

**Adult and Community Education (ACE)  
Conference Wellington 2021**

Organised by



KIA TU  
KAHIKATEA

# Kei te Pohewa Anotia

## Re-imagining ACE



Tertiary Education  
Commission  
Te Amorangi Mātauranga Matua

**15-16 Pipiri 2021**

**15-16 June 2021**

### Venue

**Te Wharewaka  
o Pōneke**

2 Taranaki St,  
Wellington

[aceaotearoa.org.nz](http://aceaotearoa.org.nz)





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## Theme

The 2021 ACE Conference will be an opportunity to reflect on the impact of recent events and re-imagine our future as education innovators. The conference will showcase some of the sector's most cutting-edge leaders and visionaries as well as making space for participants to share their personal visions and consider how they might achieve those visions.

## Logo

The Conference logo with the phrase *Kia tu kahikatea* makes reference to the White Pine or Kahikatea forests that grow on frequently flooded, swampy ground. To survive the flooding, the roots and trunks of these trees are inter-twined for support so the trees are not easily pushed over – a wonderful image for the ACE sector in which support and working together for the greater good are highly valued.

## Pōwhiri

Participants attending the 2021 ACE Conference will be following the **pōwhiri** process that observes the **kawa** (protocol) of **tangata whenua** (local people).

- 1. Manuhiri** (visitors) are to gather near the registration area at Te Wharewaka. ACE Aotearoa team members and Board will be there to meet you. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the pōwhiri to receive instruction on the proceedings. All mobile phones should be turned off at this time, and food or drinks discarded.
- 2. Kaikaranga** (local host female caller) begins the pōwhiri with a **karanga** (call) to welcome you. The **manuhiri kaikaranga** (visitors' female caller) will reply and lead you into the **wharenui** (venue). **Wahine** (women) are required to lead at the front of the procession, and **tane** (men) to follow behind. The karanga exchange will continue as the group moves forward, acknowledging those who have passed away and extending the welcome to the group. Please move as a group staying close behind the **manuhiri kaikaranga** (visitors female caller).
- 3. Hongi** is where two people gently press noses together, an action that symbolises a connection of the breath of life. It demonstrates that the manuhiri has been accepted into the wharenui in peace. You may **hariru** (shake hands) if appropriate, generally follow the lead from the local hosts. You may acknowledge tangata whenua by saying 'Tēnā koe' followed by their name if it is known. After the hongī, make your way to your seat and remain

standing. Please note that men are required to sit at the front, and women behind.

- 4. Karanga whakatau** – after this final call of welcome, you may be seated.
- 5. Whaikōrero** (male speaker) from the local host will welcome you. It is usual to start with a **karakia** (spiritual acknowledgement or focus statement). They will also acknowledge the **kaupapa** (purpose) for the event. A **waiata** (song) will follow each speaker to enhance and support what has been said. The opportunity to speak is then handed over to respond. The whaikōrero is concluded by the local host.
- 6. Whakanoa** is the process of removing the sacredness in the formalities of the ceremony, by sharing **kai** (food) with each other. This process will conclude the formal welcome.

## Hongi and Hariru Guidelines

As you are about to hongī and hariru with a person say "Tēnā koe" then, shake hands using your right hand, lean forward, lift the face, touch the forehead of the person you will hongī with (this will allow your nose to lightly press the nose of the person you are greeting). The hongī is a gentle pressing of the nose, not a rubbing from side to side.

The term used when greeting someone for the first time is "Tēnā koe" phonetically pronounced:

"te"	as in	ten
"na"	as in	na...sty
and		
"ko"	as in	c...aw
"e"	as in	e...nd



## ACE Conference Organising Team

**Analiase Robertson** Director ACE Aotearoa

**Vivienne Reti** Administrator

**Mary Gavigan** ACE Aotearoa Conference Project Management & Communications

**Jo Lynch** ACE Aotearoa Newsletter Editor

**Tai Samaeli** Project Manager

**Kenzo Bui** Finance Manager

## Photographic Services

Our conference photographer, Jo Moore will be taking photographs throughout the conference. These photographs will appear on the website and may be used in publicity materials. If you do not wish to have your photograph taken, please let Jo know.

