



# **Waikato-Tainui Group Audit and Risk Committee Independent Member**

**2025  
APPOINTMENT  
PROCESS  
CANDIDATE  
INFORMATION**

## **Introduction:**

Waikato-Tainui is made up of more than 94,000 iwi members affiliated to 68 marae from 33 hapuu. Our 2025 Annual Report and Q3 Report can be found [here](#).

Whakatupuranga 2050 involves three key elements fundamental to equipping tribal members with the capacity to shape their own future:

1. pride and commitment to uphold their tribal identity and integrity;
2. diligence to succeed in education and beyond; and
3. self-determination for socio-economic independence.

These three key elements recognise the importance of tribal history, maaatauranga (knowledge, wisdom), reo (language) and tikanga (custom, protocol), encourage a culture for success, and express Waikato-Tainui's commitment to develop and grow its tribal assets.

Te Whakakitenga o Waikato is the tribal parliament and authority of the Waikato iwi. It was set up to receive the 1995 Raupatu Lands settlement for grievances under the Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The Waikato Raupatu Lands Trust was established to receive cultural, commercial and other redress assets under the 1995 settlement. The beneficiaries of the Lands Trust are members of Waikato iwi, and the purpose of the trust is to promote the educational, spiritual, economic, social and cultural advancement of the Waikato iwi and its various hapuu in perpetuity.

Pursuit of additional grievance claims with respect to the Waikato River resulted in a Deed of Settlement signed in 2008. The Waikato Raupatu River Trust was established to pursue a range of general and specific purposes in connection with the Waikato River to benefit members of Waikato iwi and the Lands Trust in perpetuity.

Under the 2008 Deed of Settlement, the River Trust received defined parcels of land administered by Waikato Regional Council for soil conservation and river control purposes, 15 sites of cultural significance and the sum of \$50 million as a fund (the 'River Initiatives Fund') to support initiatives to restore and protect the relationship of Waikato iwi with the Waikato River (including its economic, social, cultural and spiritual relationships) and the protection and enhancement of significant sites, fisheries, flora and fauna in the lower reaches of the river.

The third trust is the Waikato Endowed Colleges Trust set up to develop, establish and maintain the Endowed Colleges (Waikato University and Auckland University) and the realisation of the vision of Sir Robert Mahuta in relation to the establishment of the Endowed Colleges.

The combined assets of the Group total approximately \$2.4billion. The investment portfolio is diverse and includes property, global equities, fixed income, natural resources, cash and settlement receivables. Tainui Group Holdings was appointed as the Chief Investment Officer of the Waikato iwi assets in January 2021.

## **Te Arataura**

Te Arataura is the executive body of Te Whakakitenga, comprising 11 members - 10 of whom are elected by Te Whakakitenga, and one of whom is appointed by the head of the Kaahui Ariki, Te Arikinui Kuini Nga wai hono i te po. Te Arataura is responsible for setting the strategic direction to achieve Whakatupuranga 2050.

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Current members of Te Arataura are:

Tukoroirangi Morgan  
Jackie Colliar  
Linda Te Aho  
Tori Ngataki  
Parekawhia McLean  
Craig Barrett  
Huirama Matatahi  
Hinerangi Raumati  
Vince Hapi  
Maxine Graham  
Brad Totorewa

Chair  
Deputy Chair  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Kahui Ariki Representative

**Group Audit and Risk Committee**

The Group Audit and Risk Committee assists Te Arataura in performing its responsibilities to oversee and manage financial and non-financial risk for Te Whakakitenga.

The Committee has three key areas of responsibility. These are:

- financial reporting;
- audit functions; and
- risk management and internal controls.

**Appointment of Group Audit and Risk Committee Members**

Members of the Committee, including the Chair, are appointed by Te Arataura.

The Committee must comprise no fewer than four members. At least two Committee Members must be members of Te Arataura. Elected Members of Te Whakakitenga are eligible for consideration and selection as members of the Committee.

The current members of the Group Audit and Risk Committee are:

Craig Barrett (Chair)	Te Arataura Member
Wayne Panapa	Independent Member
Tori Ngataki	Te Arataura Member
Jackie Colliar	Te Arataura Member

**Expectations**

Committee members are expected to:

- make themselves available to attend and participate in meetings;
- contribute the time necessary to study and understand the papers provided;
- apply good analytical skills, objectivity and judgement;
- express opinions, frankly, ask questions that go to the fundamental core of the issue and pursue independent lines of enquiry.

**Independent Member**

An Independent Member is an appointed member of a Subcommittee or Advisory Group who is not an elected Governor or Employee of Te Whakakitenga o Waikato. They are brought in for their skills, experience, and independence, adding valuable external expertise and perspective to the mahi.

While all applications are welcome, preference will be given to registered tribal members as we recognise the unique perspectives, knowledge, and commitment they bring to iwi-led governance.

### **Term of Appointment**

Three years.

### **Skills and Competencies Sought**

To be effective, the Group Audit and Risk Committee requires a balance of skills, experience, and perspectives to provide independent oversight of financial reporting, audit functions, and risk management across Te Whakakitenga.

In particular the Committee is seeking an Independent Member with proven expertise in risk management and internal control. This includes the ability to evaluate enterprise risk management frameworks, assess organisational risk registers, and ensure appropriate controls are in place to manage financial, operational, compliance, reputational, and strategic risks. Candidates will be able to interpret complex risk information, oversee responses to emerging risks, and provide assurance that Te Whakakitenga's risk-taking supports kaupapa Maaori outcomes and long-term tribal aspirations.

This opportunity is ideal for those committed to strengthening iwi governance and contributing to the protection and growth of tribal resources. We are looking for individuals who can fulfil the following.

- Attend committee meetings and special meetings as required.
- Participate as a vital part of the Committee body.
- Commit to understanding the Kiingitanga, Waikatotanga, and Whakatupuranga 2050.
- Bring experience in governance, audit, finance, or enterprise risk management.
- Apply analytical skills to scrutinise financial and risk information.
- Communicate effectively and balance cultural, community, and commercial considerations.
- Respect confidentiality and uphold the highest standards of ethics and integrity.
- Demonstrate connection to iwi, hapuu, and marae.

### **Time Commitment and Remuneration**

Over the next 12 months Committee members can expect up to six (6) three-hour meetings, a commitment of around 50 hours (including preparation time). In addition, there will be a small number of stakeholder meetings and some work resulting from those. Meetings are generally held at the Waikato-Tainui offices located in Hamilton.

### **Fees**

This is a paid position.

### **Indicative dates**

Candidates are asked to note the following indicative dates for this recruitment process.

Candidate search	26 September-17 October 2025
Interview shortlist confirmed	23 October 2025
Interviews with Committee	6 November 2025
Preferred candidate reference and background checks	10 November 2025
Recommendation to Te Arataura, appointment made	18 November 2025
Induction	December 2025 - January 2026