

In late November 2013 Whakauae Research and Ngāti Hauiti had the pleasure of hosting a delegation from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC), an organization of First Nations leaders in Manitoba, Canada. The delegation included; Dr Kathi Avery Kinew, Manager Social Development & Research Initiatives; Leona Star, Research Associate and Coordinator of the Manitoba Regional Health (RHS) & Regional Education, Employment and Early Childhood Development (REEES) Surveys; Wanda Phillips Beck, a Nurse Research Manager; and Dr Myrle Ballard, an AMC Health Information Research Governance Committee member.



The delegation was hosted by Whakauae prior to their attendance at the 8th Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand (HSRAANZ) Conference in Wellington. In the two days prior to the conference the delegation visited Rata Marae where they learnt some of the history of the Ngāti Hauiti people and the current activities the Rūnanga are undertaking to improve the health and wellbeing of Ngāti Hauiti people; met with our colleagues at Te Atawhai o Te Ao in Whanganui; and had the opportunity to discuss projects of joint interest to our two institutions.

An outcome from the visit was the chance for Whakauae to be a named partner on a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) grant called Partners for Engagement and Knowledge Exchange (PEKES). This was approved and funded in early 2014. Two of our iwi leaders are joining members of Whakauae in a return visit to AMC in October 2014.