

# Project report form

Mackenzie District



Creative Communities Scheme

All recipients of funds from the Creative Communities Scheme must complete this form within **two months** after their project is completed.

If you do not complete and return this form you will not be eligible for future funding through the Creative Communities Scheme.

Please return the completed form to:

**Mackenzie District Council**  
**P O Box 52**  
**FAIRLIE**

**Attention: Arlene Goss**

1. Project name: Waitangi Day Wananga Toi
2. Name of applicant: Te Whare Mahana Marae Committee
3. Location of project: Te Whare Mahana
4. Date of project: 6 Feb 2024
5. Amount received from the Creative Communities Scheme: \$ 1,400

6. Please give details of how the money was spent. Your contribution to the project and the Creative Communities Scheme funding you received must be accounted for.

4 x Kaiako koha inclu travel from Timaru/Temuka	\$ 1,000.
Koha for venue @ T.W.M.	\$ 150.
Photocopying, printing, advertising	\$ 50.
Resource; art supplies, dyes, tools	\$ 200.
Kai for manuhiri.	250.

7. Please provide details about the project or activities that were supported by the Creative Communities Scheme. Explain what was successful, and what didn't work so well.

Please see attachment.

8. Give a brief description of the highlights of your project, including the number of participants.

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9. How did your project benefit your community?

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10. What, if any, are the next steps (for your project, for you and/or for the people involved)?

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11. This report was completed by:

Name: Belinda Purcell

Address: 11 Rata Rd Twizel

Date: 25/03/24

Phone: 0221037562

Email: bin2p61@gmail.com

**7-Please provide details about the project or activities that were supported by the creative communities scheme. Explain what was successful, and what didnt work so well.**

The aim of the project was to honour & celebrate Waitangi day from a Te Ao Maori perspective for our Te Manahuna (Twizel) whanau & community.

Te Whare Mahana hosted a wananga which focussed on cultural arts including Raranga (weaving), Puraku (story-telling), Waiata (song).

Successful points were each participant, (most new to raranga), were able to have one on one time with kaiako, so everyone got to finish their own putiputi & basket.

We had a valued kaiako who could not attend due to family bereavement, we all participated in making a beautiful bouquet to acknowledge our kaiako & whanau with their sad loss

What didnt work so well was.....

Lack of response from community, would need to explore more advertising in future and also being a national holiday in the middle of the week had an impact on confirming attendance. last minute apologies from 1 Kaiako & 5 participants.

**8-Give a brief description of the highlights of your project, including the no of participants.**

We had three Kaiako Raranga (teachers) from Timaru/Temuka attend to share their knowledge with 15 participants. This wananga involved karakia to start our day, harvesting of harakeke (flax) & the tikanga (protocol) around this, acknowledging papatuanuku (earth mother) the puraku (handout on tikanga around harvesting harakeke)

Learning new skills, meeting with like-minded wahine (woman), sharing knowledge, it was a organic process with lots of korero & katakata (talking & laughing).

Te Whare Mahana was able to share with the participants our aroha, manaakitanga, wairuatanga, whanaungatanga (love, hospitality, spirituality, sense of community)

**9- How did your project benefit the community.**

It benefitted the community by giving the community an insight into maori arts & culture, demystifying what happens on a marae, confidence to experience another form of art & being able to participate hands on to learn & create their own unique piece.

Feedback of the day from participants was positive, and a great response to the idea of ongoing wananga....

**10- what, if any, are the next steps (for your project, for you and/or for the people involved.**

Feedback from participants was positive, and we would like to continue to have raranga throughout the year.

We would also like to explore other cultural art mediums that could be of interest to the community.

Te Whare Mahana would like to express our thanks and gratitude to the Creative Communities Scheme for giving us the opportunity to be able to share our Te Ao Maori world veiw and look forward to continuing an ongoing relationship with our twizel community.

