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**He iwi moke, he whanokē
Iwi social services, policy and practice**

**A thesis presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the
degree of**

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Abstract

Whānau centred organisational policy and social work practice is well established within iwi and Māori organisations. Shifts in government policy thinking toward more holistic and collaborative social service provision, characterised by the development of Whānau Ora, affirms the past and current practice of iwi and Māori organisations. Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Porou has successfully provided whānau centred social services with the support of government contract funding since 1992. This thesis examines the current policy and practice of the Rūnanga with reference to the development of Māori social policy and in particular Whānau Ora, arguing that Māori social work practice has developed ahead of and in parallel to official government policy. Emerging themes include Whānau Ora as an established approach within Ngāti Porou and the Māori social service sector, the impact of politics and the economy on direction and service provision, community influenced social work, the natural and forced inclusion of tikanga in social services and research and the potential for official whānau centred social policy to increase the effectiveness of iwi and Māori organisations to deliver services in line with a Māori world view. This study was completed within a Kaupapa Māori research framework specifically tailored for the project. Recommendations for future research, both specific to the Ngāti Porou community and to Māori development in general are made at the conclusion of the thesis. Recommendations for iwi social service providers and the public sector are also made.

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Ki te kahore he whakakitenga, ka kore te iwi e tupato

Whakatauki 29:18, Te Paipera Tapu

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Ngāti Porou upholds a legacy of independence, self-determination and commitment to the retention of mana motuhake. It is hoped that this work honours that legacy.

Te Wiwi Nati o Porourangi

He iwi moke no Waiapu

No Whangaokena no Hikurangi

He Nati te Wiwi, he whanoke!

(nā Tā Apirana Ngata, Te Wiwi Nati)

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