

9 September 2021



Kia hiwa rā! Kia hiwa rā!
Kia hiwa rā ki tēnei tuku
Kia hiwa rā ki tērā tuku
Kia hiwa rā! Kia hiwa rā!

Whakarongo! Whakarongo! Whakarongo!
Ki te tangi a te manu e karanga nei “Tui, tui, tuituia!”
Tuia i runga, tuia i raro, tuia i roto,
Tuia i waho, tuia i te here tangata.
Ka rongo te āo, ka rongo te pō,

Tuia i te kāwai tangata i heke mai i ngā taurapa o Te Whirinaki
Ki te pūkaha nui o Wharepākau, ki te whai āo, ki te Āo Mārama.

Tihei Mauriora!

Tēnā koutou katoa,

The Board are excited and pleased to announce the appointment of Mere George, Ngāti Whare iwi member and Chief Executive Officer of Ngāti Whare Holdings to the new position of Ngāti Whare Group Chief Executive Officer which includes Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whare.

After a thorough and vigorous process, what resonated with the Board was Mere’s commitment, dedication, and passion to Ngāti Whare, including her successes and achievements in her Executive and Management roles.

Mere’s credentials and her commitment to our people speaks for itself, but what she also brings to the Group CEO role is an innovative approach to working with, and in, indigenous frameworks to create positive outcomes for whanau.

Mere has been a qualified Chartered Accountant for fourteen years. In this time, she has worked with commercial entities across a broad range of industries, including dairy, sheep and beef farming, fisheries, forestry, horticulture, telecommunications and insurance. Mere has worked closely with iwi, Māori land trusts, incorporations and marae on a daily basis and has extensive networks in te ao Māori.

Mere recently retired from her partnership with accounting firm Glenn Hawkins & Associates, and examples of Mere’s other achievements include:

- Appointed Chair of the Iwi Collective Partnership
- Appointed to Forest Growers Research Group: Tissue Culture Partnership
- Appointed to Rotorua Lakes Council regional economic and development board.

- Appointed to Rotorua Airport Limited
- Appointed to Nga Kaitatau Maori o Aotearoa board.
- Invited Speaker at the indigenous Accounting and Business Conference Melbourne Australia 2016.
- Invited Speaker at the indigenous Accounting and Business Conference VancouverCanada 2017.

These instances further exemplifying the very best fit for the role and organisation moving into the future.

A driving factor of this appointment derives from Rūnanga Strategic Direction to grow and invest in our whānau and communities through shared goals and meaningful relationships. The Board firmly believe that Mere will grow and strengthen the capacity and capability of the Group while looking forward to a rewarding future harnessed from a quality now, directed from experiences of our past that builds our ability to create, innovate, inspire, and deliver quality outcomes for Ngāti Whare.

On behalf of the Board, we would like to congratulate Mere on her appointment as Ngāti Whare Group CEO and we look forward to taking our organisation into a positive future where the best interests of our whanau and Iwi will always be at the centre of our mahi.

Mere commenced formally in the role as of 01st September 2021.

Noho ora mai ki roto i ngā manaakitanga o te wā



Lance Taurua
Chairperson



Tane Cook
Deputy Chairperson



Bronco Carson
Trustee



Daryl Christie
Trustee



Jane Nicholas
Trustee



Piri Taiepa
Trustee



Morgan Matekuare
Trustee