

University of Waikato

Curriculum Vitae

MATIU DICKSON

June, 2011

Personal Details

Name: **MATIU DICKSON**

Postal Address: 25 McCracken Avenue, HAMILTON.

Telephone Number: 07 856 1616(H); 07 856 2889 Ext 6351(W)

Date of Birth: 12 May 1952 at Tauranga.

Sex: Male.

Marital Status: **Married to Helen** with a family of six children aged 27yrs, 25yrs, 23yrs (twins), 20yrs and 14 yrs.

Nationality: **New Zealand Maori.** Raised by maternal grand-parents, Te Whana and Te Paeroa Tawhiao at Matakana Island. Maori speaker.

Hapu: Ngai Tukairangi and Ngati Tapu of Tauranga.

Tribal: **Ngaiterangi and Ngati Ranginui** of Tauranga with affiliations to Te Whakatohea, NgatiAwa and NgatiWhakaue.

Health: Good.

Community Involvement

- 1980 Returned to my tribal area, Ngaiterangi in Tauranga, after completing my secondary and tertiary education in Auckland.
- 1981 Co-Founder of the Te Matapihi Kohanga Reo.
- 1981-1989 Elected Councillor with the Mt Maunganui Borough Council. Member of Works and Planning Committees. Only Maori member for three terms.
- 1982-1988 Co-opted as a member of the Mt Maunganui College Board of Governors, (later the Board of Trustees).
- Government appointed Maori Member of the Bay of Plenty Legal Services Committee.
- 1993 Co-opted member of the Board of Trustees of Mt Maunganui College to oversee the establishment of the College Marae. Donor of College prize for the top student in te reo Maori.
- 1990-1992 Only elected Maori Councillor with the newly created Tauranga District Council representing the Mt Maunganui and Matapihi wards.
- Chairman of the Town Planning and Environment Committee overseeing the introduction of a new District Plan and the introduction of new legislation, the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Building Act 1991.
- Deputy Chair of the Hearings Committee in its quasi-judicial role.
- Member of the Finance and Corporate Policy Committees.

Liaison Councillor with the Maori Community concerning Waitangi Tribunal Claims and other Council issues affecting Maori.

1994 Ministerial appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees to establish the new primary Tahatai Coast School, Papamoa.

1995 Co-opted member of the Board of Trustees for Mt Maunganui Intermediate School for the selection of a new Principal.

1996 Moved to Hamilton to take up a position as Senior Lecturer-in-Law at the Law School, Waikato University. Enrolled LLM. Attracted to the Law School primarily because of its commitment to biculturalism in the law and relatively large number of Maori students and staff.

List candidate for the Labour Party List for the 1996 General Election; initially number 25 on the List.

Company Director of Aspen Holdings Limited. A major works construction company in the Western Bay of Plenty. A three year tenure.

1997 Appointed Pro-Dean Maori and member of the Law School Management Committee.

1998 Member of the Komiti Whakahaere and whanau for Te Kohanga Reo o Nga Kuaka, University of Waikato, Hamilton. Trustee of Hungahungatoroa Whenua and Marae Trust, and Umuhapuku Whenua Trust at Matakana Island.

1999 Chair of the Putea committee, Nga Kuaka Kohanga Reo, Hamilton.
Member of Hungahungatoroa Marae Executive Committee, Matapihi, Tauranga.

Member since 1991 to present of the Port of Tauranga Turirangi Te Kani Memorial Scholarship Committee for students of Ngaiterangi descent, Tauranga.

Member of the Whanau Support Group at Hillcrest High School, Hamilton.

Supporter of Rangimarie Kapa Haka cultural Group and tutor of school Kapa Haka, Hamilton. Judge of Senior Regional Kapa Haka competitions in Tainui and Mataatua.

Co-opted member of the Trust Board for the Patricia Street Special School, Hamilton.

- 2000 Chairperson of Nga Kuaka Kohanga Reo, University of Waikato. Chairperson Tihipuke Whanau Parent Support Group, Hillcrest High School.
Kaumatua for Hillcrest Primary, Berkley Intermediate and Hillcrest High School.
- 2001 Elected Deputy Chairperson and later Chairperson of Hillcrest High School BOT.
Deputy Chairperson of Te Runanga o Kirikiriroa Urban Authority;
Candidate for the Hamilton City Council elections.
Member of NZQA Panel for the review of a Masters Degree in Maori Law and Philosophy at Te Whare Wananga o Raukawa, assessor for the Degree.
Co-convenor for the Waikato School Trustees Association national conference in 2002.
Ministerial appointment to Review Committee of the Public Works Act 1981;
Board appointment to the Consumer Advisory Committee of Pharmac Board;
Contract Reviewer for Dispute Resolution Services, Hamilton;
Kapa Haka Judge for the Mataatua and Tainui Kapa Haka Competitions.
Chairman, Hillcrest High Board of Trustees.
Chairperson, Te Runanga o Kirikiriroa Charitable Trust and Urban Authority – to Present;
Board Member of Te Hotu Manawa Maori
Board Member of Te Kohao Health, Maori Health Provider
Cultural Report Writer for Family Court, Hamilton.

