



Professor Wally Penetito

Māori Education – The contribution of kaupapa Māori to mainstream

With the advent of the Kohanga Reo Movement in 1982 the concept of kaupapa Māori entered the vocabulary and narratives of Māori educationists. The movement was the fore-runner in the emergence of an alternative education system that spans early childhood to tertiary sectors, lay communities to formal institutions of the state, as well as curriculum and pedagogy. This presentation asks whether and how kaupapa Māori principles and practices have impacted on mainstream society, especially in education, and what the evidence looks like.

Professor Penetito (Ngāti Haua, Ngāti Tamatera and Ngāti Raukawa) is Professor of Māori Education and Co-Director of He Pārekereke: Institute for Research and Development in Te Kura Māori, Faculty of Education, Victoria University of Wellington. He has a long and varied career in education as a teacher, an adviser to schools, a senior Government public servant, a researcher, and a college of education and university lecturer. He served for a period on the Teacher Registration Board and is currently an Honorary Fellow of the New Zealand Education Institute. In 2005 he was presented with the Te Tohu Pae Tawhiti Award from the New Zealand Association for Research in Education for the outstanding Māori researcher of the year. On 15 July 2010, he launched his first book, based on his PhD thesis, entitled 'What's Māori about Māori Education?'