

Cultural Guidelines Handbook



MASSEY UNIVERSITY
TE KUNENGA KI PŪREHUROA
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND

PŌWHIRI / MIHI WHAKATAU



Massey University acknowledges that it is appropriate and important in many instances to incorporate Māori perspectives into events and acknowledge mana whenua (regional tribal group). It is a formal way to acknowledge and foster new relationships and although traditionally held on a Marae (Māori meeting house), at Massey University, the welcome is frequently used in the workplace to welcome new staff and important guests.

There are three variations of Māori welcome that can be used:

Pōwhiri - a formal ceremonial welcome, where the essential elements are the Karanga (greeting call or incantation), Whaikōrero (formal speeches); and a Waiata (song) performed at the end of the whaikōrero to support what has been said

Mihi whakatau - is a general welcome in Māori and is less formal and does not require a response from the visitors, unless there is someone within the visiting group who can respond appropriately. Generally it will have everyone gathered together (without the Karanga) and will commence with a Whaikōrero.

Mihimihī - an opportunity for all participants to introduce themselves (whakawhānaungatanga).

The word pōwhiri encapsulates two concepts that are important to Māori. According to Waitangi kaumatua (elder) Wiremu Williams, of the Ngā Puhī iwi, *pō* can be translated as a venture into 'the unknown' or a new experience, while *whiri* is derived from *whiriwhiri* meaning the act or experience of exchanging information and knowledge.

Māori is the language used during pōwhiri. While pōwhiri may vary according to the occasion and the tribal area, Māori language still guides pōwhiri.

These are some of the stages you will experience in either a *mihi whakatau* or a *pōwhiri*:

Karanga: (Female call) is a unique form of female oratory in which women bring a range of imagery and cultural expression to the first calls of welcome (and response). This is where key information is exchanged between both parties which could be inclusive of where the group is from and the reason for their visit.

Whaikōrero: (Oratory speech) refers to the formal speeches or the exchange of greetings made by the speakers (usually male) from both sides. Oratory upholds the *mana* (prestige/authority) of the side speaking. An expert in oratory will display his knowledge of *whakapapa* (genealogy) and mythology, as well as his mastery of language, rhetoric and dramatic presentation. During *whaikōrero*, links between ancestors and those present are made, and genealogical links between the *tangata whenua* and *manuhiri* are emphasised. The *kaupapa* (purpose) of the occasion is also discussed, as might the current issues and concerns.

Waiata: Is a song that is sung after each *whaikōrero* (speaker) has finished. It is common to hear traditional *waiata* during *pōwhiri*. The quality and intent of the *waiata* is critical, as once again, it upholds the *mana* of that group and embellishes the exchanges made during the *whaikōrero*.



Koha: (gift) traditionally would have included resources that tribes had in abundance e.g. coastal tribes may have gifted seafood where inland tribes would gift fern roots. In contemporary society, this is not practiced as often and thus monetary gifts are more common. An envelope is laid on the ground by the last speaker for the *manuhiri*, you may also hear a *kaikaranga* (woman performing the *karanga*) from the *mana whenua* acknowledging the *koha* from the visitors. A male from the *mana whenua* will proceed to pick up the *koha*.

Hariru/hongi: is the pressing of noses and signifies the unification of the *tangata whenua* and the *manuhiri*. *Tangata whenua* invite the *manuhiri* to come forward to *hariru* (shake hands) and *hongiri* (to press noses) which signifies the breathe of life.

Karakia: An incantation or prayer is used to complete the formal process of a *pōwhiri* or *mihi whakataua*. Māori incantations and prayers are used to involve spiritual guidance and protection. *Karakia* are generally used to increase the spiritual goodwill of a gathering, so as to increase the likelihood of a favourable outcome. A *karakia* is also performed over the *hākari* (food) to give thanks.

Hākari: is the feast that completes the *mihi whakataua/pōwhiri* procedures. The act of eating food is another way to remove the restrictions of the ceremonial processes. It is also another way to showcase the unification of both parties and shows the appreciation of receiving your guests (*manaaki*).

Waiata

It is always good to have an array of *waiata* ready for any situation. Below are the words and meanings to songs which can be sung at a range of gatherings.

E toru ngā mea

E toru ngā mea	<i>There are three things</i>
Ngā mea nunui	<i>Three great things</i>
E kī ana te paipera	<i>As purported in the Bible</i>
Whakapono	<i>Faith</i>
Tumanako	<i>Hope</i>
Ko te mea nui	<i>But the greatest of these</i>
Ko te aroha	<i>Is love</i>

Te Aroha

Te Aroha	<i>May love</i>
Te Whakapono	<i>faith</i>
Me te Rangimarie	<i>and peace be</i>
Tātou, tātou e	<i>shared among us all</i>

Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa (University Waiata)

Nei rā te reo karanga e tau atu nei
Ki te hāpai ake, i te rau tāngata
Whakaako, Whakaeke ki te kōmata
Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa

Hear the call, the message
To uplift the diverse human nature
Learn and aspire to reach the pinnacle
That is the message from Massey University

Te ara mātauranga, ka whakarewa e
Te māramatanga ka kitea e
Kimihiā, rangahaua kia whita e
Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa!

The pathways to learning can be inspirational
And deeper understanding can enlighten
Therefore, seek out and grasp knowledge
That is the message from our University!



Opening and Closing Karakia for Meetings

Kia inoi tātou	Let us pray
Tuia ki runga	Stitch (unite, combine) the celestial energies
Tuia ki raro	To the terrestrial energies
Tuia ki roto	Internal
Tuia ki waho	External
Tuia te here tangata	Bind the kinship strands of humanity
Tūturu o whiti whakamaui kia tina	Draw these matters to a single point
Tina!	And give them substance
Haumi e, hui e	The wisdom is bound, it collects
Taiki e!	It is held

Motivational Terms

Karawhiau!	Give it heaps!
Kia kaha	Be steadfast/strong
Kia māia	Be brave
Ka wani kē!	Awesome!
Tau kē!	How neat!
Kei reira!	Fabulous!
Ki te hoe!	Let's get down to work!

Simple Greetings/Farewells

Tēnā koe	Hello (to one person)
Tēnā kōrua	Hello (to two people)
Tēnā koutou katoa	Hello (to more than two)
Kia ora	Hi/Thanks
Ngā mihi	Salutations/Greetings
Ka kite anō	See you again
Ko tōku ingoa	My name is

Online Māori resources and support

Māori Language Resources:

http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/maori/resources/pronunciation/pronunciation_home.cfm

Translations into Te Reo Māori

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/maori/resources/translation/translations-maori.cfm>

Māori cultural requests

<https://masseyuni.wufoo.com/forms/cultural-assistance-form/>

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