

**ABUSE IN CARE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY  
MĀORI HEARING**

**Under** The Inquiries Act 2013

**In the matter of** The Royal Commission of Inquiry into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions

**Royal Commission:** Ms Julia Steenson  
Dr Anaru Erueti  
Mr Paul Gibson  
Judge Coral Shaw  
Ali'imuamua Sandra Alofivae

**Counsel:** Ms Julia Spelman, Mr Kingi Snelgar, Mr Wiremu Rikihana,  
Mr Luke Claasen, Ms Maia Wikaira, Ms Alisha Castle,  
Ms Tracey Norton, Ms Season-Mary Downs,  
Ms Alana Thomas, Mr Winston McCarthy,  
Mr Simon Mount QC,  
Ms Kerryn Beaton QC for the Royal Commission  
Ms Melanie Baker, Ms Julia White

and

Mr Max Clarke-Parker for the Crown  
Mr James Meagher for the Catholic Church  
Ms Fiona Guy Kidd for the Anglican Church  
Ms Sonya Cooper,  
Ms Amanda Hill as other counsel attending

**Venue:** Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Tumutumuwhenua Marae  
59b Kitemoana Road  
Ōrākei  
AUCKLAND

**Date:** 7 March 2022

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1 [10.17 am]

2

## POWHIRI

3 **KAIKARANGA:**

4 (First Karanga)...Haere mai rā ki te whati toka o Takaparawhau e, Māhuhu-ki-te-  
5 rangi...Haere mai, haere mai, haere mai rā.

6 (Manuhiri Kaikaranga) Karanga mai rā, karanga mai rā, ki ngā manu o te pō, ki ngā manu o  
7 te ao, kua eke mai nei e. Karanga mai, karanga mai, karanga mai rā

8 (Second Kaikaranga) Mauria mai rā ngā mate kei runga i a koutou e. Rātou kua  
9 whetūrangitia e. Rātou kua haere ki te huinga kahurangi e, ki te kāpunipunitanga o te  
10 wairua. Mauria mai kia mihihia, kia tangihia. Mauria mai rā, haere mai rā.

11 (Manuhiri Kaikaranga) Karanga mai rā, karanga mai rā ki ngā tini mate, ki ngā mate maha  
12 kua wairua atu nei e, ki te whare tūpuna nei e. Karanga mai, karanga mai rā [English: We  
13 call on our many deaths who stand spiritually before the ancestral house, call upon thee.]

14 (Final Kaikaranga)Haere mai rā koutou i runga i te reo karanga o Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei e.  
15 Ko Tumutumuhenua te whare tūpuna e kuhu mai nei e. He whare whakaruruhau mō tēnei  
16 kaupapa taumaha rawa. Nāu mai rā ki roto i te āhuru mōwai o tātou, ngā uri o Tuperiri e.  
17 Nau mai rā, haere mai rā, haere mai rā.

18 [English: Come forth on the invitation of Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei. Tumutumuhenua is the  
19 ancestral house that stands before you and is a shelter for you during this difficult matter.  
20 Welcome to the shelter, the shelter of Tuperiri. Welcome, welcome, come forth.]

21 (Manuhiri Kaikaranga) Tēnā koutou te paepae tapu e tū nei e. Te whare tūpuna e tū nei e.  
22 Te mana, te tapu, tēnā rā koutou, tēnā koutou.

23 [English: Greetings to you on the orators' bench and to the ancestral house that stands  
24 before us. We acknowledge te mana, the sacredness. Greetings, greetings.]

25 (Final Karanga) Whakatau mai rā koutou, ki roto i te poho o te whare tūpuna, he whare  
26 āhuru mōwai mō koutou i ngā rangi e tata nei e. Whakatau mai rā i roto i te aroha o Ngāti  
27 Whatua Ōrakei e. Whakatau mai rā i raro i te korowai o te rangimārie me te aroha e.  
28 Whakatau mai rā ki te paepae tapu o Te Kawau e. Whakatau mai rā, whakatau mai rā,  
29 whakatau mai rā.

30 [English: We acknowledge you and welcome you to the bosom of the ancestral house  
31 which will act as a shelter for you. Greetings and we welcome you amongst the caring arms  
32 of Ngāti Whātua. Greetings under the cloak of peace and of compassion. Welcome to the  
33 orators' bench of Te Kawau, greetings, greetings, greetings.]

1 **NGĀTI WHATUA KAUMĀTUA:** Tēnā tātou. Ka tīmata ai tēnei ō tātou kaupapa ki te karakia.

2 Nā reira, ngā mihi atu ki a koutou. Me īnoi tātou.

3 [English: Greetings. We begin our matter with a karakia or prayer. Let us pray.] (Karakia:

4 E te runga rawa, anei mātou e koropiko i mua i te aroaro i runga i tēnei rangi, nāu i homai

5 nei ki a mātou. E te Runga Rawa, tahuri mai ōu taringa ki ō tātou īnoi atu ki a koe. Toro

6 mai ō ringa manaaki ki a rātou ngā kui mā, ngā koro mā e māuiui ana i roto i ngā whare, i

7 roto i ngā hōhipera, i roto i ngā marae maha ō tēnā, ō tēnā o te motu. Manaaki i a rātou e

8 ngoikore ana, rātou kore whare, rātou i roto i ngā whare herehere i tēnei wā. Piki te kaha,

9 piki te ora, te māramatanga i waenga i a rātou hoki. Anō rā manaakihia tātou i raro i te

10 tuanui o tēnei whare tūpuna, Tumutumuhenua. Hei aro ki te kaupapa, i mua i a tātou, hei

11 whakamana ai i ngā kōrero ō rātou ngā pōuringa i roto i tā rātou whāinga i ō rātou ake

12 orange i raro anō e Pā, i tōu manaakitanga. Tēnei tā mātou īnoi atu ki a koe. Hei

13 whakangāwarihia i ēnei momo wānanga, momo take i mua i a tātou, hei whakakahangia i a

14 rātou i roto i ō rātou ake whainga. I raro anō i tō arohatanga, i roto i tōu ingoa tapu, Aianeī,

15 āke nei, Āe!

16 [English: -please take care of those who are currently in our hospitals and in our marae

17 across... - take care of those who are homeless, and who are in prisons at this time. May

18 they gain a greater understanding amongst themselves and also take care of we who stand

19 underneath the ancestral house of Tumutumuhenua as we focus on the matter that pertains

20 to empowering the stories of those as they seek prosperity for themselves, and so we give

21 thanks to you and pray to you to ease these discussions and matters before us and to give us

22 strength as we pursue these matters with your compassion and in your holy name, amen.

23 And the hymn He -Korōria.]

24 (Waiata He Korōria: He kororia, harirua kia Ihoa o ngā mano. Ki te Kāhui Ariki Wairua,,

25 ko te Māngai hei tautoko mai. Te Ārepa, Te Ōmeke tautokohia mai te rōpū nei. Piriwiritua,

26 Hamuera, ka puta ka ora e. Ka puta ka ora e)

27 [English: Tis glory, glory to Jehovah of the thousands, the multitudes and to the

28 collective of spiritual authorities and may God's mouthpiece provide us, give us strength,

29 and support this party, this group, and the people. And in time we will prosper. We will

30 emerge and prosper.]

31 **KAUMĀTUA WYLLIS:** Tōmuri te pō roa, tērā pokopoko whiti te rā, kei runga. Te pō e, te pō e,

32 te pō e. I hīpoki nei koe i te ao i tō korowai au ai te moe, i tau ai te wairua. I nunumi atu ai

33 te tauā, i tāromaroma atu ai te wehi. Whano ki uta, whano ki tai. Whano ki te iwi moe ai i te

34 pō. Pō nukunuku, pō nekeneke, pō waiwai te pō, ā, pō hirihiri te ao. Tariao riko, tariao

1 whiti. Tariao te ata hāpara. Tōia te rā kia whiti iho te rā. Ko pū māhanahana, ko  
 2 pūwerawera. E whiti e te rā e, pārore ki taku kiri. Kia rangi nui te rangi. Kia rangi roa te  
 3 rangi. Kia rangi pīataata te rangi. Whakakenakena mai rā taku manu ia ka kō. Kua ao, kua  
 4 ao, kua awatea. (The speaker is reciting an ancient and traditional introductory incantation).  
 5 (Whaikōrero) Tēnei au ko te uri o Manumanu. Ko Te Aitanga a Tiki Tērā tētahi he Kahika,  
 6 he Mānuka. I ahu mai i te kōhanga o Taputapuātea, Te Whare o te Mānuka. Te Wharekura  
 7 o Manutapuā. Tēnei au te ō atu nei, hokaia mai, whana atu a runga. Hīkoia ngā whetū,  
 8 hīkoia te marama. Ka puta ki te whai ao, ka puta ki te ao marama. Whano, whano, haramai  
 9 te toki. Haumie, hui e, tāiki e!

10 [English: I am a descendant of Manumanu, Te Aitanga Tiki, and I represent the Mānuka  
 11 who came from Taputapuātea, the house of Mānuka, of Manukapu, and I emerge into the  
 12 world of light, bring forth the adze, join together and let it be done.]

13 Nō reira, koutou o te wāhi ngaro, ka mihi atu ki a koutou. Nau mai, haere mai, hoki  
 14 wairua mai. Hoki wairua mai ki tō koutou nei whare, tō tātou nei whare a  
 15 Tumutumuhenua. Hoki wairua mai, hoki wairua mai i runga i te kaupapa. Te kaupapa kua  
 16 whāriki hia, kua whakaingoatia i te ra nei; Tōmuri te pō roa, tērā pokopoko whiti te rā.