- 2010 **Appointed one of three Negotiators for the Ngaiterangi Treaty Claim.**
- 2011 **Reviewer of Tikanga Maori Programme, School of Maori and Pacific Development, Waikato University.**

Education

- 1957 – 1959 Matakana Island Primary
- 1960 – 1961 Matapihi Primary
- 1962 – 1964 Mt Maunganui Primary
- 1965 – 1969 Auckland Grammar School
- 1970 – 1976 University of Auckland
- 1977 – 1978 Auckland Teachers' College
- 1998 – 2000 University of Waikato
- 2002 Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, Certificate in Weaving.

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Arts (Maori III and Anthropology II), 1976
- Bachelor of Laws (Auckland University), 1976
- Diploma in Teaching and Teachers Certificate with Commendation (Auckland Teachers College), 1978
- Certificate in Weaving (Year One), 2000
- Master of Laws. (University of Waikato), 2000.

Career History

Title: **Teacher** - year one

Place: Grey Lynn Primary

Position: Teacher

Duties: Teaching children with English as a second language.

Title: Teacher - one year

Place: Mt Maunganui Intermediate School

Position: Teacher

Duties: Maori Language programme for the school, Itinerant teacher of Maori setting up te reo Maori programmes in five schools.

Title: Teacher – three years

Place: Tauranga Boys College

Position: Teacher

Duties: Teaching Maori and English, setting up programmes for slow Learners. Tutored the Kapa Haka for the Secondary Competitions and came an overall first placing.

Title: Tutor and part-time lecturer - two years

Place: Auckland University and Auckland Teachers College

Position: Lecturer and Tutor

Duties: Lectured in Maori and tutored Anthropology while still a student.

Title: **Barrister and Solicitor** - five years

Place: Messrs Murray Dillon & Co, Tauranga.

Position: Branch Solicitor and Associate at Mt Maunganui office.

Duties: Established the Branch office. General Practice.

Title: Barrister and Solicitor - one year

Place: Dowd Thomason & Co, Mt Maunganui

Position: Associate Solicitor

Duties: Continued as general practitioner in Branch office

Title: **Practitioner Sole** - seven years

Place: Mt Maunganui

Position: Barrister and Solicitor

Duties: General Practice, a third of work in conveyancing, a third in Criminal, Youth, Family and Maori Land Courts and a third in Estate Administration. A Court appointed (first in Tauranga) Youth Advocate and Counsel for Child (six years). Often called on by Tauranga iwi and Maori Organisations to informally mediate disputes or to act on their behalf pro bono. Past appearances before the High Court, a legal aid and duty solicitor, invited by community organisations to speak on legal topics, and Maori and the law. Appointed by Minister of Justice as Maori and lawyer representative, on the Bay of Plenty Legal Aid Committee.

Title: **Senior Lecturer-in-Law** - since 1996 to the present.

Place: Law School, University of Waikato, HAMILTON.

Position: Senior Lecturer
Chairman of School since 2009.

Duties: Lecturer and Convenor of the Legal Systems, Law and Societies and Maori Land Law. Lecturer in Legal Method, Criminal Law, Corporate Entities, Dispute Resolution, Mediation and Facilitation and Maori Resource Law. Judge of Mock Trials and Moots in English and Maori. Responsible with others for the teaching of Kaupapa Maori in various courses.

2003 Convened and taught new paper called Nga Tikanga Maori /Maori Customary law at law 4 level.

Master of Laws completed in 2000. Dissertation on the individualisation of Maori title and its effect on the Ngaitukairangi hapu.

Past Pro-Dean Maori of the School with responsibility for the recruitment of Maori students and overseeing their progress through their legal studies. Liaison with Maori lawyers. Member of Management Committee for the Law School.

Past Director of **Te Piringa**, a team of Maori teaching staff within the Law School who support each other, promote the teaching of kaupapa Maori and the law, and support the Maori students throughout their time in the School.

Assisting and advising on tikanga Maori in the School with Whaea Elizabeth Haggie.

Assisted in the organisation of the Hunga Roia (Maori Law Society) biennial Conference in Hamilton.

Invited to speak to the Tauranga-Moana Community Law Project on legal matters, and one of their advisors. Also one of the team of legal advisors for the Community Law Project in Taneatua.

Invited to advise the Opotiki District Council and Waipa District Council regarding their obligations as to the Treaty of Waitangi. Invited to speak on the implications and duties of schools to the Treaty of Waitangi.

Presenter to conferences in Hawaii, Vanuatu and Fiji on governance structures and indigenous peoples. Contribution to the publication.