## Video

Our videographers from Big River Creative will also be at the conference capturing imagery for use on our ACE Aotearoa social media channels. If you do not want to be videoed, just let them know.



## Snapshot of the ACE Sector in Aotearoa

Adult and Community Education is offered through schools, specialist non-government organisations such as Literacy Aotearoa and English Language Partners New Zealand, some Polytechnics, Rural Education Activities Programmes, continuing education departments of universities, Workers Educational Associations, private training establishments, work places, health and social service organisations, community centres, unions, marae and other hapū/iwi and Māori organisations, as well as through a very large number of community-based, faith-based and cultural groups and organisations.

These activities are funded through a variety of government and philanthropic sources. The Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) funds approximately 300 ACE providers and accounts for just over half of all the funding flowing to adult and community education.

Because of the diversity of adult learning on offer in Aotearoa and the way it is delivered in communities, it is difficult to accurately determine how many learners might be engaged at any one time. However a recent survey which asked ACE Aotearoa members to provide data on their learners and the range of learning offered by their organisations, indicated that over 64,000 learners were engaged in over 7,000 programmes. This is a conservative estimate only but shows that lifelong learning is alive and well in Aotearoa.

## Our Conference Partners



**Tertiary Education  
Commission**  
Te Amorangi Mātauranga Matua



## **Kaiwhakahaere Master of Ceremonies**

### **Pale Sauni**

Pale returns to our conference as MC bringing the magic and the music we look forward to every year. Pale has worked with Pasifika and Māori in the education space for over thirty years and is an ACE Aotearoa Board member. He is also lead facilitator for the ACE Aotearoa Capability project in Auckland and Northland and Pasifika Advisor to Ako Aotearoa. A regular at the ACE Conference, Hui Fono and other key ACE events, Pale is a highly skilled facilitator with a deep knowledge of the sector and a unique style which follows the principle “if you’re not having fun, you’re not learning.”





## Ngā Kaikōrero Speakers



### Hon Chris Hipkins

Chris Hipkins is Member of Parliament for Rimutaka. He is the Leader of the House, COVID19 Response Minister, Minister of Education and Minister of Public Service.

Chris passionately believes that every New Zealander deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential in life. He is a staunch advocate for and defender of our public education system and believes that a free, quality education is the right of every child.

Chris has worked in both the public and private sectors. He completed a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Politics and Criminology at Victoria University and after completing his study worked in the industry training sector. Before becoming an MP he also worked at parliament, first as Senior Advisor to two Education Ministers and later in the office of the then Prime Minister Helen Clark.

Chris entered Parliament in 2008 and became the spokesperson for Education at the beginning of 2013. He places a strong emphasis on social justice and believes that every New Zealander should have the opportunity to reach their full potential.



### Judge Andrew Becroft

Judge Andrew Becroft has been in the role of Children's Commissioner since 2016. Prior to his appointment he was Principal Youth Court Judge. He has had a long and distinguished

career in the law having practised in Auckland with the firm Fortune Manning & Partners, assisted with the establishment of the Māngere Community Law Centre and worked as a criminal barrister in South Auckland until his appointment to the District Court bench.

Judge Becroft is a gifted communicator and in 2009 received an award from the Public Relations Institute of New Zealand for Communicator of the Year. In 2010 he was the recipient of a Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Auckland and in 2018 was the winner of the Public Service Category at the Wellingtonian of the Year awards for helping vulnerable young people as Children's Commissioner.

Judge Becroft is a passionate advocate for children and youth in Aotearoa and is strongly committed to a specialist approach to dealing with youth offenders. His background and experience have given him a deep understanding of the complex environments in which children and young people are growing up and the challenges faced by their families. He is explicit in his view about how those challenges need to be met and at the conference will share his vision for families in Aotearoa and the practical steps we need to take to achieve that vision.

