

On behalf of Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā we would like to acknowledge one of our very own wahine rangatira Mavis Mullins who will be formally inducted into the National Iwi Chairs Forum (NICF) Te Whare Pūkenga at the next Iwi Chairs hui in Ahuriri to be hosted by Ngāti Kahungunu in November 2024.

Te Whare Pūkenga was established in 2021 by Iwi Chairs Forum to recognise rangatira who have enhanced the lives of all whānau in Aotearoa. The accolade is given to someone whose actions embody the forum's values, including rangatiratanga, whanaungatanga, manaakitanga, kaitiakitanga, tikanga and pono.

The Iwi Chairs Forum has 86 members representing Iwi from across Aotearoa "Kotahitanga" is central. Te Whare Pūkenga accolade is an opportunity to acknowledge our Māori leaders shining a light on the pathway they have set for the next generation.

Mavis Mullins has extensive experience in governance in public and private enterprises.

She was a member of the Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-a-Rua negotiation team which worked on and successfully completed their Treaty of Waitangi Deed of Settlement in 2016.

In Mavis's own words reflecting on Rangitāne Treaty Settlement on behalf of her people she said, "We needed to have the opportunity to rise, ensuring our footprint was evident from mountain to river to sea."

Mavis is a power house in business and thrives in governance leadership roles. Her mahi as a founding and influential entrepreneur for Te Huarahi Tika Trust spearheaded the launch of 2degrees in 2000 a business venture driven by Māori. She is a determined mana wahine working for the betterment of whānau, hapū, Iwi Māori and Aotearoa.

Mavis Mullins was inducted into the New Zealand Business Hall of Fame in 2017 named as an Outstanding Māori Business Leader. With a long list of accolades to her name being a wife, mama and grandmother is the greatest role of them all. Mavis and her husband Koro have four tamariki and 14 mokopuna. Mavis is a fifth-generation farmer, her culturally rich grassroots, hardworking upbringing in the shearing sheds, her intelligence and swift thinking ability motivated by aroha has paved a successful career in business.

Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā are extremely proud to have one of our very own whānau Mavis Mullins he wahine maia, he wahine rangatira, he wahine toa. To be recognised and honoured by Te Whare Pūkenga alongside Maoridom's great warrior leaders like Tā Pita Sharples, Tā Timoti Karetu, and Liz Hunkin rangatira who have advocated and spearheaded the intergenerational revival of te reo Māori me ona tikanga throughout the establishment of Kōhanga Reo, Kura Kaupapa Māori, Wharekura and Te Ataarangi. Te Whare Pūkenga recognition of Te Ao Māori leaders is an achievement to be commended.

Mavis shared this kōrero reflection on one of the biggest roles she held for her people of Rangitāne, "I will always be there but it's time for the new leadership to come through I now want to spend more time watching mokopuna that I have and maybe doing some other cool stuff in governance and business." It needs to be noted this was said 5 years ago now, so like all leaders within Te Ao Māori, even with the fresh new leadership, you can never really turn away.

Nei rā te hōnore nui whakahirahira mō Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā ki te whakanui i tō mātou māreikura hākui a Mavis Mullins nō Rangitāne, nō Te Ātihaunui-a-Pāpārangī, nō Ngāti Ranginui kua tohua kia whakawhiwhia ki te hōnore nui o Te Whare Pūkenga hei te hui o te Kāhui Rangatira ā-Iwi ka whakahaeretia e Ngāti Kahungunu ki Ahuriri ā te Nōema 2024.

He mea whakatū a Te Whare Pūkenga i te tau 2021 e te Kāhui Rangatira ā-Iwi ki te whakanui i ngā rangatira kua hāpai i te ora o ngā whānau puta noa i Aotearoa. Ka whakawhiwhia te tohu nei ki te tangata, ki te wahine e whakatinana i ngā uara o te Kāhui, pēnei i te rangatiratanga, whanaungatanga, manaakitanga, kaitiakitanga, tikanga me te pono.

