Information and Reporting Back

Ka ngaro ratou, ka ngaro ratou.
Ko Rangi Wood, Sister Evelyn Ellner (nee Marriot), Morehu (Buddy) Te Whare, Mere Cassidy ko wai atu, ko wai atu.
Ko te hunga piripono ki a Ihu Karaiti. Haere koutou.
Te hunga ora e hui nei, tena koutou katoa.

Theology in Aotearoa/Education and Training

A Christian cannot decide to be or not to be a theologian. The only question is: “Will I be a good theologian or a bad one?” – Robert McAffee Brown.

For Te Taha Maori, Aotearoa is the context for doing theology. That does not mean that ‘other contexts’ are not important or that we do not learn from them. Being Maori is absolutely central for us so the development of Maori theology is important. Recognising that every member is a minister and that every members is a theologian should affect all of life.

Our thinking and doing theology continues to take place in a variety of settings, be it Hui Poari, Wananga, Rohe events, whanau, hapu and iwi. These provide a space which enables us to reflect on what is happening around us in our communities and society as a whole. We are encouraged to explore God and gospel questions, Christ and culture plus many more issues alongside Tupuna teachings and the traditions and understandings of the Methodist Church.

Education and Training opportunities continue to feature as a priority within Te Taha Maori. We have held a number of Wananga throughout the year to assist our people which have included:

- Liaison Persons Hui;
- Te Taha Maori Council of Conference Training;
- Tamaki Wananga (held first quarter of the year);
- Taranaki Minita-a-Iwi Development Hui;
- Taranaki Rangatahi Development Hui; and
- The National Minita-a-Iwi Wananga.

By sharing experiences we allow discussions which can point the way forward for different ways of being Maori and Christian today, to evolve.

We have been encouraged by the ongoing developments in theological education and training at Trinity Methodist Theological College which has led some of our members to engage and participate in some of the courses. Bella Ngaha represents Te Taha Maori on Trinity College Council and the Candidates Assessment Team and the Tumuaki serves on the Student Review Panel.

In February of this year, the Tumuaki along with Lana Lazarus and Bella Ngaha led the orientation series related to Waitangi and bicultural perspectives at Waitangi with the Principal, Staff and Students of Trinity Methodist Theological College. Following the Waitangi event, Diana and Lana travelled with the group to various significant Methodist historical sites culminating at Mangungu. Members were not only able to view the sites but also listen to the stories and learn something of the history.

We are working closely with Trinity Methodist Theological College to framing a similar event for Ratana, Koroneihana, Waikato and Taranaki.
Te Taha Maori continues to benefit from the extensive knowledge base of many of our members particularly in relation to the Maori world and the wisdom of people such as the late Reverend Morehu Te Whare and Reverend Napi Waaka who continues to give support where necessary.

Rangatahi

A **Rangatahi Planning Group** was established by Hui Poari in December 2008. The purpose was to allow Rangatahi national activities to continue until such time a decision was made as to the most suitable model for a Rangatahi Worker(s) position. Current membership of this group comes from Tai Tokerau, Tamaki and Taranaki Rohe. The Rangatahi Planning Group have also welcomed on board Joseph Heather and Kris Wichman as Rangatahi Co-ordinators for Poneke Rohe. Both are keen and energetic and bring a new ‘flavour’ to Rangatahi ministry.

Rangatahi activities and/or involvement since last Conference include:

- 7 young people travelling to Melbourne, Australia in January to participate at the **National Christian Youth Convention** hosted by the Uniting Church in Australia. This was a great experience for those who attended. They shared in workshops, bible studies, community activities, formed a number of friendships, networked and were able to see firsthand how youth work is done in the Uniting Church in Australia.

- **National Rangatahi Hui** – held at Oturei Marae, Dargaville from 18-22 April. The theme was “Whanaungatanga” and based on the Easter story. Four community groups were formed namely, Te Aroha (Compassion), Rangimarie (Grace), Tumanako (Hope), Manaakitia (Justice) with older Rangatahi being appointed as team leaders. Tumanako (Hope) won the community events during nationals – CONGRADZ and big upz to Chuck Kruse and Layke Tito for their leadership! Sites visited included James Buller Centre, Kai Iwi Lakes, Maungawhare Farm (a palm tree in the middle of the house), the Museum and focus on James Buller. The Rangatahi enjoyed learning about their Methodist history around the Kaipara region. A huge thanks to Rex and Ihapera Nathan along with the whanau in Dargaville for hosting an enjoyable event.