## Ngā Kaikōrero Panelists



### Rachel Karalus

Rachel Karalus is the chief executive of K'aute Pasifika Trust. K'aute Pasifika Trust is a charitable trust providing

health, social, education and other wellbeing services to people from all backgrounds using Pacific models of care.

Rachel's background is in law and she practised as a litigation lawyer for many years in Auckland, Wellington and in the Waikato Region. Rachel is currently a member of the board for Child Matters (a charitable trust providing education, advice, support and advocacy for the prevention of child abuse), Habitat for Humanity Central, Pacific Business Trust (an economic development agency supporting Pacific businesses), and St Joseph's Primary School, Hamilton.

Rachel is of Samoan descent with strong roots in the Waikato and Taranaki Regions. She lives in Hamilton with her husband and her three young boys.



### Ronji Tanielu

Ronji is of Samoan/ Tokelauan heritage. He was born in Apia, Samoa and raised in Mangere, South Auckland. He

works as a lawyer and advisor for the Social Policy and Parliamentary Unit of the Salvation Army, working in advocacy and policy around justice reform, addiction services, welfare reform, housing, youth and children and NGOs. Ronji would never call himself a researcher or academic. His job is to be as positively disruptive and troublesome to politicians, bureaucrats, and other stakeholders as is possible.

Ronji Tanielu, is married to Rabena, and together they have worked as self-funded missionaries in over 30 countries, working with persecuted Christians, business as mission projects, sex trafficking and local orphanages. Viiā le Atua i mea uma!



### Peter Foasese

Peter Clinton Foasese is a youth worker, community educator, and the current South Pacific Executive Council

Member for the Asia-South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE). He works for the New Zealand Office of the Children's Commissioner as a community and young person's engagement specialist. He is dedicated to supporting marginalised young people and their families to find/use their voice to transform their situations and the system. He has also worked as a youth worker with 'Whakaoho' and 'Pacific All Stars' – initiatives created and led by youth with family and community. Peter is a recipient of an ACE Aotearoa Award and with Melissa Lama has been running citizenship workshops for the sector.



## Melissa Lama

Melissa Lama, is a community advocate based in Dunedin with a strong community profile, in advisory and

representative roles for youth, government and democracy education, health and education matters. She is a graduate of the ASPBAE Basic Leadership Course and has been a Board member of the PYLAT Council – Pacific Youth Leadership and Transformation in Ōtautahi (Christchurch), an NGO working across education and health sectors, supporting Pacific young people to participate in democracy and access leadership opportunities. Melissa is a member of the Muslim Community Reference Group, part of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Christchurch Mosque attacks. She established a Pacific women’s network in Dunedin, under the P.A.C.I.F.I.C.A (Pacific Allied Council of Women Inspires Faith Ideals Concerning All) NGO for Pacific women and their families. Melissa works in the public sector and is studying for a Masters of Business Administration.



## Julia Milne

Julia is founder of Common Unity Project Aotearoa which began as a pilot project in the Hutt Valley in 2012 to explore

the idea of community partnership as a way of celebrating strengths and addressing common challenges. Julia has a vision for an Aotearoa where all children are treasured and have equal opportunities for health and participation.

Since its establishment Common Unity has grown to include urban kai farms, beekeeping, a sew good cooperative, sewing workshops, a kitchen, catering and more.



## Māhera Maihi

Ko Hokianga te moana  
Ko Ngātokimatawhāorua  
te waka  
Ko Te Tārai o Rāhiri te  
maunga me te marae

Ko Mangakahia te awa  
Ko Ngāpuhi te iwi  
Ko Ngāti Toki te hapū  
Ko Māhera Maihi tēnei

Māhera is a young dynamic Māori wahine who’s life mission is to change the world one Māori at a time. Māhera has spent eight years working in social services both in government and iwi spaces in Tai Tokerau and Tāmaki and is currently studying a Masters of Māori and Management. She is a very active member within her whānau, hapū and iwi. Māhera is a board member on her marae Te Tārai o Rāhiri, Co-Director of Ngāpuhi ki Tāmaki, founder of Mā Te Huruwharu Charitable Trust and a board member on VOYCE Whakarongo Mai.

