

Waka Hourua Kawenata | “Our Ways Of Working Together”



Te Kaupapa Matua | **Purpose**

This relationship agreement embodies the commitment of the boards of Te Aka Whai Ora and Te Whatu Ora to work together in keeping with the aspirations of Pae Ora to:

- Protect, promote and improve the health of all New Zealanders
- Achieve equity in health outcomes among New Zealand’s population groups by striving to eliminate health disparities, in particular for Māori; and
- Build towards pae ora (healthy futures) for all New Zealanders

The purpose of this agreement is to create working arrangements between Te Aka Whai Ora and Te Whatu Ora that will galvanise our organisations to deliver on the wellbeing aspirations of whānau—whakahiko i te oranga whānau—in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Te Horopaki O Tenei **Whakaaetanga | Context**

The relationship is described by the boards as a Waka Hourua Kawenata. This envisages Te Aka Whai Ora and Te Whatu Ora as partnered waka, on a collaborative journey towards a common objective, which is the wellbeing of all New Zealanders, and importantly, the wellbeing of tangata whenua—Māori.

The interwoven sails represent the information, evidence, advice, and voice of whānau that inform one another’s decisions.

The Waka Hourua also symbolise the journey both boards are making as they embark on this voyage, ever mindful that successful navigation depends on having clarity about one’s destination before setting out. By adopting the Waka Hourua metaphor, both boards are also demonstrating the very real importance they place on having the trust and confidence of iwi, hapū, whānau, and Māori. This relationship is what Te Tiriti in practice looks like.

Te Mauri O Rongo | NZ Health Charter

Te Mauri o Rongo—The Health Charter has given us four pou to guide the development of our relationship and how we support the workforce culture that we aspire to:

Wairuatanga



We lead with heart. When we come to work, we are able and supported by others to be our whole selves. When we return home, we are fulfilled.

Rangatiratanga



As organisations we support our people to lead. We will know our people; we will grow those around us and be accountable with them in contributing to Pae Ora for all.

Whanaungatanga



We are a team, and together a team of teams. Regardless of our role we work together for a common purpose. We look out for each other and keep each other safe. “Whiria te tāngata”—we will weave our people together.

Te Korowai Āhuru



A cloak woven with purpose embraces and protects us in our work and embodies the physical and spiritual elements of Te Mauri o Rongo—NZ Health Charter. The wearer of the cloak has responsibility to act and embody those values and behaviours.

Ngā Momo Hononga | Agreed Connections

The following mechanisms will provide opportunities at the governance level to oversee and strengthen our kawenata and focus on progress towards the agreed goals:

- a. Regular meetings between the Chairs
- b. Weekly meetings between the Chairs and both Chief Executives
- c. Quarterly meetings between both boards in order to provide an opportunity to:
 - i. Discuss strategic issues, opportunities, and plans, and to strengthen understanding and trust in one another; and
 - ii. Discussion of collective and common interests needs and opportunities to improve Māori health outcomes and the sharing of information and feedback on Māori health strategies, initiatives, and outcomes.
- d. Full visibility of one another's agendas, papers, and minutes, unless there is a good reason not to.
- e. Te Aka Whai Ora agrees that a member from Te Whatu Ora may attend all sub-committee meetings
- f. Te Whatu Ora agrees that a member from Te Aka Whai Ora may attend all sub-committee meetings
- g. Full visibility on one another's pipeline of decisions, unless there is a good reason not to.
- h. Significant Te Whatu Ora decisions to be taken after full consideration and advice from the Te Aka Whai Ora board, so that the Te Whatu Ora board has the benefit of all the information and advice before it makes decisions.

Kaihaina | Signatories

Signed:



Dame Dr Karen Poutasi
Chair Te Whatu Ora

Signed:



Tipa Mahuta
Chair Te Aka Whai Ora
(Waikato, Manaipoto, Ngāpuhi)