



Trustee Profile: George Puna

My name is George Puna and I reside in Australia where I am owner/operator of my own business. I was born in Tangoio and brought up by my mother Herita Haua Puna. My Father was Timoti Anaru Lawson. My maternal grandparents were Ruapani Parata Puna and Nga Ritaka (Wha Wha) Anaru and my paternal grandparents were Wiremu Lawson and Ropine Taylor.

My qualifications include a Diploma of Engineering, Open Cut Examiner Certificate, Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.

I have followed the workings of the Trust for some years and would like the opportunity to become more involved hence my application for a position of Trustee. Many shareholders in Tangoio have spoken to me regarding the Marae and the future and I feel that I can make good representation to the Trust on their behalf in addressing and solving their concerns. In saying this I believe I can make a valuable contribution to, not only the sitting Trustees, but also to the shareholders. I have throughout the year spoken and forwarded a plan for Flood Protection Project. I have had a engineered plan drawn up and I forwarded this to the Project Manager. As my son is a registered engineer he was able to provide this at no cost. Should more information regarding the Flood Protection plan be required he would be happy to advise and comment on this.

I reside in Australia and have worked in many overseas countries over the years in the mining sector. Through this association, I have a good understanding in relation to earthworks, land development and sustainability issues which I believe will be of benefit in relation to flooding at the Marae and other such projects.

As an investor in the sharemarket in both Australia and NZ I have a good understanding of investments and finances.

I am a Trustee of Aropoanui Urupa - a position I took up in 2016. During this time with my other Trustees we implemented a maintenance programme for not only Aropoanui but Tangoio also. The first project was completed in November 2017 with a large group of whanau from Australia and NZ assisting. The outcome was great and showed that when a project is put into place and people are contacted within a good timeframe things can be achieved.

On a more personal note I have been married for 40 years and have two children who have attended and graduated from their respective universities. My son is a Manager of Engineering for Anglo American based in London and my daughter is and Registered Nurse working as a Territory Manager for Medtronic Medical Technology, Services and Solutions. They have a good understanding of their Maori heritage and are extremely supportive of me as I look to the future for our people.