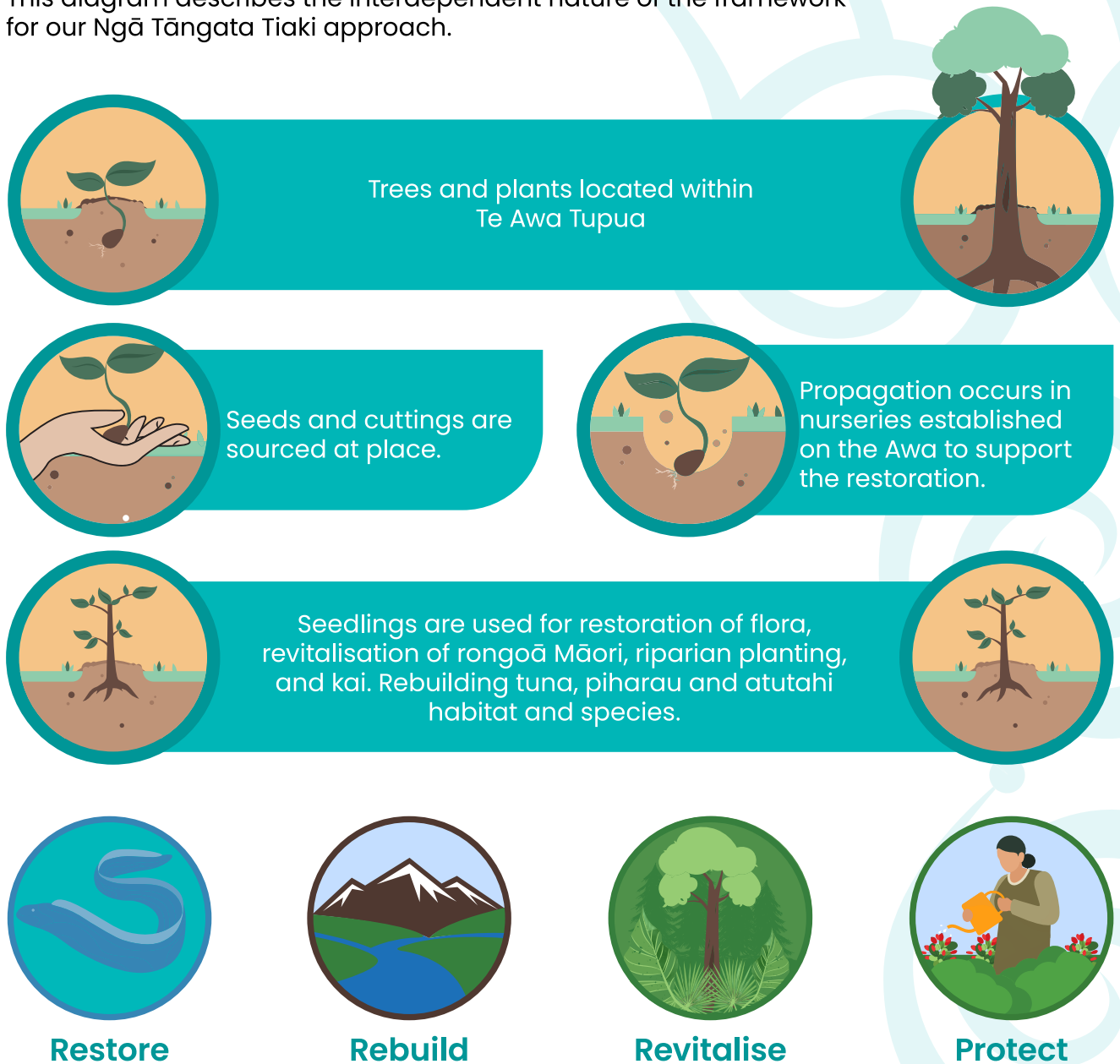
The approach includes a number of interdependent initiatives being progressed in parallel over the period of this project. The strategic objectives include:

- **building knowledge and skills amongst uri.**
- **providing exposure to traditional practices in relation to land management, river health and well-being.**
- **increasing insight and experience in biodiversity within hapū and across Te Awa Tupua.**
- **providing whānau and hapū led solutions.**



Framework

This diagram describes the interdependent nature of the framework for our Ngā Tāngata Tiaki approach.



This framework encompasses all the values of Tupua Te Kawa and it will see the bridging of knowledge and practice across the breadth of Te Awa Tupua to support the restoration, revitalisation and rebuilding of things such as:

- **rongoā Māori, water quality, land management practices;**
- **reclamation of heritage food and customary practice in food production and preparation; and**
- **protection of ngā taonga tuku iho, our knowledge, practices and beliefs and protection of the lands and plantings from predators.**

A key aspect of the project is connecting whānau and hapū to Te Awa Tupua and the whenua through employment, utilising a workforce that is found at place in the communities where work is to be undertaken.

