



Matariki - Celebrations of the past and future

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Tēnā iwi o te ao, tēnā koutou

This month is very important to Māori as it heralds in our New Year ‘Matariki’ – allowing us to celebrate what has been and what lies ahead. It’s opportunistic in so many ways, allowing us to articulate and demonstrate our uniqueness as the indigenous people of Aotearoa/New Zealand.

As Patron, I want to acknowledge the leadership of our inaugural Chair, Professor Linda Nikora. Her skill and wisdom gave leadership that ensured *Te Mauri-Pimatisiwin* continued to provide accounts of indigenous research and narratives worldwide.

The Editorial Chair vacancy provided an opportunity for Professor Brendan Hokowhitu to step into this leadership position. In congratulating Brendan to this exciting role that will continue to deliver research and narratives from an indigenous perspective, I want to acknowledge Brendan’s *whanaungatanga* (connectedness) to Dr Patti LaBoucane-Benson that undoubtedly strengthens the whakapapa of *Te Mauri-Pimatisiwin*. Brendan shares some of his thinking in this issue, where he weaves and reflects on the past, present and future.

Te Mauri-Pimatisiwin has a very strong connectedness to the *Healing our Spirit Worldwide* movement. As a member of the organising community for the *Eighth Gathering*, which will be

held in Sydney, Australia, 26-29 November 2018: themed *Our Knowledge, Our Wisdom – Our Promise* – I hold the confidence that this will provide the opportunity to the Aborigine and Torres Strait peoples to showcase their culture worldwide. The *Gathering* will allow *Te Mauri-Pimatisiwin* to have a presence to the many peoples who are expected to attend.

The organising committee plans to launch the *Healing our Spirit Worldwide – the Eighth Gathering* website by the end of July 2017.

I am very proud of our team who manage *Te Mauri-Pimatisiwin* that ensures the wisdom and experiences of indigenous researchers and writers are maintained with integrity.

Ka hari Matariki ki a koutou - Happy Matariki to you!

Barry Bublitz

Patron

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