

Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities (BBHTC) National Science Challenge

Submission Te Ara Paerangi Green Paper

INTRODUCTION

1. Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities (BBHTC) National Science Challenge support the notion that radical system and cultural change of the Research, Science and Innovation (RSI) sector is required to upscale impact and deliver better outcomes for Māori and Communities across Aotearoa.
2. Further, the systemic changes required need to be greater than tinkering around the edges or reshuffling of the Crown Research Institute (CRI) deck chairs on the deck; but instead be Treaty centred; be bold; recognise and value Māori knowledge (Mātauranga), Māori worldview (Te Ao Māori) and Māori ways of doing things (Māori values); recognise and resource Māori and Communities as thought leaders, experts, researchers and innovators in their own right who are an integral part of the RSI system (not passive actors that research happens to); be flexible, adaptable and build a landscape of active researchers at a variety of different scales, with a variety of different relationships and connections, with Māori, communities, industry and other end users.
3. Lastly, BBHTC National Science Challenge contend that for the RSI sector to become Te Tiriti led, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) itself needs to become Te Tiriti led, this needs to be multi-tiered across all levels of MBIE Governance, MBIE Operations and particularly across MBIE funding mechanisms and assessment processes.

PURPOSE

4. This submission is in response to the Te Ara Paerangi Future Pathways Green paper, on behalf of the Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities (BBHTC) National Science Challenge.
5. BBHTC is one of 11 National Science Challenges and was launched in May 2016. The mission of the BBHTC National Science Challenge is to help transform dwellings and places where people live into homes and communities that are hospitable, productive, and protective.
6. BBHTC National Science Challenge is on a developmental journey to being an honourable Treaty partner and has adopted a Te Tiriti partnership model, this is multi-layered and integrated across all levels of the challenge.
7. BBHTC National Science Challenge is hosted by BRANZ and was allocated a budget of up to \$47.9 million over 10 years.
8. Within the challenge, multi-disciplinary researchers are collaborating to create practical solutions that bring long-term transformational benefits for New Zealanders in how our homes, towns and cities function.
9. To develop this submission BBHTC National Science Challenge Co-Director (Tangata Tiriti) Ruth Berry and Co-Director (Tangata Whenua) Rihi Te Nana:
 - a) Attended MBIE workshops
 - b) Held Wānanga with the BBHTC Challenge Governance Group
 - c) Held Wānanga with the BBHTC Challenge Stakeholders

- d) Held Wānanga with the BBHTC Challenge Māori Researchers
 - e) Held Wānanga with the BBHTC Challenge Senior Leadership Team
 - f) Socialised the draft submission with the research communities partnered with the challenge and invited comments
10. This submission reflects a summary of the salient points and recommendations derived from the development process and is formally supported by the BBHTC Science Leadership Team, BBHTC Māori Researchers, Stakeholders and communities and the Governance group.

STRUCTURE OF SUBMISSION

11. The BBHTC National Science Challenge values (Rangatiratanga, Kotahitanga, Ōritetanga, Oranga) frame our response to the Te Ara Paerangi document as per below:

Rangatiratanga - Te Tiriti, Mātauranga and Māori Aspirations.

Kotahitanga - Priorities, Institutions.

Ōritetanga - Funding.

Oranga – Community Research, Workforce Development.

12. BBHTC National Science Challenge recognise that this is not the only opportunity to be engaged in this process, and would like to be actively involved beyond this initial submission phase.