Te Mata Pūau

Hapū at the heart of major port development



Te Pūwaha is the name of the Whanganui port revitalisation project which aims to create a sustainable marine precinct committed to positive outcomes for our Awa and people.

In the past year, hapū have collectivised as Te Mata Pūau and taken on a central leadership role in the delivery of Te Pūwaha Project. Through this leadership, the project has successfully reconfigured its structures so that the hapū are central to all decision-making processes.

It has been a continuous process to help the Project partners understand Te Awa Tupua status and the application of Tupua Te Kawa towards the health and well-being of the Whanganui River in its entirety.

Te Mata Pūau member Raukura Waitai said it has been a big learning curve for everyone involved.



“I have found it really awesome helping organisations understand Tupua Te Kawa within the day-to-day parameters of this project. This has required leading non-iwi agencies and the community along a journey to work in line with the values of Te Awa Tupua,” she said.

There are multiple project partners involved, including local and central government, who are now working in collaboration through Tupua Te Kawa.

Raukura said non-Iwi agencies cannot continue to work the way they always have, and Tupua Te Kawa provides that overarching set of values to improve how they work with us.

“We have put the health and well-being of the River and the wider community at the forefront and constructing a project together in this way ensures a better outcome for everyone.”

Hapū saw the need to define success by ensuring that the outcomes of this project can be measured by Mouri Ora, Mouri Awa, Mouri Tangata, Raukura said.

“That is an inclusive proposition, and I am really proud of that.”

She said the way the project is set up now sees hapū oversight and involvement at all levels of governance and operations.

“This allows us to see things that others may not see. It has been great that Ngā Tāngata Tiaki has been able to facilitate hapū at place being key to this project.”

"He repo, he tupuna"

Collective action to regenerate wetlands



Te Repo o Kokohuia was once a thriving wetland and ecosystem that had long been a source of nourishment, kai, materials and rongoā Māori for whānau in the area now known as Castlecliff.

The repo, which backs onto Te Kura o Kokohuia, was traditionally part of a wider wetland system which sprawled the city. It was connected by streams that ran all the way out to the Awa.

But over the years, it has been cut off from the Awa, dramatically reduced in size and degraded by landfill activity and pollution.

The Kokohuia Wetland Project is an important kaupapa that aims to restore and regenerate the repo, and ultimately reconnect it with the wider wetland system and back to Te Awa Tupua.

Tanea Tangaroa is a tireless advocate for the repo. She said the repo is a tupuna, and she has been working with the local

community to capture the vision for the repo and to create a plan to bring it back to health.

"It is such a strong feeling. Once you see the damage, you cannot unsee it. Our kids are right there. We are all coming together to reclaim it – this is about getting some relationships moving," she said.

"We have held a few workshops within the community to gauge their thoughts, because working in line with Tupua Te Kawa means ensuring that our communities are part of the picture."

People want to see action now and the immediate steps include more soil testing and water testing, putting up signage, and to consider more fencing around the wetland.

The project is a partnership between Ngā Tāngata Tiaki and Whanganui District Council.

A master plan is being developed for the area to improve and enhance not only the ecology and water management issues, but also connectivity, cultural and community values.

Te Rangataioho

He awa wānanga, he piki amokura



Te Rangataioho is an exciting new kaupapa that has emerged in the past year. This two-year educational journey is aimed at a group of 10 to 12 year-olds who are uri o Te Awa Tupua, speak te reo Māori, passionate about their Whanganuitanga and have supportive whānau.

A Manga Iti grant made a small contribution to the programme which was designed by Rama Ashford (Ngāti Tuera, Ngāti Hinearo, Ngāti Ruawai) after her experience teaching this age group at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Ātihaunui-a-Pāpārangī.

“This age group is on the crest of rolling into a teenager and young adult, and we believe that with the additional iwitanga, mita and te reo development, we can positively influence their direction in life to be tangata tiaki and practitioners of iwi knowledge and custom,” she said.



“The talent, ngākau and capacity of the taura to learn and retain our kōrero tuku iho is far beyond their years...”

“Te Rangataioho is the weaving together of young minds and their awakening as a new and resilient wave of kaitiaki and leaders for tomorrow. These crucial years will allow for final shaping and moulding before they enter wharekura or college.”