Coming from a large family of seven sisters and three brothers and being raised in South Auckland by a gang member dad, she found but one formula to break the chains. Māhera is determined to contribute to improving Māori outcomes, restorative justice and creating a brighter future for the many generations to come.

## Te Rātaka Conference Programme

### Tuesday 15 June

<b>8:00 am</b>	Conference registration open <b>Gathering point for conference attendees</b>	Registration area
<b>9:00 am</b>	Gathering for mihi whakataua	Registration area
<b>9:15 am</b>	Mihi whakataua	
<b>9:45 am</b>	<i>MC welcome/announcements and morning tea</i>	Main space
<b>10:15 am</b>	<b>Judge Andrew Becroft</b> <i>Innovation in a post-Covid Environment</i>	Main space
<b>10:35 am</b>	<b>Panel 1. Community leaders sharing innovative thinking and practice. How can ACE foster diversity, community wellbeing, sustainability and prepare people for the work of the future?</b> Panelists: Julia Milne, Rachel Karalus, Ronji Tanielu	Main space
<b>11:30 am</b>	<i>Group response – what resonated with you and why?</i>	Main space
<b>11:50 am</b>	<i>Feedback</i>	Main space
<b>12:15 pm</b>	<i>Lunch</i>	
<b>1:15 pm</b>	Buses arrive for site visits	Main entrance
<b>1:30 pm</b>	Buses departing to sites	Main entrance
<b>3:30 pm</b>	<i>Afternoon tea</i>	
<b>4:00 – 5:00 pm</b>	<i>Feedback – how did your site reflect innovation or align with sentiments expressed earlier?</i> <b>Group photo</b>	Main space
<b>6:00 pm</b>	<i>Drinks</i>	
<b>6:30 pm</b>	<i>Dinner and Awards</i>	

### Wednesday 16 June

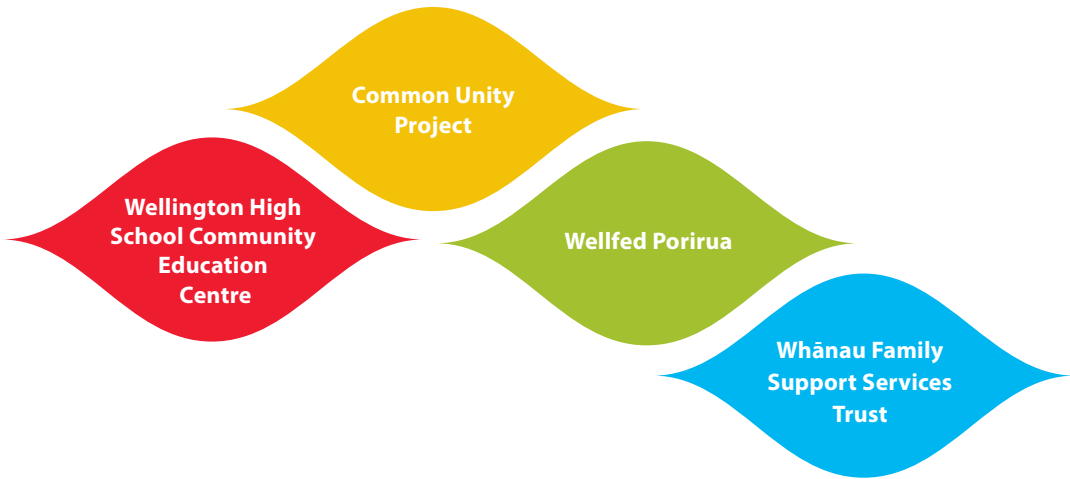
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Gathering</b> – announcements and introductions	Main space
<b>9:10 am</b>	<b>Panel 2. How can we prepare our youth for the uncertainty and challenges of the post-Covid world?</b> Panelists: Melissa Lama, Peter Foese, Māhera Maihi	Main space
<b>9:50 am</b>	<i>Groups – share a personal success story of innovation.</i>	Main space
<b>10:15 am</b>	<i>Morning tea</i>	
<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>Workshops</b> – choose one	All spaces
<b>12:00 pm</b>	<i>Lunch</i>	
<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Minister Chris Hipkins</b>	Main space
<b>1:30 pm</b>	Sector updates	Main space
<b>2:00 pm</b>	<i>Dot the Wall evaluation – five questions</i>	Main space
<b>2:15 – 3:00 pm</b>	<i>Poroporoaki afternoon tea and departures</i>	Main space