KEY POINTS

- a) **BBHTC National Science Challenge strongly support understanding, honouring, and embedding Te Tiriti within the research system.**
- b) **Embedding Te Tiriti within the research system should be a requirement in the new system (not optional).**
- c) **BBHTC National Science Challenge acknowledge that embedding Te Tiriti is a process and that a partnership model is one option.**
- d) **BBHTC National Science Challenge support Māori being provided with the resources to determine what a Māori led RSI system looks like by Māori, for Māori, with Māori. (e.g. Māori Science Authority, which provides for regional decision making).**
- e) **BBHTC National Science Challenge supports valuing and amplifying resourcing Mātauranga Māori Research.**
- f) **BBHTC National Science Challenge supports co-design/co-create/co-development processes to identify priorities and set strategy with Māori and communities.**
- g) **BBHTC National Science Challenge support an Independent (Tiriti led) Governance Model to govern priorities.**
- h) **BBHTC National Science Challenge support flexible and equitable institutional arrangements that facilitate building a landscape of active researchers at a variety of different scales with a variety of different connections with Māori, communities, industry and other end users.**
- i) **BBHTC National Science Challenge supports the next iteration of the National Science Challenge model i.e. National Priority Research Platforms.**

- j) For the National Priority Research Platforms early consideration of transition pathways at the end of the Priority is critical to avoid uncertainty, loss of momentum and research focus.
- k) BBHTC National Science Challenge support baseline funding models that are equitable across the system, that do not unduly penalise RSI research providers who sit outside the CRI model.
- l) BBHTC National Science Challenge support opportunities for different funding models (e.g. National Priority Research Platforms i.e. funding models that are mission focussed and strategy led).
- m) BBHTC National Science Challenge support community driven research in the RSI sector.
- n) BBHTC National Science Challenge support valuing community/iwi researchers within the RSI system.
- o) BBHTC National Science Challenge support increasing investment and focus on the development of Māori, Pacific and community research capability
- p) BBHTC National Science Challenge would like to be actively involved in this process beyond this initial submission phase.

Rangatiratanga

13. Within our challenge, Rangatiratanga involves leading responsibly and with accountability; Ko te ngako o te kaupapa te rangatiratanga o ngā mea katoa. It is here that we discuss our journey towards becoming an honourable Treaty partner, and the factors that enabled this to occur.

Te Tiriti

14. Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the foundation document that guides BBHTC National Science Challenge, threading aspects of Te Tiriti throughout every aspect of our work.
15. Factors that have contributed to our journey towards becoming an honourable Treaty partner include:
- (a) **RELATIONSHIPS** - We build relationships which uphold rangatiratanga
 - I. There is a high level of trust between the Challenge and hapū/iwi/Māori partners.
 - II. Relational success is measured through feedback from the vast range of Māori networks.
 - III. Hapū are resourced to undertake research to resolve and find solutions to their housing issues.
 - IV. We develop meaningful, sustainable and honourable long term relationships with Tangata Whenua and other stakeholders.
 - (b) **LEADERSHIP AND DECISION MAKING** - Our decision-making values both Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti worldviews.
 - I. Māori view of science (Putaiāo, Taiao) attracts equal respect and actioning in our decision making processes.
 - II. Mātauranga Māori and Vision Matauranga is normalised and embedded in our research activities.

- (c) **STRATEGY** - Our strategy is to continue to build a te Tiriti o Waitangi tūāpapa that forwards:
- I. a research agenda that firstly meets the specific needs of tangata Whenua (hapū, iwi, hapori) and tangata Tiriti.
 - II. Ensuring all research aligns with Vision Mātauranga.
 - III. a communications for impacts strategy that promotes all research programmes to tangata whenua, key stakeholders and partners.
- (d) **POWERSHARING** - Our structure and processes reflect our commitment to equitable power and resource sharing.
- I. Establish equitable power-sharing approaches within governance and management levels.
 - II. Ensure a balance of power of Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti leadership at the management level.
 - III. Supporting whānau/hapū/iwi research capability and leadership
 - IV. We advocate for Te Tiriti partnership with government agencies and stakeholder partners.
- (e) **ENVIRONMENT** - Facilitating an affirming environment that will sustain an honourable Te Tiriti partnership with Tangata Whenua.
- I. Governance and management structures will mutually address all opportunities that advance our Challenge mission.
 - II. Both Governance and Operations will support solutions that address issues/barriers to our te Tiriti commitment.
16. To date our achievements regarding our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi include:
- a) Co – Chairs Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti have been established.
 - b) Equitable Governance representation Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti is in place.
 - c) Tangata Whenua Co – Director appointed and firmly ensconced in the mahi.
 - d) 88% of the research programmes are kaupapa / mātauranga Māori projects.
 - e) 75% of the Research Programme Leaders / Senior Leader Team members are Māori.
 - f) 12.5% of the research programmes is a tangata Whenua/tangata Tiriti lead initiative.
17. Learnings from the Challenge experience in its journey to becoming an honourable Treaty partner include:
- a) Deliberate decisions were made to appoint at least two Māori experts to the Governance Group from the start of the challenge, and this evolved further to equal representation as the challenge progressed.
 - b) It was considered inappropriate at the start of the Challenge for all the Māori governance responsibilities of the partnership to be carried by one person.
 - c) A Māori Co-Director was appointed early in the Challenge, this meant that Kaupapa Māori researchers had someone to work with from the start and this strengthened research programs.
 - d) BBHTC National Science Challenge did not appoint a Kahui Maori Advisory Group. It was felt that it was inappropriate to have a Māori Governance Group that did not have power to make decisions.