**Plans for the future include:**

- National Rangatahi Hui to be hosted by Taranaki Rohe Rangatahi in October 2010;
- Training workshops for team leaders to assist and enhance their skills. Suggested workshop topics involve:
  - performing icebreakers;
  - developing karakia resources from Te Taha Māori Rangatahi perspective;
  - learning about the history of Te Taha Māori and the Methodist Church as a whole;
  - health and safety issues e.g. learning first aid, understanding the importance of food and hygiene.

**Finance and Properties**

**Finances:** Te Taha Maori continues to look at ways of using our current resources with care and consideration. We are also mindful that many sections of our church continue to struggle in the midst of the economic recession.

The Budget Working group which also includes at least two staff members of the Connexional Accounting Team met at Whakatuku Centre at the beginning of the year. The primary purpose of this group is three-fold:

- Check and reflect on our past year’s financial performance;
- Set the budget for the ensuring year;
- Note any changes, adjustments of income investment strategies and the educational, social and political needs of the people ensuring these aspects comply with our Financial Policies and Procedures Manual recently updated and approved by Hui Poari.

Te Taha Maori continues to benefit from the income of Connexional Trusts. In particular, Grey Institute Trust, Wellington Methodist Charitable Educational and Endowments Trust which have a common focus and original purpose. The Hamilton Methodist Trust, Margaret and Bruce Gordon Fund, Smethurst, Kurahuna Committee and Blackwell Trust – we thank you and are grateful for the shared legacies received.
Properties: Te Taha Maori continues to oversee the administration and management of a number of properties. Tai Tokerau Rohe also continues to look for an appropriate property for their needs as well as the wider Connexion. Upgrading of the Whanau Units at the Whakatuora complex has taken place. Considerable discussion has taken place with the Maniapoto Maori Trust Board over the future of Te Huinga Centre in Te Kuiti and it has been agreed that they have first option to purchase the property.

We are grateful for the expertise and wisdom given to us by Alan Bettany for his oversight toward Te Huinga Centre and also Reverend Bob Short for his work on our behalf towards the re-development of the Kahuia complex. A service of “New Beginnings” is scheduled to take place at the church site in Kawhia late November of this year.

Ecumenical Concerns
Te Runanga Whakawhanaunga I Nga Haahi O Aotearoa: Rev Rua Rakena continues in the role of Administrator for this organisation. This year has seen a resurgence of Te Aka Puaho attending Advisors meetings. A hui is planned in Rotorua for the time of Conference to discuss future possibilities for Te Runanga.

Methodist Mission & Ecumenical Committee: Te Taha Maori continues to have membership on this Committee. Te Taha Maori was also present to support the Tumuaki and other Connexional Leaders during the signing of the Anglican-Methodist covenant in May.

Connexional Matters/Partnership
Te Taha Maori remains committed to our Church’s Bicultural Journey and the various issues that arise. We believe that it is necessary to present a Maori response and perspective and expend the necessary time and energy required. Significant involvements this year have included:

- 4+4 Connexional Appointments for Christchurch Central Parish and Mission and the Dunedin Methodist Mission;
- Representation on the Board of Administration, Connexional Budget Task Group, Council of Conference, Grey Institute Trust, Kurahuna Committee, Methodist Mission and Ecumenical Committee, PAC Distribution Group, PAC Media and Communication Committee, Pastoral Committee, Te Runanga Whakawhanaunga I Nga Haahi O Aotearoa, Wellington Methodist Charitable Educational and Endowments Trust and the Wesley College Trust Board;
- The Tumuaki and Lana Lazarus have also represented Te Taha Maori on the Task Group on Governance and Partnership Team to process ministry applications;
- We appreciate the ongoing dialogue with the Mission Superintendents/Directors especially Auckland, Wellington and Dunedin.

Te Taha Maori takes its Connexional responsibilities and partnership obligations seriously.

Looking Forward

The areas of Te Taha Māori work, which we continue to develop, are:
1. Hui Poari matters on governance, structure, strategy, vision.
2. Building our membership and knowledge base.
3. Maintaining our bicultural and partnership relationships.
4. Rangatahi ministry.
5. Focus on social and political developments that may be appropriate for our people.
6. Continuing theological education and training for our people.
7. Maintaining our Connexional commitments and responsibilities.

