



TE TIRITI O WAITANGI AND BICULTURAL RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

**He hōnore, he korōria ki te Atua, He maungārongo ki te whenua, He whakaaro pai ki ngā tāngata
katoa- Ruka 2:14**

Honour and glory to God, Peace on Earth, Goodwill to all people Luke 2:14

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to affirm that Te Kupenga acknowledges and actively supports the Church's commitment to tangata whenua and to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Our responsibility is to ensure that the principles underpinning Te Tiriti o Waitangi of *partnership, protection* and *participation* are upheld in the ways outlined below.

CONTEXT

The Te Kupenga Governance Board (the Board) recognises Māori as tangata whenua of Aotearoa New Zealand. It also recognises that the Church in Aotearoa New Zealand has a rich bicultural heritage, and that faith is lived and expressed within this cultural context.

COMMITMENTS AND ACTIONS

1. Te Tiriti o Waitangi underpins the relationship of foundational partners within Aotearoa New Zealand. Te Kupenga will respect the rights and obligations that are guaranteed by te Tiriti.
2. The principles of *partnership, protection* and *participation* which underpin Te Tiriti o Waitangi will be respected and will be linked with the principles of Catholic Social Teaching; *participation, common good, subsidiarity, human dignity, protection of the poor and vulnerable, stewardship* and *solidarity*.
3. Catholic Māori are a part of every aspect of the life of Te Kupenga.
4. The curriculum will include Māori traditional spiritual beliefs and practices as confirmed by Te Rūnanga o te Hahi Katorika o Aotearoa or appropriately knowledgeable and appointed Katorika Māori.
5. Resources and facilities of Te Kupenga incorporate partnerships with Māori educators and relevant professional development for staff is integrated into staff training opportunities.
6. The Board and staff acknowledge that the Māori world view is a fundamental dimension of contemporary Aotearoa New Zealand society.
7. An ethic is created in which a true bicultural partnership can take root and flourish.
8. Te Ao Māori is a dimension permeating the life of Te Kupenga research, publications, artefacts, language, teaching practices and relationships.
9. Te Kupenga will develop the capacity to acknowledge and respond to the expression of Māori values in its professional relationships and within Te Kupenga courses, in context-appropriate ways.

10. Te Kupenga will support education about te Tiriti and te reo Māori, and provide opportunities to learn Māori tikanga (customs and values), including as part of induction for new staff.
11. Te Kupenga will support in prayer and action any initiatives of tangata whenua to seek just solutions to the inequalities that exist, in particular where hauora (well-being) affects full participation in the services offered through Te Kupenga.

Approval & review

The Board is responsible for approval and review of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Bicultural Relationships Policy. The normal three-year review cycle applies to the policy.

Revised: 30 October 2020

Reviewed: October 2023

Next review: October 2026