

Kelly May

Nominated by:

Rangi Spooner, John Taylor, Teaiorangi Trevor Taurima (Snr), Queeni Wineti, Justin Puna.

Ka tuwhera a Maungaharuru, ka kati a Tangitū, ka tuwhera a Tangitū, ka kati a Maungaharuru. Ko Ngāti Marangatūhetāua, Ngāti Kurumōkihi, Ngāi Tauira, Ngāti Whakaari, Ngāi Tahu ōku hapū.

Ko Tangoio te marae. Ko Donna May (nee Taylor) rāua ko Bob May ōku mātua.

Ko Anaru Luke tōku hoa rangatira. Ko Taimārino rāua ko Tiaki ōku tamaiti. Inaiānei tonu, ka noho au ki Whakatū. Ko Kelly Kino May tōku ingoa. Tēnā koutou katoa.

I was raised in Napier prior to attending the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic and Deakin University (Victoria, Australia), completing a master's degree in aquaculture. My childhood was largely spent at the Onekawa netball courts, Centennial Hall playing basketball and Tangoio where my love for Tangitū was nurtured. These formative years shaped my lifelong purpose to learn and strengthen connections of our hapū to our environment and each other.

Over the last 14 years, I have volunteered my skills to our hapū to oppose resource consents (including wind farms on Maungaharuru), developed environmental and fisheries related submissions and funding applications.

I was a project manager for Maungaharuru-Tangitū Incorporated in 2011/12 pursuing cultural redress for our Treaty Settlement, including negotiating a Fisheries Relationship Agreement and Place Name Changes. I also drafted our application under the Takutai Moana Act 2011 and co-wrote the 'Tūtira mai ngā iwi' project proposal to secure funding from the Ministry for the Environment. Amongst other good mahi, this fund assisted our hapū to undertake riparian planting and fencing to help protect areas around Lake Tūtira. I have been concerned about protecting our Marae and helped to secure funding to research the impacts of climate change and flooding. I have also been exploring ways to support our tangata



kaitiaki to manage our kaimoana and Tangitū.

My work experience includes being a scuba diving instructor, marine studies technician (Bay of Plenty Polytechnic), coastal marine scientist (National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)) and commercial fisheries manager (Challenger Finfish and Scallop Company). I am currently an Environmental Scientist at NIWA, Nelson and after 6 years I am leaving Ngā Kaihautū Tikanga Taiao (group appointed by the Environmental Protection Agency Board to provide advice from a Māori perspective on matters relating to policy, process and decisions under various Acts).

I have high standards, skills and experience in decision-making and critical thinking. I offer these and my extensive networks amongst iwi to help our hapū.

Personally, my whānau enjoy good laughs with friends and being active. We love kaimoana! Our four-year-old continues a Tangoio tradition of eating his favourite dried shark. I was a Camp Quality volunteer for 5 years and treasure my involvement to help bring fun and hope into the lives of tamariki living with cancer.

My life experience has instilled a sense of responsibility to uphold and honour the legacy of our tīpuna for our mokopuna. I am committed to our whānau, hapū and Marae. I would consider it a privilege to serve as a Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trustee. Nō reira, noho ora mai rā.