Suggested Decisions

1. The report be received.
2. The 2010 membership and officers of Hui Poari be Tumuaki Diana Tana, Lana Lazarus, Rangatahi: Raiha (Dorta) Cassidy, Julie-Anne Barney-Katene; Tai Tokerau: Rachel Harrison, Faith Tuhake-Cassidy; Tamaki: Gillian Laird, Bella Ngaha; Waikato: Pari Waaka, Evelyn Kingi; Taranaki: Frances Kingi-Katene, Jim George; Poneke: Robina Wichman and one further representative and two representatives each from Te Rohe Potae and Otautahi-Te Waipounamu to be appointed by the President.
3. The 2010 officers of Rohe shall be Tai Tokerau: Rachel Harrison; Tamaki: Gillian Laird; Waikato: Pari Waaka; Taranaki: Frances Kingi-Katene; Poneke: Robina Wichman.

4. That the 2010 membership of Te Runanga Whakawhanaunga I Nga Haahi O Aotearoa shall be Tumuaki Diana Tana, Keita Hotere, Lana Lazarus and Te Aroha Rountree.

GREY INSTITUTE TRUST

SECTION A – INFORMATION AND REPORTING BACK

Trustees
During the course of the year the Trustees were pleased to welcome the appointment of Rex Nathan, Norman Johnston and Chris Gregory to the Trust. All three new Trustees brought considerable commercial, accounting and investment experience to the Trust which was considered to be extremely important attributes as the Trust was in a much changed position following the freeholding of approximately 80% of the leasehold sections.

Trust Operations
In last year’s report it was noted that the year to June 2008 had been a period of significant change for the Grey Institute Trust. The year to June 2009 was a time of consolidation and reflection as the Trust started to come to terms with the significant changes to its investment base and the ramifications that this had for the future direction of the Trust and indeed its relationship with Taranaki.

One of the most significant consolidations was in the Trust’s relationship with Ngati Te Whiti hapu. The gifting of land in Bayly Road and the arrangements to gift the Rangiatea Property were both reported to Conference last year.

It had been anticipated that the gift of Rangiatea would be completed in the first half of the 2009 calendar year but this has proved not to be possible as Ngati Te Whiti, quite properly, were looking to fully understand the nature of the property being offered to them and the Trust was continuing to expand the tenant base on the property based on those providing educational (Kohanga Reo) and health services (oral health unit) predominantly to local Maori.

It is anticipated that a transfer of the Rangiatea property will be completed during the 2009 calendar year but the timing of the transfer is largely in the hands of the recipients.

The Trust enjoyed good returns on its investments during the year, including the proceeds of freeholding which are held in the Methodist Trust Association Income Funds. The Trust, along with all other Methodist Trust Association depositors, had the June quarter’s income distribution reduced. The Trust’s very small exposure to the world’s capital markets meant that there was a modest decrease in value over the year. Given the major impact on world markets, the Trust has been very fortunate.

Retained Land
While the portfolio of leasehold sections has diminished significantly through the freeholding, the Trust still has 46 leasehold sections which it has to administer together with quite extensive land holdings where the Trust is the outright owner of the properties concerned. The Trust is considering the redevelopment potential of its property or whether it may be better to sell the property and purchase other land either in New Plymouth or elsewhere.

In addition the Trust owns what could be considered historic property being the site of the Mission House at St Aubyn Street. The Trust is raising with Hui Poari how the resource of the building could more usefully serve the rohe and Taha Maori. A further prime hilltop property at 5 Mission Place has also become available for development or sale.
SECTION B – LOOKING FORWARD

The Trust is mindful that its financial base has changed significantly since the freeholding exercise was undertaken in 2007. Whether the Grey Trust continues to be the appropriate vehicle to manage the investment of the freed up capital is a matter that the Trustees have referred to Hui Poari.

The Trustees have considered the model followed by Prince Albert College Trust on the leasing of the Queen Street Auckland land in 1986 whereby the majority of the proceeds were transferred to a separate Connexional Trust and the Prince Albert College trustees (reconstituted as PACT 2086 Trust) remained to manage the lessors’ residual interest in the lease and a small proportion of the lease proceeds against the eventual return of the property in 2008.

The Trustees are mindful that the Grey Institute Trust has been considered a Connexional Trust for over 100 years with the proceeds of the Trust being directed towards firstly the Home Missions Department and now Te Taha Maori.

Hui Poari have been invited to consider the formation of a separate Connexional trust responsible to Conference through Te Taha Maori which would hold the greater proportion of the freeholding proceeds leaving the Grey Trust to manage the remaining assets including the land holdings in New Plymouth.

