

# Ara Tūhono – Pūhoi to Wellsford

## The story of Hōkai Nuku

### Identifying areas of cultural significance through collaboration



#### Hōkai Nuku group

Hōkai Nuku is the name chosen by the progressive alliance formed between the mana whenua of the project area traversed by the proposed highway. “Hōkai Nuku” represents the concept of advancing forward in the quest for knowledge to share with the people. This is also represented in the chant that depicts the deity, Tane, ascending to the heavenly realms in a quest to acquire the notional three baskets of higher knowledge.

The alliance has representatives from mana whenua Ngāti Manuhiri, Ngāti Mauku/Ngāti Kauae, Ngāti Rango o Kaipara and Ngāti Whātua iwi, with the support of Ngāti Paoa. Principally, Hōkai Nuku is the collaboration on the Ara Tūhono - Pūhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance (RoNS) project.

Iwi and hapū representatives began meeting with the NZTA in February 2010 and formalised Hōkai Nuku in November 2010. Aside from providing cultural advice to the NZTA on the Ara Tūhono - Pūhoi to Wellsford project, Hōkai Nuku collaborates

on cultural, social, environmental and economic issues of mutual benefit and engages in partnerships with local and central government agencies.

Hōkai Nuku is currently providing advice on areas of cultural significance along the proposed route with the intent of providing mechanisms to protect and manage such taonga (treasures) for future generations.

Hōkai Nuku Committee Members are:

- Ngāti Manuhiri – Mook Hohneck and Ringi Brown
- Ngāti Whātua Iwi – Tame Te Rangi and Virginia Warriner
- Ngāti Mauku/Ngāti Kauae – Ben and Thomas deTheirry, and Sonny Waipouri
- Ngāti Rango o Kaipara – Tracy Davis and Haahi Walker
- Ngāti Paoa – new members to be confirmed
- Kaiwhakahaere (Manager) – Gena Moses-Te Kani