17 [English: And so, to those who have passed on, I acknowledge you, welcome back  
 18 spiritually, welcome back spiritually, to your house, our house Tumutumuhenua. Return  
 19 spiritually within this matter before us, the matter that has been presented and has been  
 20 named today, it is the long and intense night as we reach the shining day.]

21 Pokopoko Whiti-te-rā, he tipua, he taniwha, he tipua, he taniwha. He tupuna. Nānā  
 22 ngā aweawetanga, ngā meka, ngā mea tūmeke i whārikihia ki runga i tēnei whenua. Otirā,  
 23 he tupuna, he tipua, he taniwha. Nā tēnā, ki runga i tōna pokohiwi, ngā tūmanako, ngā  
 24 kaha, ngā māiatanga.

25 [English: It is a spiritual being, a guardian, supernatural guardian who made its  
 26 influence known upon this land and was an ancestor and supernatural being, a guardian.  
 27 And so, on his shoulders lie the hopes, the aspirations, the strength and the courage.]  
 28 Nō reira koia te take, kua whārikihia tōna ingoa ki tēnei kaupapa, Pokopoko Whiti-te-rā. He  
 29 tupuna, he tipua. Te matua ingoa mō tēnei kaupapa.

30 [English: And so that is the reason why we have presented his name, Pokopoko  
 31 Whiti-te-rā, the ancestor, the supernatural being as the name for this matter.]  
 32 Nō reira, i runga i tēnā, ka mihi atu ki a rātou kua hinga atu, kua hinga mai. Rātou kua  
 33 mene ki te pō, e moe, e moe, e moe. E moe i te moenga roa.

1 [English: And so, with that in mind, I want to acknowledge those who have passed  
2 on, those who have passed on and crossed over to the everlasting night, rest, rest, rest.]

3 Ko te Matua nui i te rangi tērā, e tiaki e manaaki. Ka mihi rā ki te Whānau Hāka,  
4 otirā te whānau. Ko koe tērā e Stan. Te Whānau Wilkinson, kua hinga i tēnei wiki kua  
5 pahure. Aroha ki te whānau. Tē taea te tangata rā te uru mai ki roto i tōna whare. Tē taea te  
6 tangata rā te takahia te whenua. Ko te kaupapa o tēnā, ko te mate korona tēnā. E tohutohu  
7 ana i te whānau, ā, me haere tōtika ki te urupā. Nō reira, ka aroha, ka aroha ki a rātou.  
8 Engari, ki a koe e Stan. Koutou kua hinga i ēnei wiki, i ēnei marama. Ka mihi, ka tangi, ka  
9 mihi, ka tangi.

10 [English: Rest in the long rest with the – our Lord in heaven – who will take care of  
11 thee, and I want to acknowledge the families, and that is you Stan, I acknowledge you – the  
12 Wilkinson family who lost a loved one over the past week and I extend my sympathies to  
13 the whānau. He was unable to enter his ancestral house and was unable to be on the land,  
14 and that is due to Covid-19 which forced the whānau to go straight to the cemetery. And  
15 so, to you Stan and to you and those who have passed in recent weeks and months I wish to  
16 acknowledge and recognise those deceased and mourn for them.]

17 Nō reira koutou, tāpiri atu ō koutou mate kei runga ō koutou pokowhiwhi. Waihotia  
18 ki te poutūārongo o te whare, ā, tātou katoa tēnā e tangihia, e mihia. Rātou kua takahia ai te  
19 ara namunamu ki taiao. Ko tō tātou mahi he mihi poroporoaki, he mihi tairanga. Nō reira  
20 koutou, haere, haere, hoki atu.

21 [English: And so, I also wish to include all of your deaths that lie upon your  
22 shoulders, may we leave it at te pou tuarongo pillar in the house so that we can  
23 acknowledge, recognise those deaths, those who have traversed the lands and the  
24 environment, and our role is to acknowledge them and farewell them, and so I bid them  
25 farewell, farewell.]

26 Ka huri atu, ka huri tū ki a koutou kua tae mai i runga i te kaupapa o te rā. Tēnā rā  
27 koutou. Koutou nō ngā hau e whā. Koutou nō te Tai Tokerau. Koutou nō te Puku o te Ika.  
28 Tēnā pea, ētahi o koutou nō Te Waka o Māui. Nau mai, haramai, ki tēnei o ngā whare,  
29 Tumutumuhenua, i te taha o Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. He hōnore tēnei mō mātou, kia hui  
30 tahi ai ki runga i tērā kaupapa.

31 [English: I now turn my attention to you who have come here for the matter here  
32 today, greetings. To you from the four winds, from the north, those from the centre of the  
33 North Island, perhaps some of you are from the waka of Maui, welcome to this house

1 Tumutumuwhehua belonging to Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. This is an honour for us to gather  
2 on this matter.]

3 Ā, he aha tērā kaupapa. Ko te mea nui, ko ngā kōrero i puta mai, i ngā paru ringa, i  
4 ngā mōrehu. Nā te tūkinō tēnā i whakararu i a rātou. Nō reira, waimarie kua whakaritea e  
5 tātou, e koutou i tēnei momo huinga mō rātou. Ka taea te rongō atu te mamae, ngā kōrero,  
6 kua pupuritia i ngā ngākau mō ēhea ngā tau. Ā, kua whai wā ināiane ki te whakaputa  
7 kōrero, whakaputa ngā nawe me ngā kokona o te whare, ka kitea.

8 [English: And what is the matter before us? It is most important that the evidence  
9 that was presented by the survivors who were abused and who experienced many problems.  
10 And so, we are fortunate that we and you have been able to organise this gathering, this  
11 hearing so we can hear the pain from the stories that have been withheld within the hearts  
12 of those who have suffered. And so, they have the opportunity and a time now to express  
13 their pain within the four corners of the house.]

14

15 Nō reira, koutou ngā rangatira kua whai whakaaro mai kia tū tēnei momo hui i runga i  
16 tētahi marae, tēnā koutou. Waihoki tērā kōrero, kia tū tēnei momo hui a te Royal  
17 Commission ki runga i tēnei marae, ki roto i Tāmaki, tēnā koutou. Kāre he wāhi i tū atu.  
18 Kāre he marae i tū atu kia whakatau ngā kōrero o ngā paru kino, ngā ringa paru, ērā. Ngā  
19 mōrehu, rātou katoa, kia whārikihia ngā kōrero ki mua i te aroaro. Nō reira, tēnā koutou.

20 [English: And so, to you, the leaders who have given great consideration for this  
21 meeting to take place at this marae, thank you very much. And I leave those sentiments  
22 with this Royal Commission hearing at this marae in Auckland. And so, there is not a  
23 better place or a better marae to hear those evidence about the abuse that was suffered by  
24 the survivors so they may be presented before us. And so, greetings.]

25

26 Tēnā koe, e te uri o Rāhiri. E ai ki ngā kōrero, ko Ngāti Kahungunu hoki. Engari, ngā mihi  
27 ki a koe. Ahakoa, kāre tāua he tau hou ki a tāua, ka mihi ka tika, ka mihi ka tika ki a koe.  
28 Ka mihi ki a koe. Kia koe i whakatū ai tēnei ope, te nuinga o ngā kaimahi. Ngā kaimahi o te  
29 Kaunihera, o te Kōmihana. Ngā kaimahi e kaha nei ki te awhi, Ki te āwhina i ngā mōrehu.  
30 Nō reira, tēnā koe, tēnā koe, tēnā koe. Otirā, ngā mōrehu kei waenganui i a koutou, ngā  
31 mihi rā, ka aroha.

32 [English: I also want to recognise the descendants of Rāhiri. According to the  
33 accounts is also from Ngāti Kahungunu. However, I want to acknowledge you. Although  
34 we are not new to each other, I want to, and it is appropriate that I acknowledge you, David,

1 and also wish to acknowledge you as you provide the backbone to this ope, this party. And  
 2 I also want to acknowledge the staff of the Commission and the staff who are making a  
 3 great effort to assist the survivors, and so I want to acknowledge you all, and acknowledge  
 4 the survivors amongst you. And I express my sympathies.]

5 Kua tae te wā ki tēnei hui. Kāore e kore, i ēnei wiki e rua, ka taimaha te hui. Nō  
 6 reira, ko tāku kōrero akiaki, haere ki waho, ngā hau o Tāwhirimātea. Kei reira hoki te wai o  
 7 Tangaroa, Waitematā. Kei reira ngā rongoā mō koutou. Atu i tēnā, Kei waenga i a mātou  
 8 ngā kaiāwhina, ngā kairomiromi hei āwhina i a koutou ngā mōrehu. Waihoki ki a koutou  
 9 ngā kaimahi. Mehemea e taumaha ana te āio.

10 [English: We have reached a time for this hearing and there is no doubt that within  
 11 the next two weeks, we will hear quite hard and difficult evidence. And so, my words of  
 12 encouragement. May you go outside and feel the winds of Tāwhirimātea and feel the  
 13 waters of Tangaroa, of Waitematā and that is a medicine for you. And we are here, the  
 14 people to assist you, the survivors, and also to you, the staff, if you are experiencing some  
 15 difficulties.]

16 Nā runga i tēnā, kāore he kōrero i tū atu i te taenga mai o te whānau ki te tautoko i tēnei  
 17 kaupapa. Ahakoa tokoiti, ā wairua he tokomaha. Waihoki, ngā kaumātua kei tērā taha o te  
 18 taiapa. Ko te mate korona tērā e tohutohu ana i a rātou kia noho haumarua tonu ki te kainga.  
 19 Pōuri ana te ngākau, kāre te nuinga i konei. Nā tēnā, ka tū kaha mātou ki te whakakanohi i a  
 20 rātou, nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, kia anō tātou katoa.