If the concept of a separate trust is supported by Te Taha Maori, it is envisaged that this would be incorporated and registered as a charitable trust with the Charities Commission and would have a Board of four trustees to come initially from within the Grey Institute Trust Trustees appointed by Conference plus the Tumuaki which would be responsible to oversee the investment and stewardship of the capital of the fund and to provide the surplus income, earned each year, to Te Taha Maori. The Trust deed for the new Trust will be prepared in consultation with the President’s legal advisor and normally the Constitution would then be forwarded to the President for approval on behalf of Conference. As the President of Conference 2010 is Rev Alan Upson who is also the Chair of the Grey Institute Trust it is suggested that the Constitution be referred to the ex-President for approval on behalf of Conference.

Suggested Decisions:
1. The report be received.
2. That the members of the Grey Institute Trust for 2010 are Rev Alan Upson (Chairman) and Trustees Julie-Anne Barney-Katene, Juanita Bishop, Doreen Erueti, Chris Gregory, John Honeyfield, Aroha Houston, Norman Johnston, Rex Nathan, Rev Diana Tana and Greg Wright.
3. That Conference endorses the concept of a separate investment Trust to manage 80% of the proceeds of the freeholding of the residential sections by Grey Institute Trust with
   a. the surplus income each year being provided to Te Taha Maori; and
   b. terms and constitution of the Trust be as generally set out in the attached report and the comments from Hui Poari, and the Constitution be prepared in consultation with the President’s legal advisor and approved by the Ex-President on behalf of Conference.

The Trust thanks secretary Pauline Lockett and the PWC team for their professional assistance through a time of high workload and exacting work standards. Our thanks extend also to John Konijn for legal advice and Mike Myers of Tellfer and Young for valuation services.

In September, Raewyn Greening, Personal Assistant to the Trust secretary Pauline Lockett, was diagnosed with cancer and died just weeks later. Raewyn’s personal commitment to the Grey Institute work exceeded her job description. She was often the ‘human face’ of the Trust, and well skilled in both gentleness of nature and a sharp awareness of human nature. She knew her work and was meticulous in following it through. Many of the Trust members worked with Raewyn and appreciated her humour and professional manner. Although Raewyn will be missed by Board members she will be remembered warmly, and her contribution to the work of the Trust will remain evident in the trust's archives.
THE BOARD OF THE WELLINGTON METHODIST CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENTS

On the 27th October 1852 the Crown gave a parcel of land comprising approx 73 acres to Rev James Watkin, the Superintendent of Wesleyan Missions “in trust for the use of and towards the maintenance of a school therein mentioned so long as religious education, industrial training, and instruction in the English language shall be given to the youth educated therein”; on 10 July 1869, approx 261 acres in the Foxton area; and on 23 November 1868 approx 2 acres in the township of Foxton. With the adoption of The Wellington Methodist Charitable and Educational Trusts Act 1916, these properties were transferred from individuals to the new Board. Today, only the farm (at Moutoa, near Foxton) is owned by the Board.

The purpose of the Board is to provide “benefit, maintenance, or education” of children and youth. The purpose is defined more fully in the Act of Parliament (found as Appendix E-2 in the Methodist Law Book) where it specifically refers to Maori children and youth, and to those of any other race being British subjects.

The Board applies its grants to: Te Taha Maori, the Masterton Christian Child Care Programme (being the successor to the Masterton Methodist Orphanage, once owned and run by the Board), Community Groups in the Greater Wellington Region, and Schools in the area covered by the Wellington Regional office of the Ministry of Education.

The Board approved the following grants during the financial year ended 30 June –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Te Taha Maori - Moutoa Scholarship</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rangatahi worker</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Resource Work</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masterton Christian Childcare Programme</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kura Kaupapa Maori and Kohanga Reo (3)</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decile 3 Schools (3)</td>
<td>$11,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Masterton Girls Brigade Company</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodist Social Services, Palmerston North –</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's/family Programmes</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wesley Community Action –</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington City work with Black Power &amp; Full Blooded Islander Communities</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porirua/Waitangirua Mongrel Mob and related Community Initiatives</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$156,800</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This total amount is marginally more than in the previous financial year. As the Board’s current assets and investments have decreased by 4.2%, and with lower interest rates, we expect a lower distribution in the next financial year.

The farm continues to be well managed, under the oversight of our farm advisor.

Suggested Decisions:
1. The report be received.
2. The membership of the Board for 2010 is: Trevor Dine, Nola Hanson, Heather Lumsden-Ratu, Neville Price (Secretary), Owen Prior, Matthew Roberts, Diana Tana, Lani Tupu, Robina Wichman, Bunny Willing, Barrie Woods (Chairperson) and any others appointed by the President.