

Hui

New Zealand Nurses Organisation (NZNO) undertakes its work in accordance with te Tiriti o Waitangi, as reflected in its relationship with Te Rūnanga o Aotearoa (Te Rūnanga) to develop the organisations Tikanga policies. The purpose of this policy is to provide cultural guidance for the hui process.

Definition

A hui is an important part of Māori society. Traditionally this cultural gathering was held on a marae, the most important hui being a Tangihanga (funeral). Today alternative processes for holding hui outside the marae setting usually include a mihi whakatau welcoming ceremony instead of pōwhiri.

It is important for any NZNO or Te Rūnanga rōpū/group hosting a hui, meeting (either in person or by video conference) or conference, that correct tikanga is used. This includes welcoming new staff, members to a conference, meeting or specific occasion (such as Matariki, or International Nurses Day). This may involve:

Karakia is an opportunity to welcome attendees and open the hui/forum in a manner that acknowledges that we come together from many different paths for the collective good and ensures we have a united focus for the purpose of the hui/forum. The karakia could be presented as a 'thought for the day', poem, karakia, inspirational verse, prayer as is appropriate to the individual responsible for the delivering it.

Pōwhiri is the formal welcoming process for Māori hui that was traditionally held on marae. NZNO acknowledges this process and has chosen to conduct Pōwhiri only on marae, unless mana whenua determine otherwise.

Mihi Whakatau is the preferred process for opening an NZNO hui, welcoming new staff or conference particularly when held in a meeting room, NZNO offices, hall, other meeting space. There may be a need to seek advice from Te Rūnanga and/or Manawhenua to determine what process is required depending on the situation and implications for cultural responsiveness.

Poroporoaki is an opportunity to farewell the attendees and close the hui/forum in a manner that acknowledges the contributions made by all participants, and ensures that the achievements and challenges remain within the context of hui/forum. It enables all participants to leave and return to their everyday lives and includes safe travels. This could be presented as a 'thought for the day', poem, karakia, inspirational verse, prayer as is appropriate to the individual responsible for delivering it.

Manaakitanga: Te Rūnanga is responsible for leading Māori development for NZNO. Our role is to provide Manaaki to NZNO members and staff to ensure that tikanga is upheld and the mana of NZNO is maintained. For further advice and support regarding this policy please contact NZNO Kaiwhakahaere.

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Mission statement

NZNO is committed to the representation of members and the promotion of nursing and midwifery. NZNO embraces te Tiriti o Waitangi and works to improve the health status of all peoples of Aotearoa/ New Zealand through participation in health and social policy development.

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