21 [English: So aside from that, I want to acknowledge the whānau who came to  
 22 support this matter, this hearing. Although there are only a few, spiritually there are many.  
 23 And also, our elders who are on the other side of the fence, and Covid is influencing and  
 24 telling us that we need to keep safe. And so, with that in mind we stand strong to represent  
 25 them. And so, with that in mind, greetings, greetings one and all.]

26 (Mōteatea: the speaker and his supporters are singing a traditional chant peculiar to this  
 27 area, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei).

28 Ā, ka huri. Kua mutu tēnei taha.

29 [English: We pass the speaking responsibilities on. We have finished here on this side.]

30 **ROYAL COMMISSION KAUMĀTUA DAVID:**

31 Tākina ko te kawa tuatahi, ko te kawa tapu kia Io. Kia Io Matua, Kia Io Matua  
 32 Kore. Io taketake, Io te wānanga, Io Tikitiki ki te toi o ngā rangi.

33 Tākina ko te kawa tuarua. Ko te kawa nui kia te Kore. Ko te Kore te whiwhiā, ko te Kore te  
 34 rawea. Ko te Kore, ko te Pū, ko te More, ko te Weu, Ko te Aka. Ko te Āhunga, Ko te

1 Aopōnga. Ko te Kune iti, Ko te Kune rahi. Ko te Pōpōkūnau, Ko te Hineaweawe. Ko  
 2 Tamakunuiārangi.  
 3 Tākina te kawa, ko te kawa tuatoru. Ko te kawa roa kia te Pō. Ko te Pō nui, ko te Pō roa.  
 4 Ko te Pō kerekere, ko te Pō tangotango, ko te Pō tiwhatiwha. Tiwhatiwha te Pō, tiwhatiwha  
 5 te Ao.

6 Tiwhatiwha te Pō, ko Pakerewha tēnā. Ko Rikirangi tērā te haere nei i tēnei wā.  
 7 Tiwhatiwha te Pō, tiwhatiwha te Ao!

8 [English: The speaker is reciting an ancient incantation paying homage to Io,  
 9 supreme being.]

10 (Whaikōrero:) Ka hē ngā rā, ka hē ngā ao. I whakataukīhia ai e ōku tīpuna. Nā te  
 11 Matua Tāngata, e ai rā, mā te ture anō te ture e aki. Ko te tūmanako ka panoni i ngā ture  
 12 whakararu nei i a mātou, i a tātou. Tiwhatiwha te Pō, tiwhatiwha te Ao!

13 [English: Te Kooti stated that – pit the law against the law – and it is hoped, the hope is,  
 14 that we change the laws that have caused us much difficulties. We acknowledge the night  
 15 and the day, the daylight.]

16 He kaupapa taimaha rawa atu tēnei kua tae ki runga i a Aotearoa. Me tuku kupu ki te Wāhi  
 17 Ngaro, te Runga Rawa i te tuatahi. Me pēnei au, ko te tuatahitanga ko te kupu. I te  
 18 tīmatanga te kupu, i te Atua te kupu, ko te Atua anō te kupu, ko te Atua anō te kupu i te  
 19 tīmatanga. Nāna i hanga nei ngā mea katoa, te rangi me te whenua. Me whakapaingia,  
 20 whakakororia rā ki tōna ingoa tapu. Nānā i homai, nānā i tango atu. I ēnei wā kei te tango  
 21 tonu atu, kei te tango tonu atu, kei te tango tonu atu.

22 [English: This is a very difficult matter that lies before the nation of New Zealand,  
 23 Aotearoa. I want to acknowledge the heavens above and the spiritual dimension. Let me  
 24 say thus. In the beginning there was the Word, and it was the word of God and God was  
 25 also the Word, in the beginning. He created all things upon the land. We must give glory to  
 26 his holy name who provided, who gives and takes away and continues to give and to take  
 27 away.]

28 Nō reira, whakaarotia rātou kua rūpeke atu ki o Paerau. Ki te ao whānui, ko te mate  
 29 urutā tēnā. Te tini, te mano, kua panaia atu ki tua o Paerau. Arā atu ki Ukraine. Arā, ngā  
 30 whānau, ngā iwi kua panaia atu ki tua o Paerau. Ngā mate huhua i runga i ngā marae maha  
 31 o te motu.

32 [English: And so, I must pay homage to those who have passed on to paerau, to the  
 33 resting place of the spirits. And I acknowledge the whole world as it deals with a global  
 34 pandemic. I acknowledge those who have passed on because of it. I acknowledge the

1 whānau, the families and the people in Ukraine who have died. All of the several, many  
2 deaths upon our marae across the country.]

3 Ka tāpiri atu ki tēnā ō koutou, a Stan. Ko Roka Wehi tēnā. Te tuahine o Ngāpō Wehi. Kei  
4 te Raki paewhenua e takoto ana. Me pēhea rawa te kōrero. Kua tākaia atu te kupu kōrero ki  
5 te puna roimata kua mihia nei ki runga ki a koutou. Haere atu rā koutou i runga ngā kōrero  
6 a ngā tīpuna. Kia whai atu rā i ngā tapuwae o ngā Ariki rangatira kua ngaro ki te pō. Haere!  
7 Ko tō wairua kei te rere atu ki ngā rangi. Huinga o te kura, wenerau o te mano. Koutou ki a  
8 koutou, kia ora anō huihui tātou katoa.

9 [English: I wish to include the whānau of Stan. Also, Roka Wehi, sister of Ngāpō  
10 Wehi who is currently on the North Shore lying in state. And so, I say thus: You have  
11 been acknowledged, the spring of tears is full for all of you, and so farewell with the  
12 sentiments of the ancestors and follow the footsteps of the ariki, the great chiefs who have  
13 passed on towards the night to the darkness. And your spirit soars through the heavens to  
14 the thousands, and I pay tribute and acknowledge them, and I acknowledge you all.]

15 Ka anga atu au, ki te maunga tapu. Ki Maungakiekie e tū mai nā. Ki ngā maunga katoa o  
16 Tāmaki Makaurau, Tāmaki Herenga waka. E te tīpuna whare, Tumutumuhenua. E  
17 whakawhāiti nei tātou. Hei āhuru mōwai mō tō tātou kaupapa nei. He tika tāhau e te  
18 rangatira, kāre he marae i tū atu mō tēnei kaupapa.

19 [English: I turn and face the sacred mountain to Maungakiekie that stands before us and all  
20 of the mountains of Tāmaki Makaurau of many lovers and of many waka, to the ancestral  
21 house Tumutumuhenua which has brought us together and stands as a shelter for the  
22 matter and the hearing before us. You were correct, chief, there is no better marae for this  
23 hearing, for this matter.]

24 Arā atu, Takaparawha. Hoki whakaaro atu ki te wā i tūtū ai te puehu. Te whakatumatuma  
25 nui ko tēnā. Kei waho te moana, Waitematā e takoto ana. Arā atu ko Motutapu, arā atu ki  
26 Rangitoto. Ko te Rangi i Toto ai te ihu o taku tīpuna, o Tamatekapua. Ko  
27 Kahumatamomoe, ka heke, ka heke, ko Whatumaurangi, ko..., Ko Tūnohopu. Te Arawa  
28 waka; “Mai Maketū ki Tongariro” kua eke nei ki runga ki a koutou, tēnā koutou, mihi mai,  
29 karanga mai.

30 [English: And there lies Takaparawha. And I can recall the time during the troubles that  
31 ensued where the protest took place here. And outside is the Waitematā harbour, the seas  
32 outside and Motutapu and Rangitoto which commemorates the day where Tamatekapua  
33 had a bloody nose, his nose was bloodied, Kahumatamoemoe had Whatumairangi through

1 the generations, Tūnohopū, Te Arawa waka from Maketū to Tongariro who has come  
2 before you, greetings, greetings and welcome, welcome us.]

3 E te tuakana, o Tuhoromatakakā. Ka heke, ka heke, nei rā Te Whānau-a-Apanui e mihi atu  
4 ana, kua eke nei ki runga ki a koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou. Mihi mai rā, mihi mai rā,  
5 karanga mai, whakatau mai i a mātou.

6 [English: And I wish the senior Tuhoromatakaka and to the generations, the descendants  
7 were Te Whānau Apanui and I and Te Whānau Apanui has come before you and  
8 I acknowledge you all and call upon us as you have greeted us.]

9 Ko te Tai Rāwhiti, Hikurangi maunga, kua eke nei i tēnei wā. Kei te mihi atu, tēnā koutou,  
10 whakatau mai. Tēnei uri o Te Aitanga a Māhaki e mihi atu ana. Huri noa, huri noa, ko  
11 Taranaki maunga kua eke nei ki runga ki a koutou. Kua eke nei. Huri atu, huri atu, Aorangi  
12 maunga kua eke nei, ngā mātāwaka kua tae ake nei ki runga ia a koutou, mihi mai, karanga  
13 mai, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou.

14 [English: The Tairāwhiti, the East Coast Hikurangi mountain is here and so  
15 I acknowledge them and greet thee. This is descendants of Te Aitanga a Māhaki who  
16 acknowledges you, and also Taranaki mountain, Taranaki maunga is also here who have  
17 come within this party before you and who have arrived. We turn to Aorangi mountain who  
18 have come, all of the waka from across the country have come before you to pay tribute and  
19 to recognise you. Thank you, thank you very much.]