- e) A partnership model was preferred, as you can't have a partnership if you are not both actively involved in the partnership and sharing power, knowledge, and ways of working.
- f) The size of the challenge made it flexible and agile, which assisted with developing our version of *Te Tiriti in action*. There was a view that this might not have happened in a traditional structure.
- g) Moving to a Te Tiriti way of governing is not just about having Māori on the Governance Group but is fundamentally different in that they represent the strategic voices (equal) of the Governance Group.
- h) Te Tiriti embedding is a process, you need someone who can lead the process; but you also need a maturity in your governance board to go along with the process; to be open to a philosophy of change; because it can be challenging and a change from previous governance experiences.
- i) Being Te Tiriti led is more than just being symbolic, it flows through and is reflected throughout the Challenge (Board structure, Strategy Documents, Research) and leads to innovation. That is, it is an operationalised practise that actively keeps Māori and activities at the forefront of all BBHTC mahi.
- j) Being Te Tiriti led gives researchers more "kaha" to look beyond the traditional limits of research and keep extending and developing.

18. We share our journey to becoming an honourable Treaty partner to reinforce that it can and should be done within an RSI context.

- **BBHTC National Science Challenge strongly support understanding, honouring, and embedding Te Tiriti within the research system.**
- **Embedding Te Tiriti within the research system needs to be a requirement in the new system (not optional).**
- **BBHTC National Science Challenge acknowledge that embedding Te Tiriti is a process and that a partnership model is one option.**
- **BBHTC National Science Challenge also support Māori being provided with the resources to determine what a Māori led RSI system looks like by Māori, for Māori, with Māori (e.g. Māori Science Authority, which provides for regional decision making).**

Mātauranga Maori, Māori Aspirations

19. The research undertaken in our challenge highly values Mātauranga Māori and often based on Māori research aspirations. Therefore we strongly support this approach moving forward.

- **The BBHTC National Science Challenge support valuing and amplifying resourcing for Mātauranga Māori Research.**

Kotahitanga

20. For the BBHTC National Science Challenge, Kotahitanga, means working together to achieve our goals, Kotahi te aronga mo te katoa. In this section of the submission we discuss priorities and institutional arrangements.

Priorities

21. Co-design/co-creation/co-development of priorities and research strategies with Māori, communities, industry and other end users has been foundational within this Science Challenge. We strongly advocate for this approach moving forward.

