



OUR BILINGUAL JOURNEY GAINS MOMENTUM

Te Tatau o Te Arawa is in the process of implementing a two-phase work plan to elevate Rotorua's efforts to become the country's first bilingual city and district. Former Māori Development Minister and former Waiariki MP, Te Ururoa Flavell, advocated for the idea of becoming a bilingual city in 2016, which gained support from Te Tatau o Te Arawa and Rotorua Lakes Council.

Rotorua declared its commitment to the kaupapa (initiative) in August last year.

Te Tatau o Te Arawa is leading the charge, and with help from Te Puni Kōkiri,

has developed a two-phase plan which the Council has endorsed.

Te Tatau forecasts the plan (phases one and two) will cost about \$100,000. It aims to implement the plan ahead of this year's Māori Language Week in August.

Te Tatau believes becoming a bilingual city can help establish Rotorua as a leader in normalising te reo Māori in the community, while also benefitting tourism. This has been the experience of Ireland's Galway city which has been a leader in reviving the Gaeltacht language.

Te Tatau is developing a reorua website

and online inquiry hub to support the community. These initiatives are part of phase one, which is expected to be in place by May.

In the meantime, people wanting to learn more about Rotorua Reorua (Bilingual Rotorua), can check Rotorua Lakes Council's website: rotorualakescouncil.nz/reorua

The council webpage includes information about how you can support and promote the initiative as well as useful resources to help you on your language journey.

PHASE ONE: A SERIES OF ACTIONS THAT CAN BE ACHIEVED QUICKLY

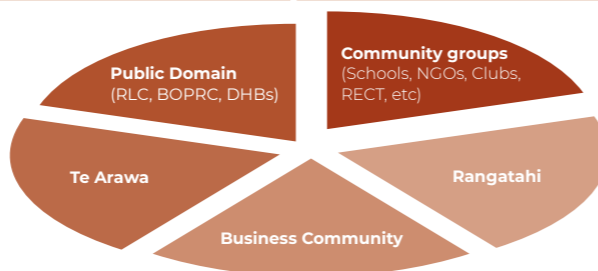
Using primarily existing resources

Establishing Te Tatau as the single point of contact for Reorua enquiries	Assisting the RLC to develop a te reo Māori policy	Create and promote a digital hub/website of information
Install bilingual road signage at entry points to our city	Collate and promote current available resources ie Kōrero pins	Create te reo Māori zones in playgrounds and reserves
Create a bi-lingual business award (and others!)	Establish and promote easy access to reo Māori lessons for the community	Broker relationships at a local and national level to find investment partners

PHASE TWO: A ROBUST COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

To create a fit for purpose reorua strategy for Rotorua

What are our aspirations for Reorua Rotorua and what are our barriers to achieving them?
What do we need to do to achieve our aspirations for our city?
What entity and resources do we need to implement this strategy?



Key stakeholders for community engagement phase

Kohitātea Jan 18	Huitanguru Feb 18	Poutū te rangi March 18	Paengawhāwhā April 18	Haratua May 18	Pipiri June 18	Hōngongoi July 18	Hereturikōkā August 18
Appoint Project Manager and implement phase one actions and prepare for phase two.				Appoint Project Manager and implement phase one actions and prepare for phase two.			
				Launch ahead of Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori			

Source: Te Tatau o Te Arawa

What is Te Tatau o Te Arawa?

The board is a partner to Rotorua Lakes Council and is made up of 14 members, elected by Te Arawa. The board has five key objectives:

- Strengthening Te Arawa participation in Council decision-making;
- Building Te Arawa capacity and capability to participate in Council decision-making;
- Via strategic and integrated development, identifying opportunities to work collaboratively for the betterment of Rotorua;

- Improving communication and information sharing;
- Improving Council's delivery of its obligations to Māori.

Te Tatau o Te Arawa members represent the tribal confederation's collective interest and come from a broad cross section of Te Arawa. Descendants include koeke (esteemed elders), rangatahi (young people), Ngāti Whakaue uri (descendants), Te Arawa hapū (subtribes) and iwi as well as pan-Te Arawa entities and Māori Land Trusts and Incorporations.

You can find out more about the board by visiting the website: tetatau.nz



Lisa Reweti

A BRIGHT BILINGUAL FUTURE

Teacher Lisa Reweti is committed to helping Rotorua become a bilingual community and destination by teaching the language to her entire school.

A Māori immersion kaiako (teacher) at Whakarewarewa School, Whaea Lisa is passionate about te reo Māori and is pleased the district, under the leadership of Te Tatau o Te Arawa, aims to become a bilingual takiwā (district).

"It is a huge stepping stone for us. I mean, our city is putting it out there that bilingualism is in."

Promoting Māori in her own school is nothing new for Whaea Lisa and her class as they facilitated Māori language activities for the kura during campaigns such as Māori Language Week.

However this year she wants to develop more bilingualism across the school and points out how her pupils are helping to teach their own families te reo.

"A lot of tamariki (children) do not have the reo (language) at home. A minority of them - about 10 per cent - do; and the other 90 per cent don't. They take te reo home and they're actually teaching their whānau so that's where bilingualism is starting to happen, in the home."

Whaea Lisa is heartened when she hears positive feedback from families who are talking to other whānau about the value of te reo Māori.

"That goes straight to your heart. That's a big tug."

Four of her students are thrilled about the Rotorua Reorua initiative and share their teacher's dream to help more people learn Māori.

Here's how they want to see Rotorua in 30 years' time:

Samantha Makiha (10)

"I want people to speak (entirely) in Māori. I want my parents to speak Māori to me."

Ambition: Become a singer and singing coach who teaches Māori as part of students' lessons.

Māori language tip: Tiakina – Care or look after/ help.

Te Ihooterangi Kapa (10)

"I want to be a scientist so I can develop medicines to help people and teach them how to make rongoā (medicines) when they are sick."

Thought: It would be awesome to become a bilingual rohe (district). Te Ihooterangi looks forward to filling the shoes of kaumātua.

Anahera Wikingi (10)

"I want my whānau just to talk Māori to me."

Ambition: Become a Māori language teacher. She likes teaching people te reo.

Advice about te reo: Enrol in a course where you can learn Māori.

Rangianiwaniwa Tuimauluga (10)

"We are the only country that speaks Māori. I would like to hear people speaking Māori more often so more people can understand it."

Ambition: Become a builder (like her father) and mentor others using Māori instructions (tohutohu).

Advice for people learning Māori: Ask someone who speaks Māori to help you learn.