20 E te pae tapu. Tēnā koe e te rangatira. Tēnā koe i whakatau nei i a mātou. Taiaha,  
21 koutou e nohonoho nei i te taumata tapu o ngā kaumātua. E te kaikarakia, koutou katoa.  
22 Tēnā koe Julia, haere tangata whenua mai. E mihi atu ana ki a koe. Ānaru, kīhai rawa i tae a  
23 tinana mai, kua pāngia i te mate urutā. Kei konei tonu, kei konei tonu a Paora mā, a Judge  
24 Coral Shaw, ngā Kaikōmihana me te Arikimuamua Sandra Alofiavae. E tuku fa'afetai atu ki  
25 a koutou, kia manuia, kia whakawhetai. Kei te mihi atu, kei te mihi atu, kei te mihi atu.

26 [English: To the orators' bench, I want to acknowledge you, your chief who greeted  
27 us. Taiaha and all of you who sit upon the sacred bench of the elders, the conductor of our  
28 karakia, all of you. Greetings to Julia who is here as part of the local iwi, I greet you also.  
29 And you, Anaru, who is not able to be here in person, who is unfortunately suffering from  
30 Covid, but Paora is here. Judge Coral Shaw and to the Commissioners, acknowledgments.  
31 And the Ali'imuumua, Sandra Alofiavae, we give thanks, I give thanks to you, and  
32 I continue to continue to give thanks and thank you.]

33 Kāre anō kia pau te hau i ahau. Nā te kaha patipati mai a taku rahi, kia kōrerohia te  
34 take kua tae ake nei tātou. Kua tū ai te Kōmihana. Ko tēnei Kōmihana he uiuinga mana

1 Karauna ki ngā tūkinō o mua i roto i te tauwhiro tangā o te Kāwanatanga me ngā whare o te  
2 whakapono. Me kī ngā hāhi, ngā whare manaaki, tērā te tikanga, manaaki! engari ki ētahi,  
3 te manaakitanga i kore ai. Ko te aroha i kore ai.

4 [English: I have not expended all of my energy yet due to the strength of my people  
5 to beseech me to speak on our behalf, on behalf of the Commission. This Commission of  
6 Inquiry has the power of State behind it to address past abuses, who suffered abuse in State  
7 and faith-based care, say the churches, so to speak. And those places of care, that was what  
8 it was supposed to be, to take care, but some did not receive that care or that compassion.]

9 Ko te reo me ōna tikanga i kore ai. Ko te nuinga o rātou i tūkinohia ai he Māori. Ko  
10 te nuinga o rātou i tūkinohia ai he tamariki. Te wā i a rātou e tamariki ana. Auē, taukuri e!  
11 [English: The language, there was no language of the reo or traditions, and most of those  
12 who were abused were Māori. Most of them who were abused were children when they  
13 were growing up. We express our sympathies.]

14 Tohutohu mai, te tohutohu a te Kāwanatanga, me whakahaerehia ēnei āhuatanga ki  
15 runga i ngā mātāpono o Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Kia mōhio ai rā, he aha ngā mea e rongō nei  
16 mātou. Kei te rongō tonu atu. Te ngau o te mamae. I patua kia taotū te tinana. Nā wai i hē,  
17 kātahi ka hē kē atu. I mauhere atu i roto i ngā whare wairangi me ngā mīhini hikohiko, auē,  
18 taukuri e! I raweke, i takakino, ō taera i pāwhera, auē, auē, taukuri e!

19 [English: And so, the Government has charged us with addressing these matters  
20 underneath with the Treaty principles in mind so that it can be known what we have heard,  
21 and we've felt the pain and the suffering. Those who were injured and wounded physically  
22 through many wrongdoings took place within mental health units and who suffered from  
23 electromagnetic therapy, electric shock therapy, and who were assaulted and who suffered  
24 rape. And so, we acknowledge, sympathise.]

25 E rua ngā wāhanga o te Kōmihana nei. E ai rā te kōrero, titiro whakamuri kia ahu  
26 whakamua atu. Ko kaupapa nui, tuatahi, ki te rangahau atu, kia āta tirohia he aha te  
27 āhuatanga o ngā tūkinō, e hia kē ngā mea i tūkinō ai? I tēhea whare? Me te mea, he aha i  
28 tūkinō ai? He raru nā te ture? Nā te pūnaha? Nā te kaimahi? Wēnei āhuatanga e rangahautia  
29 nei e te Kōmihana.

30 [English: There are two parts of this Commission. It is said “look back so that we  
31 can move forward”. And the major matter firstly is to investigate so we can see and find  
32 what is the nature of the abuses and how many were abused and in which facilities the  
33 abuse take place. And also why, the reasons why it took place. Was it a problem with the

1 law, with the system, with the workers, the staff, all of these sorts of aspects were  
2 investigated by the Commission.]

3 Te wāhanga tuarua, Ko te whāinga matua tuarua, kia ahu whakamua, ka pēhea rā e  
4 whakatika ai. Kia pai te noho o ngā tamariki i roto i ēnei whare. He utu kei te haere. Ka  
5 tuku whakapāha atu, ka tuku herengi atu. Ka nui tērā? ākene pea. Me pēhea rā e  
6 whakarauora ai te mauri o te tangata, kia rauora ai te hinengaro, te wairua, te ngākau o  
7 wēnei o ngā Ika-a-Maru. He rapu kupu mō rātou i tūkinō ai. Kei roto, kei tō mātou nei  
8 pūrongo tuatahi, ko te mōrehu o rātou.

9 [English: And the second part is, the second objective is to move forward and how  
10 we can address and remedy. So, these children who live in these facilities can be taken care  
11 of and there will be redress, financial compensation, and perhaps how can we revive the  
12 mauri, the life force of a person to revive the mind, the spirit, the soul. All of these we're  
13 trying to find words to express their suffering in the abuse. Within our first report was the  
14 survivors' accounts.]

15 Te pūrongo tuatahi, Tāwharautia, pūrongo o te wā. Heoi anō, kua puta mai te  
16 pūrongo tuarua o mātou, He purapura whetū. Kao, he purapura ora. Ētahi kua  
17 whetūrangihia, heoi he purapura ora, he mārā tipu. Ka mau te wehi!

18 [English: The first report was called Tāwharautia, and the second report has  
19 emerged from the Royal Commission called He Purapura Ora. He purapura ora is what it's  
20 called. Some of them have passed, joined the stars, they are the survivors.]  
21 Nō reira, taku mihi nui ki a rātou, kia koutou i tūkinō ai i roto i ēnei whare, whare manaaki.  
22 To māia hoki ki te haere mai, ki te whakaputa kōrero i mua i te marea o te tangata, he uaua  
23 kē. Kei te mihi atu ki a koutou. Haere ake ana, tērā te aroha o roto.

24 [English: And so, I want to greatly acknowledge them and to you, all of those who were  
25 abused in these State and faith-based care facilities. And I acknowledge your courage, your  
26 bravery to be present and to give evidence before so many people. That is very difficult  
27 and so I recognise that, and I sympathise and express my sympathies towards you.]

28 Ko te tūmanakohia ake nei, arā, kia ea ai ngā wawata, e wawatia nei te ngākau.  
29 Heoi, te otinga kē ake o mātou, he pūrongo, he rīpoata noaiho ka rau atu ki mua i te aroaro  
30 o te Kāwanatanga, māna noa kia āta whirihia. Kei puta ngā hua.

31 [English: It is hoped that the aspirations and the hopes are met, your aspirations and  
32 hopes. And hopefully once we complete our work, we will provide a report that will be  
33 presented before the Government, and it is for the Government to look into so that the fruits  
34 of the report can emerge.]

1 Nō reira, koianeī te take kua tae ake tātou, tēnei Kōmihana. E mihi atu ana ki a koutou,  
 2 Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. Nā koutou i tukuna atu te reo rāhiri kia takahia te manuhiri te  
 3 waharoa. Kia kawea nei te waewae tapu i ngā pare kawakawa, ngā roimata, te hūpē. E mihi  
 4 atu ana ki a koutou.

5 [English: And so, this is the reason we have arrived here, the Royal Commission  
 6 which acknowledges you all, Ngāti Whātua o Ōrākei. It was you who invited us so that we  
 7 were able to break past the entrance of the marae and bring forth those sacred feet, those  
 8 who have not come here before so they may grieve and let the hūpē, the snot and the tears  
 9 fall as a sign of grief.]

10 Hei aha koa, he purapura ora i ruirui mai i Rangiaātea, e kore e ngaro. Tōmuri te pō roa,  
 11 Pokopoko Whiti te rā. Nō reira, e mihi atu ana ki a koutou, ki a tātou katoa, kua eke nei i  
 12 tēnei wā. Kei te mihi ake, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, Kia ora anō huihui tātou katoa.

13 [English: Regardless, they are survivors who were sown from Rangiaātea and will  
 14 never be lost. It is a long and intense night, but the sun shines inside, eventually. So,  
 15 I want to acknowledge you and to everyone here present at this time, I acknowledge you  
 16 all, greetings, greetings, greetings one and all gathered here.]

17 (Waiata: Mā wai rā e taurima te marae i waho nei? Mā te tika, mā te pono me te  
 18 aroha e).

19 [English: who will take care of the marae outside here? It will happen through justice, faith, and  
 20 love).

21 Kei raro!

22 [English: I conclude my speech.]

23 **KAUMĀTUA TAIAHA:** Kua mutu tēnā taha? [English: Have you concluded that side? Kei ngā  
 24 maunga whakahī o tāukiuki rānō, tēnei a Maunga kiekie e mihi nei, e tangi nei ki a koutou,  
 25 haere mai. Haere mai ki runga i ngā kupu kua whārikihia ki runga i a koutou katoa. Aku  
 26 mana nui, aku tapu nui, ngā mātāwaka, tēnā koutou.

