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**Te toru tekau o ngā whakapōtaetanga, e tohu ana i te peka nui katoa o ngā tauira putanga tātai iwi taketake**

A te Paraire, 30 o Hepetema, ka whakanui Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi i te tohu whai tikanga mō te whakanui i te toru tekau tau whakapōtaetanga, me te whakamihi anō hoki ki ngā mahi i tutuki i ngā tauira – tae atu pea ki te peka nui katoa o te ao, o ngā tauira whakaputanga Iwi taketake.

He kaiwhakarato mātauranga matua iwi taketake Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi mō ngā hōtaka mai i ngā akomanga tūāpapa tae noa ki ngā akoranga paerangi.

E ai ki te Tūmuaki o Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi a Ahorangi Wiremu Doherty, he kaupapa nui te whakapōtaetanga mō ngā tauira ki te whakakotahi mai i ā rātou me o rātou whānau me te hapori whānui, kia kite ai i to rātou kaha ki te mahi me te ana atu te titiro ki ngā tau kei mua i ā rātou.

“He kaupapa tēnei e āhei ai te mōhio i te huarahi tino mīharo i hikoitia ai e ngā tauira me ngā mahi i tutuki i a rātau me ngā āwhina mai i ō rātau whānau. Kei te ārikarika mātau ki te whakamihi atu i te wā o te pōwhiri, te hikoi, me te wā whakanui i te whakapōtaetanga,” e ai ki a Ahorangi Doherty.

Te Tiamana o te Kaunihera, Te Hōnore Kaiwhakawā Mātāmua Layne Harvey, e whakamārama ana, ko te whakapōtaetanga o tēnei tau, te toru tekau mo Awanuiārangi, ka whakanui hoki i te toru tekau e mahi ana.

“I tīmata mai tō mātou wānanga e rua ngā karaehe i te tau 1992, i te whakatuwheratanga a tētahi ō ngā mema o te Kaunihera, a Tā Wira Gardiner, i tērā wā ko ia te Tūmuaki o Te Puni Kōkiri. I ngā tau toru tekau mai i tērā wā, he maha ngā tāngata i kuhu mai me ō rātou pukenga ki te hanga i tētahi āhuatanga akoranga iwi taketake i roto i te poutarāwha mātauranga Māori e noho hāngai tonu ana ki ngā whāinga kua whakatakotohia ki te whakapakari i ngā hāpori mā roto i te mātauranga. He tohu whaitikanga tēnei tau mō mātou, mo ngā take maha ana ka whakamihi mātou ki ngā tāngata katoa i uru mai ki runga i tēnei huarahi i ngā tau kua pahure,” e ai ki Te Hōnore Kaiwhakawā Mātāmua Layne Harvey.

Neke atu I te 200 ngā tauira ka whakapōtaetia, ka tae mai kia whakawhiwhia rātou ki o rātou tohu tae atu pea ki te tuatahi i te ao, 13 ngā tauira e whakawhiwhia ana ki ō rātou tohu Paerangi, tohu Kairangi rānei i roto i te Mātauranga Māori me te/Akoranga Iwi Taketake rānei. Nō Aotearoa ngā tauira nei, e rua nō tāwāhi, nō First Nations o Washington State, ka mutu e toru nō te moutere o Maui ki Hawaii. Kei te rere mai ngā tauira ki Aotearoa kia whakawhiwhia rātou ki ō rātou tohu ā tinana, i te Rā Whakapōtaetanga.

E kī ana a Ahorangi Doherty, he āhuatanga hou tēnei hei whakahihiko ake i te ngākau, mai kore ka nui ake ngā tauira iwi taketake ka whai i te akoranga paerangi hei āwhina ki te whakapiki ake i ō rātou hāpori.

“Kaore ā mātou tauira i te whai i te tohu Paerangi mo te taitara ‘Tākuta’ noa iho. E tino ngākau nui ana rātou mo ā rātou rangahau me te hiahia anō kia whaikiko, ki te whakarerekē i te āhua i waenga i ngā hāpori, i roto tonu i ngā whānau, i ngā hapū hoki,” e ai ki a Ahorangi Doherty.

Ko te rangahau a ngā tauira ka toro atu ki te huarahi hautūtanga wāhine Māori, whakatūpato ki ngā whakararu o te taiao mo te iwi, rangahau i ngā momo whakaheke me te huinga Ira, me ngā tauārai ki te pupuri i ngā nēhi Māori ki roto i ngā wāhi mahi.

Iwi Taketake, he wānanga tēnei mā ngā tauira tohu Paerangi, kei te whakahaeretia a te Tāite 29 o Hepetema. E ai ki a Ahorangi Mere Penehira, Māngai o te Kura Indigenous Graduate Studies, ka āhei ngā tauira ki te tohatoha i ngā whāinga o ā rātou rangahau i waenga i ā rātou whakawhitiwhiti kōrero, āheitanga hoki.

Ko te wawata o Ahorangi Penehira, ma te tohatoha rangahau i roto i ngā āhuatanga wānanga, ka mahira ngā whakaaro o ētahi ki te whai i te tohu paerua me te tohu paerangi.

“Kei te hiahia mātou ki te whakaatu, koinei tētahi mea ka tāea, ana, ka tāea e koe mō te painga tō whānau. Kei te tautoko te Wānanga i ngā ākona katoa, ana e pōwhiri atu ana i ngā whānau ki roto i ngā wāhi ako, kia noho tūturu te katoa, kia ōrite ngā āheitanga ki ngā hōtaka e akotia ana. Ka mauritau ngā whānau, ka kite ana he aha te mea e hari nei i tētahi ō rātou mai i ā rātou, mō ngā haora maha o te wiki.

Nā runga i te āhua koi nei noa iho te wānanga kei te tuku i te tohu paerangi, ka kitea mai a Awanuiārangi e piki haere ana ngā kaute tauira, na te mea, kei te whiwhi rātou i ngā taputapu e kaha ai rātou ki te tautoko i ngā tauira i runga i ō rātou mana.

He hōnore nui mō Awanuiārangi ki te manaaki i te pika o te rā, a Hōnore Willie Jackson i te rā whakapōtaetanga, a te Paraire.

“He hōnore nui ki te whiwhi i te Minita Whakawhanake Māori, me te Pāpaho me te Hunga Pāpaho, a Hōnore Willie Jackson, ki te kōrero mo ōna mātauranga me ana whakamāramatanga ki ngā tauira, Ko te tūmanako ma tēnei e hihiko ai o rātou kare ā-roto ka whaimana ka takahi atu ana rātou, ki roto i te ao me o rātou tohu hou,”e ai ki a Ahorangi Doherty.