

He Kaitaunaki mō te Māori me te Ture ā-Hāpori

He akonga onamata a Toni Boynton no Te Pōkaitahi Reo me Te Tohu Toi Tangata: Bachelor of Humanities i Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi, e mōhio whānuitia nei ki waenga o te hāpori mō tērā o ana tūranga Kāpū-te-rangi Māori Ward Councillor i te Kaunihera o Whakatāne. I te tau 2023 ko ia tētahi i whakataetae mō te tūru o Waiariki i raro i te Pāti Reipa.

He maha ngā tau e hāpai ana a Toni i te kaupapa ana ko ia anō hoki i tū mārohirohi ki te kawe haere i te petihana ki te Pāremata, e karanga ana kia tika ake ngā whakahaere whakatūtanga o ngā Māori Wards. Neke atu i te 11,000 ngā tuhinga ingoa o runga i te petihana, me te aha i tū ai ngā Pōti ā-Rohe (Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Act 2021.

Ka kōrero ia mō tērā whēako tūmahi, “Whaimana katoa au ki te uru atu ki roto i tēnei wāhanga o te raupapa mahi, nō reira he maha ngā tāngata i te tautoko mai i te kaupapa i roto i ngā tau 20 ki muri, kia tū ai ngā tūru Māori Ward me te whakapanoni i te ture Pāremata.

“Ko au tētahi o ngā mema tūturu o Te Rōpū Tautoko Māori i tuku nei i te petihana, ki te taha o Action Station. I tukuna hoki i roto i ngā tautokotanga a te Waitangi Tribunal Claim on Māori Wards i tēnei tau.

“He mea nui hoki kia mihia o tātou iwi, ngā kaitiaki whenua Māori, ngā kura, ngā kōhanga, me ngā rōpū o Te Tangata Tiriti i whai wāhi atu ki te tautoko i te whakatūnga o ngā Māori Wards.”

I whakamārama ia na te Tohu Toi Tangata : Bachelor of Humanities ia i mārama ai ana kia noho reri mo tēnei raupapa mahi.

“Na te tohu au i āwhina, i mārama ai ahau ko ngā pūnaha tōrangapū te kai whakararu i te nuina o ngā take e tū mai nei ki mua o te Māori.

“Te take nui katoa, kua mārama ahau me pēhea e tāea ai te whakapanoni. Mā ngā akoranga i te whānuitanga o te whakapapa o te ao me ngā take i whakatūtūtia kia mau tonu te tino rangatiratanga ki roto i te tōrangapū, he akoranga katoa ērā ki āhau.

“Na te wairua tautoko o Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi i āwhina mai kia mōhio ai ki ēnei āhuatanga ana kia tūpato hoki ki ngā pūnaha a-rohe me ngā āhuatanga

whakamomotu ka tāea e tātau te whakamahi hei whakapanoni kaupapa. Kaore ahau i te pānui noa iho, i te tuhituhi rānei mō ngā ariā; i whakatinanatia e au,”

Ko Toni te Tūru-Tāpiri o Te Maruata ana kei runga anō i te National Council of Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) me te Electoral Reform Committees.

“Ko Te Maruata te kaitohutohu i te LGNZ me te whakatūturu i ngā āhukatanga o te ao Māori ki roto i a rātāu whakaritenga: tino mīharo ngā mahi ā ngā mema i tohutia ki roto i ngā Kaunihera ā-Rohe huri noa i te motu.

“He nui ngā mahi kua tutuki ki waenga i ngā Electoral Reform, tae atu ki ngā whakapanonitanga pērā i te wāhanga mō te whā-tau, he toru tau kē hoki, ana me te whakapiki ake i ngā kai pōti. Kei te mahi ahau ki runga i tētahi kaupapa ma te hāpori ki te whakatū wānanga mātauranga mō te community civics, kia pai ai te ako a o tātau whānau i te whakapapa o ngā kaunihera ana kia mōhio ai me pēhea tā rātāu whakauru atu, ka whakarerekē mō o rātāu whānau mē ngā hāpori. He kaupapa nui tēnei e ngākaunui ana ahau.”

He mokopuna whakaheke a Toni na te poropiti o Tūhoe, na Rua Kenana. Ka whakamārama ia i pēhea ngā taonga tuku iho a te Rua ki runga i ā ia me tēnei hikoi āna,

“Kotahi Te Ture Mo Ngā Iwi E Rua – One Law for Two People. I runga tēnei rerenga kōrero i te Haki o Maungapōhatu, e mōhiohia nei ko te Haki a te Rua, I murua i ngā pakanga o te tau 1916. Ngā Tutakangahau kē te Haki, i hoatutia e te Pirimia o Aotearoa o tērā wā ana tae atu hoki ki te Union Jack.

“Ka tohutoro tonu ngā kupu ki ngā ture aukati a te kāwanatanga ki te Māori, mārama ana te whakatakoto kia ōrite ngā ture ki te Māori me te Pākehā, engari te whakarite kia kotahi te wāhanga ture e pēhi ana i te Māori ana ko tētahi wāhanga e whakanui ana i ngā tāngata kaore i te Māori.

“Mai ka whānau mai mātau ka mōhio mātau ki tō mātau kōroua. I whakarite tōku matua i ngā akoranga a ōna mātua, me tō mātau kuia hoki, ana ināianei ko au tērā e whakarite ana i a rātāu tohutohu mē aku tama. Mai rānō ia, me te noho pūmau tonu hei tuara ki roto i ngā mahi tōrangapū me te taha wairua mo te nuina o mātau. Ko ia tonu kei te whakaaweawe i āhau i roto i aku mahi katoa na te mea kei roto ia, ia rā,”

He mema anō hoki a Toni no te peka Atlantic Fellows for Social Equity 2023.

“He kaupapa puta noa i te ao te Atlantic Fellows ana ko te pūtea na Chuck Feeney, he philanthropist, kua whetūrangitia nei, moe mai rā. No te tau 2017 i hangaia ai, ana toko



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whitu ngā kaupapa me ngā Whare wānanga rongonui puta noa i te ao, ko te tirohanga a ia wānanga ko te ōritetanga.

“Ko te tari matua i Oxford University kei te ārahi i te Global Convening, te wāhi ka huihui katoa mai ngā ‘fellow’ mai i ngā tōpito o te ao ki te whakawhanaunga, ki te whakakotahi, ki te tūhonohono. He nui ngā Māori kei roto i ēnei mahi, kei roto i ngā tūranga rangatira i Oxford me Aotearoa hoki. Ko te kaupapa nei he āwhina ki te hono atu ki ēra o ngā hāpori iwi taketake me ēra hoki e pēhia kinotia nei, ka ako ano mai i a rātau pūrākau mē o rātau whēako.

“Ko ngā honohonotanga i tāea e au kaore he wāriu e tāea ki te uta atu ki runga. Hei tauira, kei te tautokotia mai ahau mō taku kaupapa Civics Education mai i taku hoa no New York me ētahi atu anō e whakamahi ana i te kanikani, whakatangitangi, me te AI hei ako me te tohatoha pakiwaitara. Ka āhei tātau ki te whakaputa i te wairua auaha ki roto i te mātauranga me te whakakotahi ki te whakapūāwai i ngā whakaaro.”