27 [English: Acknowledging the prominent mountains amongst you. This is Maungakiekie  
 28 which acknowledges you and welcomes you. Welcome with the sentiments that have been  
 29 laid down and I acknowledge the great mana and all of the different iwi amongst you.]

30 Ā, ka mihi rā ki te kaupapa. Ka mihi rā ki tōna taumahatanga. E hara i te mea, kia noho  
 31 tērā taumahatanga ki waenganui i a tātou mō ngā wiki e rua. Kāhore! Me puta ngā kōrero,  
 32 kia puta te riri, ā, nā wai rā, nā wai rā, ka tau te rangimārie. Ki runga i a tātou.

1 [English: I also want to acknowledge, recognise the matter before us and to the  
2 difficulty inherent within the matter. It's not as if we must hold on to those pressures upon  
3 all of us, we must release and express our anger and in time peace will reign.]

4 Nā reira, ka hoki mai te mauri ki te paepae tapu a Te Kawau. Heoi anō, tēnei mauria  
5 ka pupuri nei mō ngā wiki e rua. Mā tāua tēnā e tiaki, mā tāua tēnā e mirimiri, mā tāua tēnā  
6 e whakaora, tērā o ngā mauri, ā, kia puta mai he painga mō rātou i tūkinotia i roto i ngā tau.

7 [English: And so, the mauri, the life force returns to the orators' bench of Te Kawau.  
8 However, this mauri will be held on to for the next two weeks and we both will take care of  
9 it and nurture it and revive it. This mauri, this life force, so that goodness can come forth  
10 from that for those who are abused.]

11 Āe, ko te pūrongo tuatoru, tuawhā, tuarima rānei, he mea pai tērā. Heoi anō, te  
12 Kāwanatanga me whakatinanahia ngā wawata, ngā moemoeā kia ora ai rātou katoa kua  
13 pēhi nei i roto i ngā tau. Ka nawhe tērā mō tēnei wā.

14 [English: And yes, the third, fourth, fifth report, that's good. However, the  
15 Government, the Government must put those words into action. The dreams and the  
16 aspirations so that they may prosper, those who were abused. And that is enough all for  
17 now.]

18 Engari, ka mihi tonu ki a koutou katoa e aku rangatira, aku tāne pūrotu, aku wahine  
19 pūrotu, tēnā koutou.

20 [English: However, I want to recognise and acknowledge you all, rangatira, the  
21 handsome men and the beautiful women amongst you.]

22 Tēnei tikanga mō te mate korona. Aroha mai ki a mātou. Ahakoa ngā ngutu nui ki  
23 tēnei taha. E kore ēnei ngutu e pā atu ki a koutou, e aku wahine ātaahua, e aku tāne ātaahua.  
24 Me mau koe i ōu ngutu me ngā wai kei roto i tō waha. Engari, me tutuki tēnei wahanga e  
25 koutou te pae ki tēnei pae. Aroha mai. Me ngā kaikaranga. Mehemea he tuke, mehemea he  
26 meke ranei. Engari, kia māmā nē.

27 [English: And this tradition, custom around coronavirus, please sympathise with us.  
28 Although we have big lips on this side, the sometimes-beautiful women have laid their lips  
29 upon you and also upon the men. You must hold on, withhold your lips and the saliva  
30 within your mouth. However, we must complete this custom at this time. Please forgive us  
31 for the precautions, and also want to acknowledge those who made the formal call, to make  
32 things easier.]

33 Nō reira, haramai ki Te Taoū, Te Kaipara. Haramai ki Ngā Oho ki Awhitū. Haramai  
34 ki Te Puru o Tāmaki. Haramai ki te rūrū.

1 [English: So welcome to Te Taoū, Kaipara. Welcome, to Ngaoho, to Āwhitu,  
2 welcome to Te Puru o Tāmaki. Welcome to shake hands, welcome.] (Hariru).

3 **KAUMĀTUA TAIAHA:** . He aha te hau e wawara, e wawara. He tiu, he raki, he tiu, he  
4 raki. Nāna i ā mai te pūpū tarakihi ki uta. E tīkina atu e au ki te kōtiu. Koia te pou whakairo  
5 ka tū ki Waitematā. Ka tū ki te Waitematā i ōku wairangitanga e tū nei, e tū nei, Tihewā  
6 mauri ora!

7 What is that murmuring sound upon the north wind. That cast my paper nautilus  
8 ashore, which I plucked from the north wind and thus claimed? It is the carved pillar that  
9 stands in the Waitematā Harbour. That I see in my distressed state.

10 Ki ngā kaiwhakarongo kua tae mai ki te poho o tō mātou whare a  
11 Tumutumuhenua i tēnei rā, tēnei ka mihi. Ka mihi ki ngā Kaikōmihana. (Introduction of  
12 Commisioners) Tēnā koutou katoa.

13 To all listeners that entered into our meeting house of Tumutumuhenua today, I  
14 acknowledge you. I want acknowledge the Commissioners. (Introduction of  
15 commissioners) Greetings.

16 It's a privilege for Ngāti Whātua to host this hearing and it's an honour to be given  
17 five or ten minutes to make an opening address this morning.

18 I just wanted to quickly talk about the theme for the hui. Although it does say there  
19 are many themes, heoi anō, being disconnected from whakapapa. So, in 1951 the Auckland  
20 City Council burnt down our village down here, the papakāinga at Ōkahu Bay and all of  
21 our people were scattered to the four corners of the country. And in the burning down of  
22 our ancestral house, Te Puru o Tāmaki, a lot of our knowledge and our whakapapa was lost.

23 Dr Joseph Hawke, my Lord father, talks about how many of the kaumātua and  
24 kaukuia died. The majority of them died within a year of our homes being burnt down and  
25 us being forced to become tenants of the State where none of our language was used, none  
26 of our stories were told, our pātaka kai[food cupboard], the Waitematā, and there was  
27 human waste pumped into our food cupboard. And many of the families had to leave  
28 Ōrākei and they were forced to sign a waiver to get a State home. And they were under  
29 threat of once again being forced out of their homes if they ever spoke about the eviction  
30 that took place down at Okahu Bay in 1951.

31 So, our experience with the State has been a real bad one. Something that the  
32 survivors of abuse and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei have in common. So we're very, we're pleased  
33 to offer you our whare as a he āhuru mōwai, as a safe haven for you while you stand and  
34 speak your truth, as you speak about being torn away from your whakapapa, as you talk

1 about your reo and your tikanga being taken away from you, as you talk about being torn  
2 out of the heart of your people, as you talk about the suffering, the anguish and the pain that  
3 you have had to bear decade after decade after decade.

4 And this is something that resounds with us Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, because we've  
5 dedicated our lives for the last 175 years to pull ourselves out of the misery that was  
6 inflicted on us. We're not very different from you. Our only saving grace is that some of  
7 our tūpuna didn't die, some of our tūpuna that we sing about today, they managed to  
8 survive, they managed to survive every indignity that was ever placed upon them.

9 And that speaks about the resilience of the people of this house. And we see that  
10 resilience in you, even though the pain you have endured, none of us can know, none of us  
11 can feel. But we stand here with you for the next two weeks like the pillars of this house,  
12 he pou whirinaki. We invite you to tie your canoe to our pou tokomanawa (the middle  
13 post). We invite you to draw on the strength of all the tūpuna that are in this house, all the  
14 tūpuna from Ngā Mātawaka (from across the country), all the tūpuna from Tainui waka, all  
15 the tūpuna from Ngāti Whātua that you may be able to draw on their strength as you stand  
16 to speak. And may your tūpuna be here also to give you strength, to guide you as you stand  
17 here and speak to the Commission, speak to the agents of the Crown who we pray will hear  
18 your words, that they will believe what you say, that they will honour where you have come  
19 from and what you have been through. And that after the hearing and they gather their  
20 thoughts and write the reports, that they may put your view across in a meaningful and  
21 dignified way that acknowledges your mana, acknowledges the mana of your whānau, that  
22 acknowledges the mana that gives you the strength to call yourself a survivor.

23 So, you have been resilient, you have lived through the struggle, you've faced your  
24 fears and you haven't backed down, and we hope that over the next two weeks that you will  
25 receive a fair hearing, that you will be allowed to express yourself and speak about your  
26 truth. You do the whole country a great service by standing here so that we know what  
27 happened to you, so that we understand where you've been, and so we are able to help you  
28 and to stop this happening to anybody else.

29 We're only a young country, but nearly every evil there is has been perpetrated  
30 against us as a people. Ngāti Whātua, like other iwi, have had a hard time. We've had a  
31 rough time. After being finally burnt out of our own homes in 1951, we can call this land  
32 our own. We have title to this land vested in our Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Trust and we are  
33 one of the few iwi in Tāmaki that still live as a hapū and we've had to struggle for  
34 everything that we have.

1           And even now, after two Treaty settlements and two apologies from the  
2 Government, they still choose to disrespect us and try and settle their grievances with other  
3 iwi by giving them parcels of our land. So, we're still fighting, we're still fighting for our  
4 rights, we're still fighting for the Treaty rights that were guaranteed to us, guaranteed to us.  
5 And you are also, you also have the right to be free, you have the right to be Māori, you  
6 have the right to speak your language, you have the right to practice your tikanga, you have  
7 the right to live on your land.