## Site Visits

**Tuesday 15 June**

**1:15 pm**

– choose ONE site visit



## Workshop Programme

**Wednesday 16 June**

**10:45 am**

– choose ONE workshop

Presenter	Workshop Title	Room
<b>Te Hau Winitana</b>	Ura (Cook Islands dance) as a storytelling, learning and empowerment tool in communities.	Te Puni
<b>Damon Whitten</b>	Learner agency in adult foundation level education.	Makaro
<b>Lynnette Brice</b>	Kare ā roto: a model for understanding and working with emotion in second-chance teaching and learning.	Matiu
<b>Sam Tu'itahi</b>	Kaipātiki Project – A community response to climate change and disaster capitalism.	Mokopuna

## Workshop Presenters and Briefings



**Damon Whitten**  
Developing learner agency in foundation level education.

*Damon is a specialist provider of professional development to the tertiary sector, focusing on adult literacy and numeracy. He aims to generate and connect research to real-world contexts using the results to develop effective teaching and learning approaches. His goal is to empower and re-engage adult learners with their dreams, passions and potential through numeracy and literacy education.*

Damon's presentation will explore strategies that you can share with learners to develop their learner agency. School is a wonderful place and time for some people, but as we know, many leave feeling emotionally beaten up and drained of their confidence to learn.

The learner agency project is designed to help such learners change the script, to become good learners, develop sharp thinking skills, and master the learning process.



**Te Hau Winitana (Ngāti Ruapani, Te Ati Awa, Kuki 'Āirani)**  
Ura (Cook Islands dance) as a storytelling,

**learning and empowerment tool in communities.**

*Te Hau is a performing artist, dance teacher, and choreographer of Pacific dance based in Lower Hutt. A graduate of Whitireia Performing Arts, Te Hau is a Director and co-founder of Pacific Group Ltd and Creative Director of Inano Dance Company and School. She has participated in many international dance projects and is an award-winning dancer of Ori Tahiti.*

In her workshop Te Hau will provide a practical introduction to the performing art of Ura, the traditional dance of the Cook Islands. It is told that the expressive communication methodology of Ura is closely connected to 'ori, Tahitian dance, and Hula, Hawaiian dance. Distinguished by drumming, Ura is an ancient form of storytelling and intergenerational knowledge sharing practice, through movement, costume, and lyrical poetry.

Te Hau will teach the basic technique and choreography of Ura and will reflect on her creative process, her teaching practice, her pedagogies as a creative director and teacher of traditional and contemporary Cook Islands and Tahitian dance. She will share her passion to use dance and movement as a storytelling empowerment tool in communities.



