

Honorary Doctorates

An Honorary Doctorate is the most prestigious award that the University of Waikato can bestow. For his significant contribution to the University, the Waikato region and the wider New Zealand community, the University is pleased to award the following worthy recipient:

MAURICE MOREHU NGATOKO RAHIPERE
CONFERRED TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2.00PM

Ka hia nei ngā tau ko Morehu Ngatoko Rahipere MNZM tērā e whakapau ana i ōna kaha, mō tana iwi te take.

Nō ngā hapū o Ngāti Rangī, o Ngāi Tamarāwaho; nō Ngāti Ranginui, Ngāi Te Rangī o Tauranga Moana, Tauranga Tangata, Tauranga Mana taea noatia a Ngāti Awa. He Tumu Kōrero rongonui ia kua roa nei tāna hei Tumu here i the waka tangata.

Kāore he whakaaro a te kaumātua nei mōna ake ēngari mō te oranga, te painga o te marea tāna whakapito ngoi. Hīkaka ana ki te hirahira o te mātauranga hei huarahi e whai tinana ai ngā wawata a te tangata. Ko ia hoki tētehi o ngā whakaihu waka o ngā kaupapa huhua a Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato, tae atu ana ki te whakatūnga o Te Maharaia Winiata Research Institute i Tauranga.

Ko ia anō tērā hei Pou o te hōtaka rangahau mai i Te Kura Toi Tangata, e kiia nei ko Te Kotahitanga, nāna te arataki i te tohutohu ahurea ki ngā take Māori, kia tūturu tau hoki te haumaruru o te 'Miro Mā' ki te horopaki o te 'Miro Pango'.

Kei a ia hoki te mauroa o ngā herenga i a Ngāti Ranginui me Te Kingitanga, he tohu anō ki tōna mana rangatiratanga.

Kei ngā tōpito o te ao tōrangapū te mārāma ki taua mana. Ko ia rā anō tētehi o ngā rangatira nāna te whakahokinga o te tupuna ā-maunga o Mauao ki ngā mana whenua o Tauranga Moana, ko ana pukenga, ko ana mātauranga, ko ana mōhiotanga e manaaki nei i te māuri, i te mana, i te tāpu o reira. Ko ia hoki te poutaki i tana iwi i a Ngāti Ranginui ki te whakataunga o tōna Take Raupatu i te Āperire o 2012.

Nō te tau 2007 Ka whakahōnoretia ia ki te New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) mō ana tākoha ki te Iwi Māori. Inārā ia nei, ka hia nei ngā tau ko Morehu Ngatoko Rahipere MNZM tērā e whakapau ana i ōna kaha, mō tana iwi, he oti rā mō Tauranga Moana te take, ka tihē te mauri ora.

Morehu Ngatoko Rahipere, MNZM, has spent decades working for his people.

He can whakapapa to Ngāi Tamarawaho, Ngāti Rangī hapu of Ngāti Ranginui, and Ngāi Te Rangī, two of the principal tribes from the Tauranga Moana region, and including Ngāti Awa – is an acknowledged leader, an exponent of tribal lore and narratives and a man of mana who is able to draw his people together.

Mr Ngatoko Rahipere is an example of someone who selflessly gives of his time and skills for the public good, is passionate about the role and power of education to enable people to meet their aspirations and has led many initiatives linked to the University of Waikato, including the establishment of the Maharaia Winiata Research Institute in Tauranga.

He was deeply involved in the Te Kotahitanga research programme established under Te Kura Toi Tangata Faculty of Education, providing strong cultural guidance while keeping those who were not Māori culturally safe in their research.

Mr Ngatoko Rahipere is a staunch advocate of the long standing relationship between Ngāti Ranginui and the Kingitanga, which recognises his outstanding leadership and knowledge.

He has led by example in many areas and holds enormous respect across the political spectrum. He was one of a team instrumental in advancing the return of Mauao (Mount Maunganui) to the people and his expertise and knowledge in tikanga and kawa, has ensured the mountain is protected and its cultural integrity is maintained. He provided strong leadership to his Iwi Ngāti Ranginui as they navigated toward Raupatu Settlement in April, 2012.

In 2007 he became a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to Māori and over many years has given exemplary service to his community of Tauranga Moana.