8           So, we join together with you over the next two weeks because our abuse by the  
9 State is ongoing. And we need to keep the State, we need to hold them to account. We  
10 have to force them to do the right thing. And this hearing over the next two weeks might  
11 be, the word was used this morning, taumaha (heavy), the account of your abuse isn't  
12 something that's easily talked about or accepted.

13           But we hope that in this house that you can say what you need to say, that you can  
14 have the courage and strength to stand here with conviction, knowing that you are in the  
15 right and you have been wronged. So, in that respect, we say to you haere mai, haere mai,  
16 haere mai (welcome).

17           The land out here now known as Takaparawhau, there were many peace treaties  
18 settled here with other iwi and we hope that the land will provide you with some comfort.  
19 There's been a lot of healing that has happened here in Ōrākei over our two Treaty claims.  
20 Many of the families that were cast out around the whole country have come home and  
21 we've been getting to know each other again over the last 30 years. And surnames like  
22 Steenson that we didn't grow up with and didn't know, there's a few others like that as well.

23           But kei te ara ake anō a Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. Through our Treaty claims we have  
24 got back small parcels of land, we have an economic base, our kaumātua are well and  
25 thriving. A lot of my father's cousins got to 50 and they sadly passed away.

26           So, when our father, Dr Joseph Hawke, our Lord father, when he got to 50, we  
27 crossed over toes and our fingers because we thought well, you know, not many of our  
28 elders are getting to 50. So, through the grace of God dad turned 81 last year and mum  
29 turned 82 today, happy birthday mum. Now dad didn't change his diet, he doesn't take his  
30 medication, he eats what he likes, but he's lived, he's going to live another year just up the  
31 road here at the retirement village. He's going to see another year.

32           And the only thing us children can put it down to, apart from the love that he gets  
33 from his wife, is that when the land came back a whole lot of healing started. And that  
34 healing has, you know, there's nothing like standing on your own whenua, living on your

1 own whenua, working on your own whenua, playing on your own whenua and raising your  
 2 children on your own whenua. This has proven to be the secret well of life for our  
 3 kaumātua here in Ōrākei and they fought tooth and nail, they fought tooth and nail to regain  
 4 this small part of land which is only 97 acres. But we've seen what can happen to a people  
 5 when they stand up for themselves, when they make the Government accountable for its  
 6 wrongs, when we stand together and take a concerted approach to better our own lives and  
 7 our wellbeing.

8 When we were young, there might have been five kaumātua that spoke te reo Māori  
 9 in this kāinga, but they never spoke to us, you know, we were children to be seen and not to  
 10 be heard. That's how it was in our day.

11 Heoi anō, kei te ara ake anō te reo i roto i a mātou. There are about five of us, five  
 12 in this generation that have kua puta mai rātou i Te Panekiretanga o Te Reo. And it's  
 13 nothing short of a miracle, nothing short of a miracle, because they took everything from  
 14 us, they took the land, they burnt down our wharenuī, our kaumātua died, we lost our te  
 15 mita o te reo was lost.

16 But now that we've turned a corner, where our kaumātua are living longer, many of  
 17 us have the reo, many of us now know our whakapapa and so much more to learn, but as a  
 18 hapū we are moving forward to ensure that our wellbeing is at the forefront of who we are.  
 19 So for many years the survivors that are present today or watching this broadcast, you have  
 20 survived and most of it you've done on your own.

21 And us for one hapū, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, we're here to tell you today you don't  
 22 need to go through this on your own. We're here for the next two weeks to support you in  
 23 any way that we can, because we as a hapū, we know the importance of mana, tapu, mana  
 24 motuhake (maximum autonomy), whānau, whanaungatanga, (family, fostering  
 25 relationships), things that were taken away from you for far too long, for too many years  
 26 and you not having a voice, you not being listened to, nobody caring about you.

27 Tēnā pēa kei reira ētahi manaakitanga, kua tau ki runga i a koutou. But as a country  
 28 this is something that we all have to take responsibility of and ensure that the outcomes that  
 29 you require are provided to you through this Commission to the Government. And we are  
 30 one hapū that is evidence of having resilience and not backing down.

31 So, the taumahatanga that we may experience over the two weeks, I welcome it.  
 32 Let the heaviness be here, let it come here, let's deal with it. A muri mai me puta he  
 33 maramatanga, mai i te maramatanga ka puta he matauranga, mai tērā matauranga ka puta he  
 34 rongoā kia ora ai koutou, kia ora ai mātou, kia ora ai tātou katoa. (English: Afterwards we

1 must gain an understanding. From that understanding comes knowledge and from  
2 knowledge comes a remedy so that you can thrive and prosper and we also, an indeed  
3 everyone).

4 Heoi anō ra (and so in conclusion), we look forward to meeting you and hearing  
5 your evidence over the next two weeks. In the karakia this morning and in the whaikōrero  
6 this morning Atua were called on to be here in their many shapes and forms to clothe you in  
7 their mana, clothe you in their tapu, to give you strength and to give you comfort.

8 (E Tērā kōrero i waihotia mai e ngā tūpuna. Ma wai rā e taurima te marae i waho  
9 nei? Ko tāku kē, mā wai rā e taurima tēnei huihuinga. Mā te tika, mā te pono kia puta mai  
10 te pai hei oranga mō tātou katoa. Kei aku hōpara makaurangi, manu whakatau. Tau, tau, tau  
11 te mauri o tō tātou nei hui i roto i tēnei tā tātou nei tūpuna whare. Kei aku nui, kei aku rahi,  
12 tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā rā tātou katoa. Ka tangohia tētahi waiata paku nei, ka tukuna  
13 atu ki a koutou i runga i te aroha.

14 [English: those narratives that were left by the ancestors, who will tend to the  
15 courtyard outside and I say who will take care of this gathering. It will be done through  
16 justice, faith, so that positive outcomes can emerge -for all of us. To the noble leaders, may  
17 our life force, our mauri settle- upon our gathering inside this ancestral house, to everyone  
18 assembled, greetings. I will sing a short song and give the floor to you with love).-

19 ( Waiata: Māku rā pea, māku rā pea, māku koe e awhi e. I te ara, ara tupu. Māku  
20 koe e awhi e) Kia kaha mai tātou.

21 [English: Perhaps I will love you, embrace you, on the ever-growing pathway, I  
22 will embrace you. Perhaps I will embrace you in the pathway ahead, I will be here to  
23 embrace you. May we be strong.]

24 **MS WHAIPOTI:** ( E tipu e rea, mokopuna ki te ao hurihuri, ki te wao nui tangata. Nei rā he  
25 kākano, whakatōngia, whakatōngia, whakatōngia. Tēnā tātou katoa. Kua whakatuwhera  
26 tēnei hui o te Kōmihana.

27 [English: live and grow in this ever-changing world. You are a seed that was planted and  
28 sown, and you continue to be sown. Greetings one and all as we open this hearing of the  
29 Royal Commission). This hearing of the Royal Commission is now open.

30 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** Tēnā koutou katoa. Ko Rongomai ki runga, Ko Nukuroa ki  
31 raro. Ko te Kāhu pōkere e rere mai nā i te Maunga kiekietanga o te rangi. Ka tau ki te kei o  
32 Māhuhu e okioki nei. Ko Tumutumuwheua e tū nei. He hononga tipua, he hononga  
33 taketake ki Takaparawhau. Ko Tuperiri ki tērā taha, ko Apihai ki tērā taha. Koinei te taha ki  
34 ahau. Nā Tuperiri ka puta ko Whakaāriki. Nā whakaāriki ka puta ko Uruamo. Nā Uruamo

1 ka puta ko Aperehama. Nā Aperehama ka puta ko Poata. Nā Poata ka puta ko Titiata. Nā  
 2 Titiata ka puta ko Athur Povey. Nā Arthur Pover ka puta ko Nelda. Nā Nelda Steenson ka  
 3 puta ko au, ko Julia Steenson. Koinei te Ahi kā roa o Ngāti Whātua te muramura nei. Te  
 4 Kāhu tōpuni o Tuperiri. Nau mai, rarau mai, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, otirā tēnā tātou  
 5 katoa.

6 [English: As Rongomai stands above us, so too does Nukuroa rest below. The Kāhu pōkere  
 7 has made its journey from the pinnacle of Maungakiekie to now rest upon Māhuhu ki te  
 8 Rangi, our waka. This is the whare of Tumutumuhenua, our spiritual and indigenous  
 9 connection to Takaparawhau. As Tuperiri and Apihai reside within, so too do I here before  
 10 you with this connection. From Tuperiri came Whakaārīki and from Whakaariki came  
 11 Uruamo. From Uruamo came Aperehama and from Aperehama came Poata. From Poata  
 12 came Titiata and from Titiata came my koro, Arthur Povey, and from Arthur Povey came  
 13 Nelda Steenson and from Nelda Steenson came me, Julia Steenson. These are the eternally  
 14 burning home fires of Ngāti Whātua and our homeland within Tāmaki. With that I welcome  
 15 us all.]

16 (Waiata: He aha te hau e wawara, e wawara. He tiu, he raki. Nāna i ā mai te pūpū  
 17 tarakihi ki uta. E tīkina atu e au ki te kōtiu. Koia te pou, te pou whakairo ka tū ki  
 18 Waitematā. I ōku wairangi e, kōkiri!)

19 [English: What is that murmuring sound upon the north wind that cast my paper  
 20 nautilus ashore, which I plucked from the north wind and thus claimed. It as the carved  
 21 pillar that stands in the Waitematā harbour that I see in my distressed state. What is that  
 22 murmuring sound upon the north wind that cast my paper nautilus ashore and thus claimed  
 23 it is the carved pillar that stands in the Waitematā harbour that I see in my distressed state  
 24 advance.]