## Lynnette Brice

**Kare ā roto: a model for understanding and working with emotion in second-chance teaching and learning.**

*Dr Lynnette (Lynne) Brice is currently Manager, Learner Engagement and Success Services at Open Polytechnic with previous leadership experience in foundation education across a wide range of contexts, and in Teen Parent education. Having left school at age 15 and returning to education in her early 30's, Lynne is a passionate and scholarly informed advocate for adult learners re-engaging in education. Her expertise combines technological advances in education with planned positive human interventions that impact on student outcomes. Lynne brings a strong bi-cultural and multi-cultural awareness to all her advocacy work on behalf of adult learners and her recent research into the impact of emotions in second-chance teaching and learning breaks new ground in this field.*

In her workshop Lynne will present some of the findings from her recent research into the impact of the emotional experiences of kaiako and ākonga in second chance teaching and learning situations, and the model she developed as way of working with emotions in these settings: kare ā roto. The presentation is followed by a practical activity that allows participants to engage with the model in ways that reflect their own contexts.



## Sam Tu'itahi

**Kaipātiki Project – A community response to climate change and disaster capitalism.**

*Sam is a member of the Kaipātiki Project, an environmental hub which runs a thriving native plant nursery facilitating forest and stream restoration and promoting local food and zero waste initiatives. Sam builds relationships and engages with diverse groups in the community through sustainability workshops, and volunteering activities in the nursery, teaching garden or local reserves.*

Sam has had many community roles through education trusts Ako Mātātupu and Manaikalani, and has led pilot programmes for positive parenting and youth development.

In his workshop he will talk about his role at the Kaipātiki Project and guide participants in the development of their own goals and plans to implement programmes which address climate change and disaster capitalism.

## ACE Conference Site Visits

When you arrive at the conference registration desk, you will be invited to select ONE site to visit on Tuesday afternoon after the lunch break. Buses will transport you to your site where you will be hosted for around an hour. When you return to Te Wharewaka with your group, you will be asked to do a short presentation on what you discovered.

### Wellington High School Community Education Centre – Nigel Sutton

For over 100 years Wellington High School has been providing adult community education in various forms. The Community Education Centre is the largest ACE in Schools programme and offers over 600 courses in a huge range of subjects, serving over 7,000 enrolments annually. There are night classes, Saturday workshops, and daytime ESOL courses. While most courses are hosted at Wellington High School, some operate at different locations around Wellington. A team of 3.5 full time staff operates from a small office on the corner of the school car park, and between 130-160 tutors deliver the programmes. Nigel is looking forward to hosting you for a tour of the site with more useful information and inspiration than you imagine!

### WELLfed Porirua – Rebecca Morahan and Kim Murray

Rebecca and Kim started the community-led organisation close to five years ago because they discovered that many people in their community wanted to learn how to cook. Since then WELLfed has moved from a cooking class once a week for a small group of mainly Māori and Pasifika women, to an organisation with four day-time classes per week, over 50 volunteers and a large community garden, teaching over 300 Porirua East households how to prepare healthy, affordable meals. About 40 percent of those in their classes are Māori, 50 percent Pasifika, and 10 percent other or migrant. WELLfed provides skills, confidence, equipment and support for families to feed themselves well using basic, low-cost, seasonal ingredients.



## Common Unity Project – Julia Milne

Common Unity Project Aotearoa began as a pilot project in the Hutt Valley in 2012 to explore the idea of community partnership as a way of celebrating strengths and addressing common challenges. Founder Julia Milne has a vision for an Aotearoa in which all children are treasured and have equal opportunities for health and participation. Common Unity projects include urban kai farms, beekeeping, a sew good cooperative, sewing workshops, a kitchen, catering and more.

## Whānau Family Support Services Trust – Serenah Nicholson

The Learning Centre and Whānau Family Support Services Trust is based in Lower Hutt and aims to provide quality, accessible, non-judgemental services for families and individuals in need of literacy and budgeting advice, assistance and training. The trust has a long history of working with whānau in the Hutt Valley helping to boost the confidence of the whole community through respectful practice. The Trust believes that families are central to developing a kaupapa of lifelong learning.

Your host Serenah Nicholson has been working in the community learning and development space for many years and has a wealth of experience to share.





Conference programme design by



[aceaotearoa.org.nz](http://aceaotearoa.org.nz)