Seventeen taiohi took part in the inaugural week-long noho held in April at Parikino Marae. The focus at this noho was on Ngā Pae e Rima o te marae; Te Tū a Tamakōrero, Te Tū a Hinewaiata, Te Tū Marae.

“The talent, ngākau and capacity of the taura to learn and retain our kōrero tuku iho is far beyond their years, and successive noho will be held during the second week of each school holidays until November 2022,” Rama said.

The final noho will be held on the island of Ra’iatea in Tahiti from whence the Aotea waka and Turi departed to Aotearoa.

Coordinated by Te Taioho Ltd of which Rama is a co-founder and co-director, the plan is for Te Rangataioho to continue for several biennial intakes and contribute to the revitalisation, restoration, and creation of mātauranga and taonga tuku iho of Whanganui and Aotea waka.

Strengthening connections with Te Awa Tupua



It is a continuous desire of our whānau to ensure our tamariki and rangatahi are connected to their Whanganuitanga and building a relationship with the Awa.

A recent highlight has been using our new Stream Health Monitoring and Assessment Kits (SHMAK) in Hinengākau to encourage tamariki and rangatahi engagement with the Awa.

"... tamariki and rangatahi can build a relationship with their manga and Awa."

Tauira from Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Taumarunui, Te Kura Tuarua o Taumarunui and Te Kura o Ngāpuke took a few days to learn about the kits and to investigate the state of some of the local rivers at Taringamotu, Ngāhuinga and Morero.



Even though testing was the core activity, the main outcome was that the tamariki and rangatahi can build a relationship with their manga and Awa.

"Having our rangatahi on board was important as they are our tomorrow!"

Trust kaiwhakarite, Channey Iwikau, who is based in Taumarunui, organised this wānanga.

"When our rangatahi saw the different states that some of the streams were in and saw how our manga by some of the farms were in really poor condition, it lit a fire in them about the importance of this mahi," he said.

"Having our rangatahi on board was important as they are our tomorrow! Watching them step up and take on this kaupapa gave much hope that we are on the right path towards ensuring that our next generation play a huge part within this kaupapa."

Channey said the environment – our taiao – is one of the best classrooms anyone could have.

"Our environment is just as important as our reo Māori. These kaupapa need to be given the same respect within all kura. You can't teach one without the other, as they go hand in hand."

Te Pūia Tāpapa

Direct investment offers future opportunities

Our investment arm, Te Ngakinga o Whanganui Investment Trust, has joined a special iwi and Māori investment fund Te Pūia Tāpapa, which consists of \$115.5m committed funds by 26 iwi and Māori entities across the motu.

Te Pūia Tāpapa was set up primarily to seek superior financial returns from long-term private equity investments alongside sophisticated partners, like the NZ Super Fund.

Te Ngakinga chair, Simon Karipa, said they were thankful for the opportunity to join the collective.

“They get access to investments that most iwi organisations can’t get close to – so we see this as a really great opportunity to access high quality private equity investments that are often not available on the open market,” he said.

“The investment approach for Te Pūia Tāpapa is different to a typical New Zealand private equity fund and aligns well with us, as it reflects a Māori long-term world view, with generational investment periods of 15–20 years.”

In December 2020, Te Ngakinga invested \$7.6m which makes us the 6th largest investor, providing us with representation at the board table to ensure our voice in decision making.

Simon said they are excited about partnering opportunities with leaders in the New Zealand investment sector.

“Te Pūia Tāpapa Investment Fund has already made some important investments that have gone well, which will benefit us.”

Te Pūia Tāpapa has made several investments to date, including \$10.61m into TR Group – a market leader in heavy vehicle fleet leasing and rental with an estimated market share of 65% of the total truck and trailer leasing market, serving over 1,300 commercial customers.

He said there are possible benefits for iwi members in addition to the investment returns to the Trust.

“We expect to be able to build training and employment opportunities for uri through this kaupapa as well as wider strategic relationships for the entire Ngā Tāngata Tiaki group in due course.”

Statement from the Kaihautū Nancy Tuaine

Te Ara Whakamua – The Way Forward

Strategically, the Trust is on a 10-year horizon since achieving settlement in 2017. The first four years were spent establishing the systems and policies within Ngā Tāngata Tiaki.

The investment and people development arms of the Trust, Te Ngakinga and Te Whawhaki were established. Te Kōpuka was constructed and Te Pou Tupua were appointed and completed their first term.

