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# **Te Ihu Waka**

## **The Interface between Research and Māori Development**

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in

Māori Studies

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# HE MIHI

‘Ko Aotea taku waka

Ko Tipuahororangi te tatā

Te hoe ko Kautu-ki-te-Rangi

Nga tai e, Riwaru...’<sup>1</sup>

Tēnei au he uri nō Ngaruahine, Tāngahoe, Pakakohi, Ngāti Ruanui me Taranaki, e mihi nei.

Kei ngā kaihoe o ngā waka maha o te Ao Māori, tēnā koutou. Ko te tūmanako ka whakamāmā tēnei kaupapa a te *Ihu Waka* i ngā take maha kei mua i a tātou, kia tae ki ngā pae tawhiti i wawatatia e rātou mā kua mene ki te pō.

Tēnā tātou katoa,

Will Edwards

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<sup>1</sup> From the waiata *Ko Aotea* of the South Taranaki – Wanganui region.

# ABSTRACT

It is widely accepted that traditional Māori research was based on Māori methodologies, philosophies and world-views. Since first contact with Europeans, Māori have been the focus of a substantial amount of research that has spanned time and crossed research disciplines from early anthropological and linguistic studies to the sociological, cultural and scientific research of today. In recent times Māori have asserted that research undertaken in New Zealand should be more cognisant of Māori research and development aspirations and of a Māori world-view.

The current study aimed to create an instrument to assess the contribution research activities undertaken in the contemporary New Zealand research, science and technology (RS&T) sector could make to Māori development. An important output of the study has been the development of a framework, *Te Ihu Waka*. The framework is based on traditional Māori concepts, is compatible with Māori world-views, and is relevant to the contemporary RS&T environment.

*Te Ihu Waka* is located at the interface between Māori aspirations and the contemporary New Zealand RS&T sector. While this study found Māori goals for research are not always adequately met by current arrangements in New Zealand's RS&T sector, it was concluded that there is potential for progress if tools to negotiate the interface between Māori aspirations and research are available.

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## PREFACE

In this thesis I have drawn on various forms of Māori oral and written literature to capture the essence of each chapter. Where possible (and appropriate) I have drawn on literature from my home district in South Taranaki. This has enabled me to draw on two distinct bodies of knowledge that are an integral part of my life: that which I have come to know while presently studying in the Western science paradigm of the University; and the body of literature which is connected to my past, present and future, mātauranga Māori from Taranaki.

I acknowledge that using whakataukī, whakatauākī, karakia, waiata and other forms of Māori literature at the beginning of each chapter is not a novel approach. However, I have attempted to innovate by employing a single metaphor; the waka voyage, for all of the chapters and indeed the title of the study and its resultant framework *Te Ihu Waka*.

This thesis is about research and Māori development. The title *Te Ihu Waka* is a play on the whakataukī 'He ihu waka, he ihu whenua' (see Chapter Six) where the waka has reached its destination. There are obvious parallels between the research process and a waka voyage. *Te Ihu Waka* has connotations of leadership and coordination, the ihu of the waka is where the crew is marshalled. Both require a robust process of identifying a goal, and a course of action to achieve that destination.

Once research and voyaging have reached an endpoint, new journeys and new discoveries are always on the horizon. The completion of one journey is the beginning of another. Our quest for new knowledge and enlightenment has no end point.

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CCMAU	Crown Company Monitoring Advisory Unit
CFRT	Crown Forestry Rental Trust
CRIs	Crown Research Institutes
DSIR	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research
EEC	European Economic Community
FRST	Foundation for Science Research and Technology
HRC	Health Research Council
ICT	Information and communication technology
ITAG	Information Technology Advisory Group
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
MoRST	Ministry of Research, Science and Technology
NAMMSAT	National Association of Māori Mathematicians Scientists and Technologists
NRAC	National Research Advisory Council
OTS	Office of Treaty Settlements
R&D	Research and Development
RS&T	Research, Science and Technology
SIAC	Science and Innovation Advisory Council

SoE	State Owned Enterprise
SoI	Statement of Intent
SPO	Strategic Portfolio Outline
TEAC	Tertiary Education Advisory Commission
UK	United Kingdom
USA	United States of America
VIF	Venture Investment Fund
WWII	World War Two