Presenter at ALTA conferences in Darwin, Melbourne, Cairns and Sydney. Convenor for sector on Indigenous Issues.

Invited Lecturer at the Kamehameha Project on the comparisons of the Maori Tikanga and Hawaiian custom, June 2003.

Presenter at the ALTA Conference and the Australasian Law and History Society Conference in Brisbane, August 2003; “The use of Maori expert witnesses in a Pakeha Court”. And “The Resource Management Act 1991 and Maori”.

July 2005. Presenter at Australia and New Zealand Law and History conference in Auckland. Topic: Takiri ko te Ata – the Power of Waiata.

March, 2009 Invited speaker at the Child and Youth Conference in Auckland. Topic: Maori Youth Advocacy

July, 2009 Presenter at the Australasian Legal History Conference in Sydney. Topic: The Kingitanga

December, 2009 Presenter at the Australian and New Zealand Law and History conference. Topic: Voices of the Past- E Tama Waha Kore

**June 2010 Presenter at Traditional Knowledge conference in Auckland.
Topic: Te Waiata Kapokapo, na Tupaea**

2010 Kapa Haka Judge for Mataatua and Tamaki Regionals

**July 2010 Presenter at Australasia Law Teachers Association
Conference held in Auckland. Topic: Marae and Marae Justice.**

**September, 2011 Presenter at Law and Culture conference in Vanuatu.
Topic: The Marae and its place in Maori society**

**November, 2010 Presenter at Death Studies Symposium at Waikato
University. Topic: Waiata about Cremation – Tamarangi**

**April, 2011. Presented expert evidence to the Environment Court in
support of the Ngaiterangi Runanga objection to the dredging of
Tauranga Harbour. Topic: Cultural attachment to the Moana through
traditional waiata**

Publishing Record:

- The papers which I have published are the following:
 - (a) I produced one chapter (10,300 words) of the Maori Land volume of *Laws of New Zealand* on Succession to Maori land in 2002. This publication is an encyclopaedic series similar to *Halsbury's Laws of England*.
 - (b) I co-wrote with Judge Caren Wickliffe a paper (5,500 words) for the Maori Development Conference held in July 2000 at Massey University. This conference is the most important conference for Maori held during the year and is convened by leading Maori academic Professor Mason Durie. The subject of the paper was Maori self-governance and sovereignty. It was published as part of the conference proceedings and has been republished in the *Waikato Law Review* 2002.
 - (c) I presented a paper (3,000 words) to the Pacific Law Conference at the University of South Pacific Law School in Vanuatu. The subject of the

paper was a Maori view of the Intellectual Property Law debate. The paper was published in 2001 as part of the Conference proceedings.

- (d) I presented to the Indigenous Rights in the Commonwealth Project in Fiji in 2001. The paper I presented looked at the Treaty of Waitangi and Maori Governance. It was published as part of the proceedings.
- (e) I presented at the World Indigenous Peoples Conference in Education in Hawaii in 1999. The paper I presented looked at the Treaty of Waitangi Claims Processes in Tauranga Moana. It culminated in the singing and explanation of a waiata composed after the Battle of Gate Pa in 1863.
- (f) I collated a book of Waiata for the Tauranga Moana Waitangi Tribunal claims hearings. I gave explanations of the authors and historical relevance of each waiata.
- (g) I wrote five waiata for the students of Te Whakahiapo the Maori Students Law Association. They are songs appropriate for use on marae and at hui that the students attend. Each waiata refers to the students' identification to the Law School and their study of law.
- (h) In 2002 I was invited by the Oral History Society of America to present at their conference at San Diego, USA. The topic of the presentation was the use of waiata in oral history. I was one of several indigenous people who presented.
- (i) I was invited in 2003 to deliver lectures on Maori Land Trusts and Maori Jurisprudence at the Kamehameha Schools Hawaiian Cultural Center Project in Honolulu.
- (j) I have also been invited this year to present at the Australia and New Zealand Law and History Association conference at Brisbane. The topic of the presentation is the emergence of Maori "Experts" in Court proceedings.
- (k) I wrote a chapter in the book, Te Purenga being published by Te Piringa in the Law School. The article concerns Maori women and educational opportunity. For this article I interviewed in Maori six kuia from my tribal area in te reo Maori.

(l) April 2010. Two Articles published in the Book of Proceedings of the Traditional Knowledge Conference held in Auckland. Topics: He Poroporoaki ki Te Hau Tutua and He Waiata Tawhito o Ngati Hangarau.

(m) 2010 Waikato Law Review, Volume 18. Published article. Topic: Te Piringa.

Personal Interests

Raranga - Weaving

Leisure time with whanau and extended whanau

Kapa Haka as participant, Tutor and Judge for the last 35 years

Singing and composing Contemporary and Traditional Maori music and song.

Spectator of Sports particularly Rugby and Tennis

Theatre going

Leisure walking, gardening and swimming.