

THE HONONGA TAKATĀPUI FUND: ENACTING THE OTTAWA CHARTER THROUGH TINO RANGATIRATANGA IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND (AOT/NZ).

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Background/Purpose:

Tino rangatiratanga (self-determination) is an important aspect of Tirohanga Māori (Māori Worldviews). Despite guarantees in Te Tiriti o Waitangi (The Treaty of Waitangi), settler colonialism disproportionately continues to negatively impact Māori wellbeing particularly for takatāpui (Māori LGBTQIA+) and in relation to sexual health outcomes. To make transformative change, tino rangatiratanga requires the devolution of power and resources to Māori, aligning with the Strengthening Community Action principle of the Ottawa Charter. These contexts motivated the establishment of the Hononga Takatāpui fund.

Approach:

To honour tino rangatiratanga, Burnett Foundation Aotearoa (BFA) developed Hononga Takatāpui, a contestable fund for kaupapa (initiatives) that supports takatāpui in their aspirations to mobilise, heal, transform, and decolonise; values emphasised in Kaupapa Māori Theory. It is the organisation's first example of co-governance in action, with applications approved jointly between Māori and non-Māori. The funding model is hightrust, recognising autonomous decision-making and leadership with, by, and for Māori. In a departure from our usual health promotion, our guidelines do not require kaupapa to have direct connections to HIV/STI prevention. Effective health promotion should meet communities where they are, and strengthening community action is equally important.

Outcomes/impact:

The fund is a successful enactment of tino rangatiratanga and has initiated meaningful and ongoing (re)engagement. \$90,000 funded 21 kaupapa in the last year across AOT/NZ, demonstrating the ongoing strengthening of takatāpui communities and identities.

Innovation and significance:

We have built significant relationships of trust with communities that continue to be underserved by Western public health services. It is rare in the sexual health sector that a non-Indigenous organisation would enact a reparatory community fund, particularly via a co-governance model seeking to mirror the fund's intent. This initiative directly resources and supports the strengthening of community actions for takatāpui peoples and embodies the understanding that a nurtured cultural identity is integral to flourishing wellbeing and equitable HIV/sexual health outcomes.

Conflict of interest statement:

The lead author is a track committee (prevention) member for the IUSTI conference.