

Dr. Veronica Makere Hupane Tawhai Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Uepohatu

BIO



Dr. Tawhai is a mother of three from Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Uepohatu living on the lands of Rangitāne, Ngāti Kauwhata in the Manawatū. She currently works part-time as Associate Professor of Te Tiriti capability at Massey University in Palmerston North and part-time as a Te Ata Kura Educator delivering Tiriti o Waitangi workshops nationwide. She is a past recipient of the Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga scholar award and the Te Mata o Te Tau Academy for Māori research and scholarship award, which assisted with her PhD research in Turtle Island (USA and Canada), Hawai'i, Australia and Aotearoa examining best evidence-based practices in teaching and learning about Indigeneity and the implications for citizenship education in settler colonial societies. She is a founding member of Te Ata Kura (Society for Conscientisation), a life member of Te Mana Ākonga (the National Māori Tertiary Students' Association), and between 2012-2017 coordinated the *Matike Mai Aotearoa Rangatahi* project for the Independent Working Group on Constitutional Transformation led by Moana Jackson and Professor Margaret Mutu. Her academic, research and community work focuses on Māori political and constitutional education and engagement. Current projects she is undertaking include an introductory resource to settler colonialism in Aotearoa and a second edition of her co-edited work *Always Speaking: The Treaty of Waitangi and Public Policy*.

KEYNOTE

Crown psychological violence in Te Tiriti o Waitangi matters – me pēhea te manaaki i a tātau?

Despite significant progress in Te Tiriti o Waitangi-based developments nationwide, Treaty-relations remains a site from which Māori are subject to psychological violence from the Crown. Across a continuum of violent encounters this ranges from treaty settlements, that research reveals leave iwi negotiators “traumatised and disenchanting” (Mutu, 2018, p. 208), to ongoing Government interpretations of Te Tiriti’s text in policy and practice that reflect ideologies dehumanising of our ancestors and consequently ourselves. While historical acts of violence by the Crown are more well known, this keynote will examine the Crown’s current behaviour in Treaty-relations as one site of psychological significance for the health and wellbeing of our people.