Nga mihi nui,

Te Whare Mahana committee

TE WHĀNAU HARAKEKE



TE PAPA  
(AWHI RITO)

TE MAMA  
(AWHI RITO)

TE RITO

TIPUNA

TIPUNA

TAHANGA KI  
KŌHĀRI TE  
KŌHĀRI TE

TE PAPA

## Tikanga / protocols

There are many rituals to observe when working with Harakeke (Flax)

- Reciting a Karakia before harvesting the harakeke
- Cutting the leaves at the base of the plant
- The outer leaves are the Tipuna (ancestors); the inner leaves are the matua (parents) – the most inner leaf is the rito or pepe (baby). Only the tipuna can be cut. The matua are left to protect the pepe
- The rau (leaves or blades) are cut on a downward angle – away from the centre of the plant so that the water runs off and not into the plant
- Both sides of the plant are left balanced after cutting
- Women do not cut flax while they are menstruating or pregnant at this time they are in a state of 'Tapu'
- Harakeke is not to be cut at night or in the rain – a safety issue and it will affect the quality of the harakeke making it very brittle

## Tips for hauhake harakeke

Karakia before harvesting – English / māori

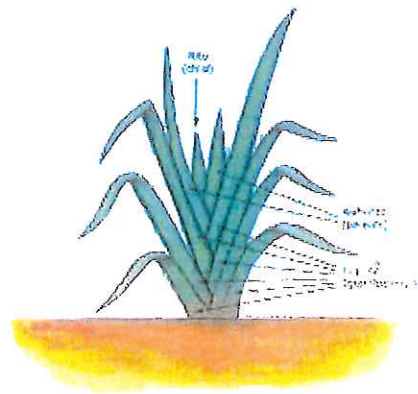
Clean up the plant as you go

- Taking out the dead leaves as you harvest
- This enables the plant to breathe
- Remove decaying and dead leaves as this harbours pests
- Take from the outside in – leaving the puku / the plant base balanced
- Take off butts/take at the plant and tie together in a bundle
- Always leave a clean and tidy plant

- Never cut leavers when korari (flower stalks) are growing – this effects the strength of the plant and the strength of the whenu
- Gather the pia – the juice that comes from the take for medicinal remedies

## Tips for preparation

- Size to size wanted
- Sort into lengths by getting bottom ends level – holding tops and shaking gently – this is called rui
- Soften with blunt knife/shell – once lightly on shiny side after dull side to straighten
- Tie into bundles of 10 or 20, tying at the top
- Boil in a roiling boil for 1 – 2 minutes depending on the flax
- Put into cold water
- Spin the water out – by spinning around in a circle
- Hang in a shaded cool place to store
- When using either spray with cool water and wrap for a half hour or so, or dip in warm water
- Whilst weaving when having a break lightly spray with water and cover with old towel to stop drying



You may wish to follow the Māori custom of gifting your first woven harakeke article to someone who you know will appreciate your achievement

All of these protocols are adhered to ensure that the Harakeke plant continues to flourish.

These tikanga invoke the concept of mauri; that all elements in the physical environment (including human beings) are related and mutually dependant.

# He Karakia ki a Hine-Te-Iwaiwa

Nā Nukū Takao 1998

Ko te Whiringā-ā-nuku

Ko te Whatu

Ko te Whakairo

Nāu rā e Hine, nāu mai e Hine

Ki te Wharepora

Ko te Whenua

Ko te Whakatipu

Ko te Whānaugatangā mai

Nāu rā e Hine, nāu mai e Hine

Ki te Whare Tangāta

Whakamaua te Tai Moana

Whakamaua te Ira Tangata

Whakamaua te Aho Matua

Whiri whiria, whatu whatu

Kia tina – tina

Haumi e Hui e Taiki e

Throughout the Stages of Weaving

From the first plait

To weaving fibre for kākahu

To placing the tāniko pattern

Hine-Te-Iwaiwa, our guardian

Come, be near us in the house of weaving

Through out the Stages of Pregnancy

From preparing the womb

To growth within

To the birthing of the child

Hine-Te-Iwaiwa, our guardian protector

Come, be near us in the house of procreation

Cause the tides to ebb and flow

Source the power to create new life

Weave us your sacred threads

Plaiting and Weaving Whitau

So it may be firm

To join, to gather and to unite