- **BBHTC National Science Challenge support co-design/co-create/co-develop processes to identify priorities and set strategy with Māori and communities.**
- **BBHTC National Science Challenge support an Independent (Te Tiriti led) Governance Model to govern priorities.**

Institutions

22. Our Challenge supports building a landscape of active researchers at a variety of different scales with a variety of different connections with Māori, communities, industry and other end users; as opposed to a recentralised RSI model that will privilege some institutions through baseline funding, and as an unintended consequence, unduly penalise others.
23. Advantages of the National Science Challenge institution model included: becoming an honourable Treaty partner, swift to set up, mission led, streamlined operations/administration, independent governance, agile and flexible, multi-disciplinary, great collaboration across the RSI sector, best teams approach, great research outcomes doing Science in new ways, connectivity, momentum, upscaled impact.
24. A disadvantage of the National Science Challenge model, and specifically the BBHTC Challenge, is the uncertainty about what happens to the research (housing, regional and rural), relationships and momentum that has been built up over the life of the Challenge when the Challenge ends in June 2024.

- **BBHTC National Science Challenge support flexible and equitable institutional arrangements that facilitate building a landscape of active researchers at a variety of different scales with a variety of different connections with Māori, communities, industry and other end users.**
- **BBHTC National Science Challenge supports the next iteration of the National Science Challenge model i.e. National Priority Research Platforms.**
- **For the National Priority Research Platforms early consideration of transition pathways at the end of the Priority is critical to avoid uncertainty, loss of momentum and research focus.**

Ōritetanga

25. For the BBHTC National Science Challenge, Ōritetanga, is about equality, equity, and respect being fundamental, Ko te mana ōrite te tikanga. In this section of the submission we discuss funding.

Funding

26. The view of this Challenge regarding baseline funding is that it needs to be equitable. Providing baseline funding to the reshaped Crown Research Institutes only, creates inequities by privileging those institutions, whereas Independent

researchers/communities/iwi who may not be supported up by baseline funding are penalised.

27. Regarding the potential funding and development of a Te Tiriti led Māori Science Authority, the challenge considers Te Mātāwai and Kohanga Reo models as commendable examples of how this could be implemented (with 50% of the RSI funding). For the Te Tiriti led Māori Science Authority to succeed, funding would need to be guaranteed, and long term to provide stability and resilience.

- **BBHTC National Science Challenge support baseline funding models that are equitable across the system, that do not unduly penalise research providers who sit outside the CRI model.**
- **BBHTC National Science Challenge support opportunities for different funding models (e.g. National Priority Research Platforms i.e. funding models that are mission focussed and strategy led).**

Oranga

28. For our Challenge, Oranga, concerns the wellbeing of people and our environment, Ko te oranga tangata, te oranga taiao te mea nui. In this section of the submission we discuss Community driven research for transformational change and workforce development.

Community driven research for transformational change

29. BBHTC National Science Challenge consider that the Te Ara Paerangi document is silent on the role of communities and community driven research in the RSI sector. This is a significant gap that needs to be thought about and factored in moving forward.
30. Community driven research for transformational change is at the heart of the work of the BBHTC National Science Challenge. Communities are where the Challenges research springs from. We build relationships with the community, we hear their voice and it's a privilege to stand beside them in terms of addressing their issues, and our research helps to make a real difference.

Workforce development

31. BBHTC National Science Challenge support increasing investment and focus on the development of Māori, Pacific and community research capability.

- **BBHTC National Science Challenge support community driven research in the RSI sector.**
- **BBHTC National Science Challenge support valuing community/iwi researchers within the RSI system.**
- **BBHTC National Science Challenge support increasing investment and focus on the development of Māori, Pacific and community research capability**

Recommendations

32. The BBHTC National Science Challenge recommend that MBIE consider and adopt the key points outlined in this submission.

33. BBHTC National Science Challenge would like to be actively involved with the Te Ara Paerangi process beyond this initial submission phase.

SUBMITTER CONTACT INFORMATION

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MBIE may publish our names and contact information with our submission

MBIE can contact you in relation to our submission

SUBMITTER INFORMATION

We are submitting as an organisation: Building Better Homes Towns and Cities National Science Challenge (BBHTC)

Our organisation is a National Science Challenge

BBHTC is a co-led Te Tiriti partnership.

BBHTC has management offices in Wellington and Auckland. We are hosted by BRANZ in Wellington.

BBHTC is a Te Tiriti partnership. Mātauranga Māori is a central knowledge system.