25 And before I pass to my fellow Commissioners, I'd like to mihi to you all for joining  
 26 us for this hearing online. It's not been easy during these uncertain times with Covid to  
 27 navigate how we can ensure that Māori survivors have their voices raised with the mana  
 28 they deserve, while also wrapping them safely in our tikanga. But with determination we  
 29 find ourselves here. So once again, I welcome us all to this hearing, Tō muri te pō roa, tērā  
 30 a Pokopoko Whiti--te--rā.

31 I'll pass to my fellow Commissioner Gibson who is here with me in the whareniui  
 32 today to introduce himself. Kia ora Commissioner Gibson.

1 **ō.COMMISSIONER GIBSON:** Nā Io ko te Kore, Nā te Kore ko te Pō. Nā te Pō ko te Ao. Nā  
2 Tāne i toko, ko Rangi ki runga, ko Papa ki raro. Ka pō, ka pō, ka ao, ka awatea, Tīhei  
3 Mauri ora!  
4 [English: the speaker is reciting whakapapa from the darkness, te Rangi, Papa. Behold, the  
5 breath of life.]  
6 Ki ngā mate, ā tātou mate. Ngā mate purapura ora, ngā mate tamariki, haere, e ngā mate  
7 haere. Haere ki te kainga tūturu. Haere, haere, moe mai rā. Rātou ki a rātou, tātou ki a tātou.  
8 [English: To our deceased and to those survivors who have passed on, farewell, farewell,  
9 return to the original homeland and I pay observations to the dead and the living.]  
10 Te Tangata whenua, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. Te Maungakiekie. Te Moana, Waitematā. Ngā  
11 tūpuna, tēnā koutou. Kōmihana, Julia, tuahine, tēnā koe.  
12 [English: To the local iwi, Ngāti Whātua o Ōrākei, and to Maungakiekie and the Waitematā  
13 harbour and your ancestors, I acknowledge you all and I also acknowledge you, Julia.]  
14 Ko wai, ko wai, ko wai tēnei? Ko Ngāti Wai o Taranaki tēnei. Me kī, ngā roimata o Rangi  
15 ki te maunga, maunga runga, te maunga tapu ki te awa Kaūpokonui, te awa Kāpuni ki te  
16 rere a Kāpuni. Ki te kainga, te pāmu, Kaponga. Ki te whare o te whānau Gibson. Ko Airahi  
17 rāua ko Kotimana ngā iwi. Ko Paula Gibson ahau.  
18 [English: Who is this? This is Ngāti Wai of Taranaki. The tears of Rangi fall onto the  
19 mountain. The pinnacle of the mountain, the scared mountain to the river of Kaūpokonui, to  
20 the river of Kapuni, the flow of Kapuni. To my home, the farm in Kaponga. The home of  
21 the Gibson family. Ireland and Scotland are my native lands. My am Paul Gibson.]  
22 It's an honour to be here today in the whare Tumutumuhenua, the site of a history  
23 in our lifetimes of the battles of colonisation, battles which have been hard fought and  
24 battles which have been won and there'll be more battles which are ongoing. And it's a  
25 particular privilege and fitting that the mana associated with the tūpuna, the people that have  
26 won and fought these battles, come today to protect us, to protect purapura ora, survivors,  
27 as they speak, and perhaps this is another step in the unwinding of colonisation, the battles  
28 against colonisation.  
29 It's a privilege for me to be here today in person at the marae. I'll be here for the  
30 next three days at the moment, for the moment, and then I'll be needing to return to Te  
31 Whanganui-a-Tara because of Covid-related reasons but will be tuning in throughout whole  
32 hearing. Nō reira tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa [English: So, greetings,  
33 thank you very much.]

1 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** Ngā mihi, Commissioner Gibson, (thank you Commissioner  
2 Gibson), it's lovely to have you here. I'll now join to the Chair of the Commission who  
3 joins us by live video link, Judge Coral Shaw. We can't quite hear you yet.

4 **COMMISSIONER SHAW:** E ngā mana, e ngā reo. Ki ngā karangatanga maha puta noa ki te  
5 motu, tēnei te mihi. Ki te mana whenua, arā ko Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, tēnā koutou. Nā  
6 koutou i āwhina mai i a mātou, ngā tāngata o te Kōmihana, mai i te tīmatanga o ā mātou  
7 mahi ki tēnei wā. Tēnei te mihi, tēnei te mihi.

8 [English: To the authorities, to the voices, to the people from across the country, greetings  
9 to the local iwi, the local people Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. Acknowledgments to you who have  
10 taken care of we, the people of the Royal Commission, from the commencement of our  
11 work to this time, I thank you, thank you sincerely.]

12 Ki a koutou, ngā purapura ora. Tēnei te mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa. Kia kaha, kia māia,  
13 kia manawanui ki a koutou. Tēnā koutou, ngā kaikōrero tokotoru. Te kaikarakia, Taiaha,  
14 tēnā koe. Koutou e huihui mai nei mā te ipurangi, tēnā rawa atu koutou katoa.

15 [English: I also wish to acknowledge the survivors and greet them warmly and urge  
16 them to be strong, to be brave and to be patient. I also want to acknowledge the three - the  
17 speakers and to you, Taiaha, acknowledgements and to everyone assembled who is joining  
18 remotely, I also acknowledge you.]

19 Ko Coral Shaw taku ingoa. Ko au te tiamana o te Kōmihana. I whānau mai ahau i  
20 Ōhinehou, kei te Waipounamu. Heoi anō, kei Waikato e noho ana ināianeī. Kei te huri ahau  
21 ki te reo Pākehā.

22 [English: My name is Coral Shaw, and I am the Chair of the Royal Commission. I  
23 was born in the Ōhinehou, South Island, however at this time I live in the Waikato. And  
24 now I turn to speak in English.]

25 Warm greetings to you all. But especially to the survivors of abuse in care who are  
26 joining us over the next two weeks to share their experiences and to all of those survivors  
27 who are watching live or even on the delayed transmission. I'm Coral Shaw, I'm the Chair  
28 of the Royal Commission into Abuse in Care.

29 This important hearing gives the opportunity for Māori survivors at last to tell  
30 Aotearoa New Zealand their accounts of abuse and neglect while they were in care and for  
31 this reason, it's appropriate that our two Māori Commissioners, Steenson and Erueti lead  
32 this hearing. My role for the next two weeks is to support them, but most importantly it is  
33 to listen and to learn from ngā purapura ora, Māori survivors as they speak to their own

1 unique experiences, their reflections and their insights, particularly from a Te Ao Māori  
2 perspective.

3 Thank you pou tikanga Taiaha for your powerful opening submission which has  
4 really highlighted the vital issue that lay before us from the perspective of Te Ao Māori.  
5 You have set us in the right direction. Tēnei te mihi, tēnei te mihi, tēnei te mihi. [English:  
6 I thank you, I thank you very much].

7 It's fitting that this hearing is located in a marae and in this beautiful whare  
8 Tumutumuhenua, and that kawa and tikanga is observed to make sure that all survivors  
9 and all involved are spiritually safe. It is so sad we can't all be together in one space, but  
10 we must be grateful to the wonders of technology, but especially to the good grace and  
11 hospitality of Ngāti Whātua that I'm sure will make this unusual situation as comfortable as  
12 possible for all of us who are participating. Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā rā koutou katoa.  
13 Kei a koe Julia. [English: So, thank you all very much, it is back to you Julia].

14 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** E mihi ana Judge Shaw (thank you Judge Shaw). I'll now turn  
15 to Commissioner Alofivae to introduce herself.

16 **COMMISSIONER ALOFIVAE:** E mihi ana ahau ki te Matua nui i te rangi. Nāna nei ngā mea  
17 katoa. Ki ō tātou tini mate, haere koutou, haere koutou, haere koutou. Te hunga mate ki te  
18 hunga mate. Te Hunga ora ki te hunga ora. E ngā kārangaranga maha, e ngā reo, rau  
19 rangatira mā, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

20 [English: I want to acknowledge our Lord in heaven who is the creator of all things. To our  
21 dead, I bid thee farewell, and we pay observation and respect to the dead and to the living,  
22 to the people and voices from across the country, greetings to you all.]

23 Tēnei te mihi ki te tangata whenua o tēnei rohe, o Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. Tēnā koutou katoa.  
24 E mihi ana ki a koutou i tūkinotia. Mō tō koutou kaha, tō koutou māia i tēnei wā. Ngā mihi  
25 nui ki a koutou. Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.

26 [English: I want to acknowledge the home people of this area, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, and I  
27 also want to acknowledge those who have been abused and I acknowledge your strength  
28 and your courage at this time. I want to greatly acknowledge you all and so thank you,  
29 thank you all very much.]

30 Talofa lava, I am Sandra Alofivae, I am of Pacific descent but Samoan Chinese to  
31 be precise. It's a real honour and a privilege to be able to join online to support the voices  
32 of our Māori survivors who are so critical to this Inquiry. I too want to add my voice and  
33 my support and my gratitude and my thanks to the whaikōrero that have gone on this

1 morning. Thank you for laying the foundation, thank you for bringing the reality as we  
2 stand together to hold the tension and the fragility of our survivors and our nation.

3 So, for next two weeks I'll be joining you online and it's a real,- there's a lot of  
4 humility that it's taken to bring this hearing together and I want to echo the words of  
5 Taiaha, our- whaikōrero, to our survivors who are speaking up, thank you for bringing the  
6 power of your voice. Thank you for bringing and shining the light on something that has  
7 long been hidden and not well understood. Manuia.