E 86 ngā mema o te Kāhui Rangatira ā-Iwi e whakakanohi i ngā iwi o Aotearoa whānui. Ko te "Kotahitanga" te tino iho o āna mahi. Ko Te Whare Pūkenga tētahi tino huarahi e whakanui ai ngā tino rangatira o te iwi Māori me te whakaatu i te huarahi mō te reanga hou e haere mai nei.

He nui tonu ngā wheako a Mavis Mullins mō te whakahaere kaupapa kei te rāngai kāwanatanga, kei te rāngai tūmataiti hoki. I noho mema ia ki te kapa whiriwhiri o Rangitāne o Wairarapa me Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-a-Rua i whakaoti ai i te Whakataunga Tiriti o te iwi i 2016.

Hei tā Mavis tonu, nōna e whai whakaaro ana ki te Whakataunga Tiriti a Rangitāne, "I minaka mātau ki te whai huarahi e puta ai te iho o te iwi, arā kia kitea ai ō mātau tapuwae mai i te pae maunga, tae atu ki te awa, tae atu ki te moana."

He tino mātanga a Mavis i te ao pakihiki ka taurikura ki roto i ngā tūranga whakahaere. Nā āna mahi nui hei kaiwhakahaere mō Te Huarahi Tika ka hua mai ai ko 2degrees i 2000 hei kaupapa pakihiki Māori. He wahine whai mana ia e mahi ana hei painga mō ngā whānau, hapū, iwi Māori me Aotearoa whānui hoki.

I kopoutia a Mavis Mullins ki te Hōro Rongonui o te Mahi Pakihiki ki Aotearoa i 2017, ka tohua ko tētahi Tino Kaiārahi Pakihiki Māori. He roa tonu te rārangi o ngā tohu kua utaina ki runga i a ia, engari ko te tino tūranga e kawe nei ia, ko te noho hei hoa wahine, hei māmā, hei kuia hoki. Tokowhā ngā tamariki, 14 ngā mokopuna a Mavis rāua ko tōna

hoa tāne, ko Koro. He wahine ahuhenua a Mavis, kua rima ngā reanga o tōna whānau e mahi pāmu ana. Kitea ana ko ngā pakiaka tikanga ki roto i āna mahi, ko te pukumahi i ākona ki roto i ngā mahi kutikuti hīpi, ko te mātau me te koi o te hinengaro, ko te aroha hoki o te manawa, katoa ēnei āhukatanga ka whakakaupapa i āna mahi i te ao pakihiki.

Kei te tino poho kereru a Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā kua tohua a Whaea Mavis ki roto i Te Whare Pūkenga nō te mea hoki he wahine māia ia, he wahine rangatira, he wahine toa. Tēnei hoki ka mihi ki ngā rangatira ka tohua ngātahitia ki Te Whare Pūkenga, pēnei i a Tā Pita Sharples, a Tā Timoti Karetu, a Liz Hunkin hoki, he rangatira ēnei kua hāpai i ngā mahi whakaora i te reo Māori me ōna tikanga, mā roto i ngā mahi hei whakatū i Te Kōhanga Reo, i te Kura Kaupapa Māori me te Wharekura, i Te Ataarangi anō hoki. He tino tohu te kopounga ki Te Whare Pūkenga me whakamihhi ka tika.

Ka whai whakaaro a Mavis mō ngā mahi nui ka kawea e ia mō nōna iwi o Rangitāne, ka mea "Ka manawanui au ki te iwi ake ake, engari kua tae te wā kia noho mai he kaiārahi hou, ka huri au ki te mātakitaki i ngā mokopuna me te kuhu atu pea ki ngā mahi whakahaere me te pakihiki." Nā, nō te rima tau ki mua tēnei kōrero āna, kitea ana te āhua o te rangatira, arā ahakoa te noho mai o te kaiārahi hou, kāore e taea te karo atu ngā mahi.



Mavis Mullins

(Rangitāne, Te Ātihaunui-a-Pāpārangī, Ngāti Ranginui)

Rangitāne ki roto, Rangitāne ki waho,
Rangitāne ki raro, Rangitāne ki runga