

# Aide-Mémoire

## Meeting with Hei Āhuru Mōwai – Māori Cancer Leadership Aotearoa

**Date due to MO:** 31 July 2024

**Action required by:** 6 August 2024

**Security level:** IN CONFIDENCE

**Health Report number:** H2024045648

**To:** Hon Dr Shane Reti, Minister of Health

### Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
Nicola Hill	Deputy Chief Executive, Te Aho o Te Kahu   Cancer Control Agency	s 9(2)(a)
Sasha Webb	Director of Equity & Whānau-Centred Care, Te Aho o Te Kahu   Cancer Control Agency	s 9(2)(a)

### The following departments/agencies have been consulted

Health NZ | Te Whatu Ora – Public and Population Health (Prevention – Screening)

Ministry of Health | Manatū Hauora – Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui

### Minister's office to complete:

- |   |                                    |  |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved             | <input type="checkbox"/> Decline   | <input type="checkbox"/> Noted               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change         | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen      | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn |  |

Comment:

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<b>Date:</b>	31 July 2024		
<b>To:</b>	Hon Dr Shane Reti, Minister of Health		
<b>Security level:</b>	IN CONFIDENCE	<b>Health Report number:</b>	H2024045648

### About the Visit

<b>Purpose</b>	Hei Āhuru Mowai   Māori Cancer Leadership Aotearoa would like to meet with you to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>the work of their organisation</li><li>opportunities to improve Māori cancer outcomes.</li></ul>
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<b>Event/visit details</b>	<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 6 August 2024
	<b>Time:</b>	12:15 – 12:45pm
	<b>Venue:</b>	Minister's Office 6.6 EW, Parliament Buildings

<b>Attendees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Gary Thompson: Interim Chief Executive Officer, Hei Āhuru Mowai</li><li>Dr Nina Scott: Co-Chair, Hei Āhuru Mōwai</li><li>Dr Maxine Ronald: Breast Cancer Surgeon, Hei Āhuru Mōwai member</li></ul>
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<b>Organisation</b>	Hei Āhuru Mōwai is a national network of Māori cancer professionals, clinicians, researchers and whānau across Aotearoa. The NGO is committed to embedding rangatiratanga into cancer control, eliminating cancer inequities between Māori and non-Māori and accelerating hauora gains for whānau Māori.
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<b>Agency representatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Nicola Hill, Deputy Chief Executive, Cancer Control Agency</li><li>Sasha Webb, Director of Equity &amp; Whānau-Centred Care, Cancer Control Agency</li></ul>
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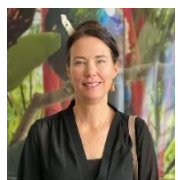
## Attendee Profiles



**Gary Thompson (Ngāti Paoa, Ngāti Hauā)** *Interim Chief Executive, Hei Āhuru Mōwai*

Gary is a founding member of Hei Āhuru Mōwai and widely acknowledged for his work in Māori development. He has been Co-Chair of the organisation for many years but recently stepped in as interim Tumuaki | CEO for the next 12 months.

Gary is a skilled facilitator and designer of kaupapa Māori solutions for a wide range of growth and development initiatives. He is also a Matamata-Piako District Councillor, Trustee of Pinnacle Midlands Regional Health Network Charitable Trust, Chair of Taumata Hauora (Māori advisory committee to Pinnacle Midlands Health Network) and Member of the Māori Monitoring and Equity Group for the National Cancer Screening Programmes.



**Dr Nina Scott (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Whātua, Waikato)** *Co-Chair, Hei Āhuru Mōwai*

Nina is a public health physician and researcher. She is the Director – Rangahau for the Hauora Māori Services Directorate within Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora (Health NZ). Nina recently took on the additional role of Interim Chief Medical Officer for the directorate as well, following the resignation of Dr Rawiri McKree Jansen.

Nina has extensive experience in national cancer control governance. She is a current member of the Te Aho o Te Kahu | Cancer Control Agency Advisory Council and chairs the Pae Whakatere (BreastScreen Aotearoa Review Committee).

Nina's Kaupapa Māori research work includes co-leadership of the [He Pikinga Waiora framework](#) for the Healthier Lives National Science Challenge; and leadership of the [Whānau Hauora Integrated Response Initiative](#) (WHIRI) projects.



**Dr Maxine Ronald (Te Kapotai ki Ngā Puhi, Ngāti Wai, Ngāti Hine and Ngāti Rangī)** *Hei Āhuru Mōwai member & Inaugural Breast Cancer Fellow*

Maxine is a general surgeon and the only wahine Māori consultant breast cancer surgeon in the world. She is an advocate for Māori health equity and increasing the Indigenous surgical workforce in Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia.

Maxine was previously a Clinical Advisor to the Hauora Māori Services Directorate within Health NZ and is the first Indigenous councillor at the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS). She is a member of multiple specialist groups including the Planned Care Task Force and Pae Whakatere (BreastScreen Aotearoa Review Committee).

Earlier this year, Maxine was named the inaugural recipient of the Breast Cancer Fellowship created by Hei Āhuru Mōwai | Māori Cancer Leadership Aotearoa, Breast Cancer Cure (BCC) and Breast Cancer Foundation New Zealand (BCFNZ).

## Background / context

1. Hei Āhuru Mōwai | Māori Cancer Leadership Aotearoa (Hei Āhuru Mōwai) is a national organisation which provides a safe space for Māori cancer specialists to come together, wānanga, and collectively address Māori cancer inequities. The organisation is focused on cancer research, system-level cancer issues and collaborating with Māori health leaders.
2. Hei Āhuru Mōwai currently has over 130 members, with membership doubling in the last 15 months. Its members include specialists in oncology, general medicine, public health, onco-surgery, wairua healing, health promotion, biomedical cancer science, mātauranga Māori cancer research, cancer screening, equity, haematology, pharmacology, advocacy, nursing, epidemiology and Māori health.
3. The organisation's key achievements within the last 12 months include:
  - supporting 20 Māori Health providers contracted to deliver Cancer Navigation services (funded via Health NZ)
  - securing hosting rights for the 2026 World Indigenous Cancer Conference in Aotearoa
  - establishing new communication channels to increase visibility and engagement with whānau, hauora Māori, public health and cancer control experts.
4. Last year Hei Āhuru Mōwai finalised its first Strategic Plan, which contains four priority goals and 20 key activities over three years. The goals are:
  - Māngai - To be the trusted expert voice for Māori cancer control
  - Rangahau – To establish an expert Māori cancer research unit
  - Mātauranga – To build and optimise our collective Māori cancer intelligence
  - Āhuru rourou – To build a fit for purpose and thriving resource filled whare.
5. Hei Āhuru Mōwai was fundamental in the development of Te Aho o Te Kahu | Cancer Control Agency (the Agency) and gifted the Agency its te reo name. The Agency works closely with Hei Āhuru Mōwai and understands that the topics below may be raised with you during the meeting.

## Possible discussion topics

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