8 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** Tēnā koe Commissioner Alofivae (thank you Commissioner  
9 Alofivae). Ka tahuri atu ki a koe te Heamana takirua (and now turn to you, the Chair,  
10 Deputy Chair). And now over to the co-Chair of this hearing, Commissioner Anaru Erueti  
11 who is joining us by live video link.

12 **COMMISSIONER ERUETI:** Tēnā koe Heamana. E te kaikarakia, tēnā koe e kawea nei i te  
13 taha wairua. Ki te whare, Tumutumuhenua, tū tonu mai rā. Ka whakaaro atu ki a rātou  
14 kua mene ki te pō. E ngā mate, haere, moe mai rā, moe mai rā. Ko tātou anō, ngā  
15 waihotanga o rātou, kia ora anō tātou te kanohi ora. Ngāti Whātua ki Ōrākei, te mana, te  
16 wehi, te ihi, tēnā koutou me ngā manaakitanga.

17 [English: Thank you to the person who conducted our prayer and addressed the spiritual  
18 dimension to the ancestral house Tumutumuhenua which continues to stand and endure.  
19 I pay respect to those who have passed on to everlasting night and to our deceased rest in  
20 peace. We are the legacy of the ancestors and so I acknowledge the living, to Ngāti  
21 Whātua Ōrākei, you hold the mana and I thank you for your care.]

22 E mihi ana ki a koutou ngā purapura ora. Koutou i whakauru mai, koutou e mātakitaki mai  
23 ana, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

24 [English: I also want to acknowledge the Māori survivors who are participating and  
25 watching, greetings, greetings.]

26 Ko Anaru Erueti tōku ingoa, nō Taranaki. Taranaki te maunga, ko Ngā Ruahine te iwi, ko  
27 Ngārongo te marae. Nō reira, tēnā koutou katoa.

28 [English: My name is Anaru Erueti from Taranaki. Taranaki is the mountain, Nga  
29 Ruahinerangi te iwi, Ngārongo is the marae and so greetings, greetings everyone.]

30 My name is Anaru Erueti. I want to first acknowledge Ngāti Whātua for graciously  
31 hosting us for the next two weeks, supporting us with your manaakitanga (hospitality).  
32 I also want to acknowledge all ngā purapura ora, survivors who are present or who are  
33 watching our hearing and those giving evidence over the two weeks. This is a significant

1 moment for the Inquiry. We've been waiting for this for a very long time. I'm very happy  
2 that we've finally started.

3 I wish I could be present today, but due to illness will have to wait out this week  
4 anyway, but I hope to join you all next week in presence at the marae. This hearing is  
5 significant not only so that we can explore in detail the harm, the abuse, and neglect that  
6 have been experienced by tamariki Māori, but also that we can think and reflect upon  
7 changes that could be made to ensure that tamariki, our tamariki in care now and in the  
8 future are kept safe, so I want to welcome you all, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa (greetings  
9 to you all).

10 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** Nga mihi mahana Commissioner Erueti (warm greetings to  
11 you Commissioner Erueti). And I just want to tautoko all of the comments this morning,  
12 particularly with regard to ngā purapura ora ( the survivors). It's important, vitally  
13 important, this hearing, and so nothing could stop us from making sure that we had the  
14 platform to hear the voices that are so urgently needed to be heard from Māori.

15 We'll now hear from Kararaina Beckett on behalf of our survivor advisory group.

16 (Video played)

17 **MS KAPUA:** "My name is Prue Kapua. I am currently the Chair of the Taumata which was  
18 established to support the Royal Commission of Inquiry".

19 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** Aroha atu, we're going to try that again and bring up  
20 Kararaina. Just bear with us for a moment.

21 I might just take this moment to, I might just take this moment, while we have a  
22 moment, to let you know that in this wharenuī we have myself and Commissioner Gibson,  
23 we also have Counsel Assist sitting opposite us and we have- haukāinga kaumātua in the  
24 wharenuī and tech people, we have a lot of tech people, and we have also our translators  
25 and our sign language people, and we have our- Māori sign language,- sorry-, Māori  
26 interpreters who are turning it into English so that they can sign language.

27 So, there's a lot going on behind the scenes, so I just want to mihi to them as well,  
28 but say thank you to you for your patience while we work through the issues if we have  
29 them in the next couple of weeks. I think we're ready to go now, so let's go now. Of  
30 course, it's so important to hear from our survivor advisory group, from Kararaina Beckett.

31 Now we have the picture but we're going to work on the sound, and I think we're  
32 good to go, so thank you once again. Here we go.

33 (Video played).

1 **MS BECKETT:** Ko Taiarahia te maunga, ko Ōhinemataroa te awa, ko Te Rewarewa te marae, ko  
2 Te Māhurehure te hapū, ko Tūhoe te iwi, ko Kararaina tōku ingoa.

3 "[English: Taiarahia is the mountain, Ōhinemataroa is my river, Te Rewarewa is my  
4 marae, Te Muhurehure is my hapū, Tūhoe is my iwi, my tribe and my name is Kararaina.]

5  
6 I'm on the Sage survivor advisory team and we're there to advise the Commissioners  
7 and we're kind of like watchdogs to make sure that everything runs smoothly and, yeah,  
8 how they can engage with survivors and that. The Māori hearing is very important and the  
9 most important part of the Inquiry because of the high number of Māori that were taken  
10 into care, yeah, just needs to be out there and something done to stop it from happening to  
11 other children, because it's still happening. It's not good for whakapapa.

12 Interviewer: What is your message to witnesses who'll be sharing their experiences  
13 at the hearing?

14 Kararaina: I'm very proud of them and I'll say kia kaha (be strong) to them. I'll be  
15 watching in support, and I wish I was there with them, yeah, it's such a really good thing  
16 that they're doing because it's helping future tamariki and it's helping break the cycles of  
17 colonisation as well.

18 This hearing is a historical thing of dealing with the justice of our tamariki Māori  
19 being taken in the past for many years, and it's something that a lot of people don't know  
20 about, and it's important that they know the stories so there can be something done about  
21 it."

22 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** Tēnā koe (thank you) Kararaina i tō kōrero (for your  
23 contribution). So now we will hear from Prue Kapua on behalf of Te Taumata. Can we  
24 hear from Prue?

25 (Video played).

26 **MS KAPUA:** "Ko Prue Kapua tōku ingoa (my name is Prue Kapua). I am currently the Chair of  
27 the Taumata, which was established to support the Royal Commission of Inquiry. Most of  
28 New Zealand has heard the statistics. They've heard the numbers and it's an impersonal  
29 way to know that Māori were such a large part of this abuse in terms of what they suffered.

30 I think that if people are going to properly understand the experience for Māori,  
31 they need to have heard the stories from those who lived through it. They need to also be  
32 able to understand how whānau felt, they need to, I hope, be encouraged to look into this a  
33 lot more deeply. Because if we look at the status of Māori in this country, we look at  
34 people who raise issues about we are just part of a number of groups. Hopefully this

1 evidence with their investigation further will show that the damage that's been done to  
2 Māori as a result of these kinds of actions, I mean they occurred to Māori because we were  
3 the indigenous people, they occurred to us because of colonisation and people need to  
4 understand that, they need to understand the damage and the issues and why we need to  
5 address that now.

6 And that's what I hope people will put together the parts of this abuse and this  
7 racism and look at it in the context of what Māori are looking for today and why we should  
8 be addressing that right across the board. And so, I hope that listening to this, hearing these  
9 stories will awake and that in people.

10 Interviewer: What is your message to witnesses who will be sharing their  
11 experiences at the hearing?

12 Prue: My personal message is one of gratitude. While the opportunity to hear their  
13 stories and to hear their pain is not something that will be easy for them to relive  
14 experiences, but to know that they're doing that in the interests of ensuring that this doesn't  
15 happen to our tamariki and rangatahi again in the future. And while we should all admire  
16 the courage and the strength that they are showing to be able to share their stories, we also  
17 need to acknowledge that it's a painful experience for them to go through and that they're  
18 having to relive experiences that are things that should never have happened here in  
19 Aotearoa."

20 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** E mihi ana ki a kōrua i te kōrero kua puta mai. E tika ana kia  
21 tīmata tēnei nohoanga ki te reo o ngā purapura ora, otirā ki ngā rangatira o te Taumata.

22 [English: I want to thank you both for your kōrero that you have shared, and it is  
23 appropriate that we begin with the sitting with this hearing with the voices of the survivors  
24 of Te Taumata.]

25 Thank you for those messages. It's absolutely right that we begin with the hearing  
26 by hearing from our Royal Commission survivor advisory group made up of survivors, and  
27 also from our rangatira of Taumata from the Royal Commission Māori strategic advice  
28 group.

29 We'll now hear from Te Ahureinga o Te Aroha Kapa Haka.

30 (Video played).

31 (The kapa haka group is performing an ancient chant of the local people).

32 **COMMISSIONER STEENSON:** Rawe (wonderful), atuaahua tamariki (beautiful from the  
33 children). We're going to hear from Te Ahureinga o Te Aroha Kapa Haka throughout the  
34 lunch breaks if you want to see more of them, I'm sure you do, we all do.

1                   So, ka tahuri atu ki ngā rōia, he tuku kōrero whakatūwhera. Tuatahi, te mangai mō  
2 ngā rōia a āwhina ana i te Komihana.

3                   [English: We now turn to the lawyers who will be giving opening submissions, who  
4 are assisting the Commission.] We'll now turn to the opening statements from counsel.  
5 First, Counsel Assisting from the Royal Commission, kei a koe te wā Ms Julia Spelman  
6 (English: you have the floor Julia Spelman).

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