The next phase from 2021 to 2024 is a building phase, continuing to strengthen the systems required to implement Te Pā Auroa, with a key focus on:

- **advocating for the role of hapū in decision making;**
- **Creating tools and processes that establish direct relationships between hapū and other entities responsible for policy planning and development;**
- **Collaborating with others to resource hapū led initiatives;**
- **Supporting our whānau and hapū practitioners in the restoration of our customary fishing practices; and**
- **Working with hapū to define their aspirations for the management of activities on the Awa.**

By 2024 to 2027 the aim is to achieve normalisation, where Tupua Te Kawa, and Te Awa Tupua have visible commitment, acknowledgement, and action - where hapū are actively engaged and leading decisions impacting on the health and well-being of the Awa and our people.

In recent times, the priority has been on completing the Trustee election process and ensuring whānau are registered and able to vote. Whānau are now able to register online and update their details through our Ngā Tāngata Tiaki website. We are excited that since the option became live in early July, over 200 Iwi registrations have been received.

In the next 12 months, the Trust will embark on a road-show to celebrate our Whanganuitanga updating whānau,

hapū and uri living both inside and outside of the Awa on the background and implementation of Te Pā Auroa, Te Awa Tupua framework.

Aligned with the roadshow will be the building of the terms of reference for the review of Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui Trust Deed under the principle, “Me hanga tahi ko te iwi – building the review process with the people.”

A key feature is that the process of review will be built with the people. An independent facilitator will be appointed by late 2021, who will work with the iwi to build the review process from the ground up.

The function and purpose of Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui going forward can then be guided from the outset through a process of inclusion, enablement, and encouragement for participation in the review on a more informed basis.

The review is due for completion by the end of 2022.



Year End Financial Summary 31 March 2021



REVENUE

\$2,281,812

In this year, new income streams were generated from fee for service contracting relationships. A cautious approach during the Covid-19 environment meant Ngā Tāngata Tiaki plus Trusts did not draw on its full income interest entitlement, choosing instead to leave it to be reinvested.



EXPENSES

\$3,854,247

Increases in staff from nine (9) to thirteen (13) and the contracting in of expert technical advice contributed to increased expenses.

Te Whawhaki Trust, the charitable arm of the group, distributed \$680,000 in Grants, to support tupuna rohe, wānanga, tertiary studies and pātaka kai for tangihanga and other significant events.

Included in grants was a one-off Covid-19 marae relief payment of \$10,000, this was taken up by 38 marae.



TOTAL ASSETS

\$122,325,210

Eighty percent of the Trust's assets are invested in managed funds. Surprisingly in the Covid-19 environment this fund achieved a gain of \$15.3m. The other gain was in the increase in value of land and buildings of \$1.36m

TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$302,631

Liabilities across the group are limited mainly to accounts payable.

The Trust has a quick asset ratio of 24:1. This means the Trust has \$24 for every \$1 it owes and is able to pay its immediate debts as they fall due.

A full set of the 2021 Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui audited financial accounts can be viewed on the Ngā Tāngata Tiaki website or available for inspection at the Ngā Tāngata Tiaki office at 357 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui.

Photos from the past year

Te Mana o Te Awa funding continues to support a range of kaupapa and initiatives across the rohe



Pae Rangatahi 2021, Te Ngākau o Te Awa



Nannies enjoying Pae Rangatahi 2021



Te Tira Iti o Hinengākau



New kaitātari undertake iwi database update in 2020



Taurira monitoring the Awa in Hinengākau



Whanganui River Hunting and Food Festival 2021 ki Taumarunui



Puanga karakia ki Pūtiki



Raukotahi Marae Waka Ama Challenge



Harirū to welcome Mitch Roderick-Hall,
Te Taituara o Te Pou Tupua



Te Huritau 30 o Awa FM



National Freshwater Conference hosted
in Whanganui



The Rangatahi Summit kicks off 2021

Directory

Te Ngakinga o Whanganui Investment Trust

Simon Karipa	Chairperson
Dr Rāwiri Tinirau	Trustee
Peter Halligan	Trustee
Gerrard Wilson	Trustee

Whanganui Iwi Fisheries Limited

Simon Karipa	Chairperson
Dr Rāwiri Tinirau	Director
Peter Halligan	Director
Gerrard Wilson	Director

Te Whawhaki Trust

Nancy Tuaine	Chairperson – until May 2021
Chris Kumeroa	Trustee
Hayden Turoa	Trustee
Hannah Rainforth	Trustee

Audit and Risk Committee

Russell Bell	Chairperson
Laurissa Cooney	Member
Sandy Nepia	Member

Kaihautū Chief Executive

Ray Hall	Until March 2021
Nancy Tuaine	Appointed May 2021

Professional Support

Accountant	Deloitte
Auditor	Silks Audit Chartered Accountants
Legal Counsel	Kāhui Legal Horsley Christie

