



## 2005

**FEBRUARY:** Whakauae Research is founded by Heather Gifford, the Research Director, as a unit of Te Maru o Ruahine Trust (TMORT); the contracting and service arm of Ngāti Hauiti. Initial funding for Whakauae is provided through a Postdoctoral Scholarship from the Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC). Whakauae's offices are located in 53 Ridgway Street, Whanganui and at this point comprise two staff members.

**MAY:** The Research Director graduates with a Doctorate of Māori Public Health.

**SEPTEMBER:** First strategic plan produced which includes, as its vision, "Research is a means of informing all Māori development and building capacity based on sound knowledge".

## 2006

A further staff member is employed, bringing the research staff numbers to two, including an administrator.

## 2007

Having been in operation for three years Whakauae produce the document entitled *Transformation Plan 2008-2010: For Business Growth*, which charted the next stage of growth for the organisation, including the expansion of the organisation in size and turnover.

## 2008

The Research Director leaves for a one year sabbatical in Canada, working for the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada. Prior to her departure she employs a further two research staff and a fulltime Business Manager, bringing Whakauae's total staffing complement to six full time employees. The additional employees mean Whakauae now has two Māori staff with doctorate degrees and postdoctoral research experience.

## 2009

Whakauae launch their online presence with the unveiling of a website [www.whakauae.co.nz](http://www.whakauae.co.nz)

## 2010

Whakauae develop a new strategic plan with the vision of "Assisting Māori to reach their potential". Whakauae's tikanga or guiding principles are made explicit for the first time. Drawing on the tikanga of Ngāti Hauiti, these principles include Hauora Tangata; Manaaki Tangata; Mātauranga; and Ngākau Tapatahi me te Aurere.

## 2011

An additional administrator is employed (seven staff in total). Whakauae Research Services Ltd is incorporated under the Companies Act 2011, becoming a stand-alone entity. While the organisation retains its charitable status, WRS Ltd is now governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Rūnanga.

## 2012

Whakauae established as a Charitable Trust with Peter Fraser, Richard Steedman and Dr Heather Gifford as Directors. Whakauae hosts its first HRC Postdoctoral Student for a term of three years.

## 2013

Whakauae relocate offices to 60 Ridgway Street, Whanganui.

## 2014

Whakauae is successful in being awarded long-term funding through the HRC's Capability in Independent Research Organisations Fund (IRO Fund), a fund established to support nationally significant capability in independent research organisations with the potential to contribute to major economic, social, or environmental benefits for New Zealand.

## 2015

Whakauae's Post-doctoral Student completes her research and leaves the organisation. Whakauae offers its first PhD scholarship and begins hosting a doctoral student for a term of one year. A further two staff are employed, bringing the total number in the team to nine. The Research Director takes a second sabbatical in the UK. Whakauae produce its first Annual Report and initiates a scholarship programme for post-graduate students.





# WHAKAUAE

Research for Māori Health and Development

Whakauae Research Services Ltd derives its name from Te Whakauae ā Tamatea or The Jawbone of Tamatea. Tamatea Pōkai Whenua, a paramount ancestor of Ngāti Hauiti, journeyed into the Rangitikei district from Heretaunga. He marked his journey by naming a number of places and leaving several of his mōkai, or pets, throughout the district. One area of land named after him was the hill country range between Mangaweka and Taihape called Te Whakauae ā Tamatea.

In Māori tradition, the jawbone holds significant meaning as it refers to kauae-runga (celestial knowledge) and kauae-raro (terrestrial knowledge). Such knowledge was held within the whare kura, institutions of higher learning, and as such provided knowledge that could be used throughout all walks of life. Thus Te Whakauae ā Tamatea provides Ngāti Hauiti with a physical and cultural link to ancestral knowledge and traditions.

As the Ngāti Hauiti centre for research and development, Whakauae Research Services Ltd is a hub for information and knowledge that strives to improve Māori communities and thus it embodies the essence of Te Whakauae ā Tamatea.

Koutou e kokongia te tūāpapa, e takoto te mānuka  
E menemene mai ngā moemoea ā ngā tauheke  
Ngā ringa raupā ō nanahi, tuku te mihi iti nei!

Those that laid the foundation, that left this challenge  
To aspire to the dreams of our elders  
Yesterday's workers, we humbly salute you!

He mihi nūnui ki a rātou ngā tangata tiketike, ngā tangata  
whakahirahira, koutou i whakatō te kākano ko Whakauae.

We wish to acknowledge several people who were instrumental in the early stages of the development of Whakauae.

Ki a Heather Gifford, Utiku Potaka koutou ko Grant Huwyler tēnei te mihi maioha ki a koutou me a koutou moemoeā, ki te tautoko me te āwhina i ngā mahi rangahau mō te iwi, mō te whānau whānui.

Heather Gifford, Utiku Potaka and Grant Huwyler were visionary in seeing the need for, and supporting the early development of, this iwi based research centre.

He mihi whakamīharo rawa ki a Matua Peter Richardson rāua ko Matua Jim Cunningham mō te tū ingoa kei te rōpu rangahau, me Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hauiti, Te Maru o Ruahine te rōpu tiakitanga hei tiaki, hei ruuhau, hei aranga ake mō te mana o te rōpu nei.

Thank you to Uncle Peter Richardson and Uncle Jim Cunningham for the naming of the organisation and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hauiti and Te Maru o Ruahine Trust for providing shelter to the emerging organisation.

In October 2004, Te Maru o Ruahine Trust produced *Te Whakauae ā Tamatea: A Ngāti Hauiti Strategy for Research Development*. This strategic document outlined four kōkonga (cornerstones) for the social and institutional development of the Ngāti Hauiti people and a long term focus of building and strengthening Ngāti Hauiti based research.

Key amongst these kokonga was that of research, described as being essential to informing all Ngāti Hauiti development.

The establishment of Whakauae Research Services; a research unit capable of responding to the research needs of iwi and other key partners, as an entity within the Ngāti Hauiti organisational framework was viewed as a critical step in achieving the long term focus of this strategic document.

