

## Judge Miharo Armstrong's swearing in speech

August 2014

Titiro ki runga, titiro ki raro,  
titiro ki waenganui  
Nā wai i hanga ngā mea  
katoa?  
Nā te Atua, nā te Atua, nā  
te Atua  
Tihei Mauri Ora



Ko te mea tuatahi, ka nui  
te mihi ki tō tātau Matua i  
runga rawa, ki tana  
tamaiti, ki a Ihu Karaiti, ā, ki te Wairua Tapu. Ko te Tokotoru Tapu te huarahi, te  
pono me te oranga mō āke tonu atu

Ka nui te mihi ki tēnei Whare mīharo, ki tēnei Whare rongonui, ki tō tātau tupuna e tū  
mahuta nei, ki a Tamatekapua, te manu ariki whakatakapōkai o Te Arawa Waka, o  
Te Arawa Whānui. Nōku te whiwhinga kia noho ki raro i te tuanui o tēnei whare i  
tēnei rā whakahirahira mōku.

E ngā mate, moe mai rā i te aroha o te Atua ki te rā e whakaorangia ai anō hoki  
tātau e te Atua o te Aranga Nui. Ki a Rāwiri Rangitauira, te rangatira mākohā nui. E  
te kōtuku noho awa kua rere. E te tīkapa o te rangi e tu iho nei i tāu haerenga atu ki  
tua i te arai.

Ki te paepae tapu, ngā whatukura o te rahi o Ngāti Whakaue. E ngā tohunga, e ngā  
kaumātua, ki a koutou ko ngā kuia o konei. E ngā Whare kōrero o ngā iwi o te motu.  
Tēnā koutou.

E te kaiwhakawā matua. E te hōpara makaurangi manu whakatau o te Kōti Whenua  
Māori.

Ā, ki a koutou katoa e ngā kaiwhakawā o te kōti, e ngā totara haemata o te wao nui  
a Tāne. E aku manu tute, nei hoki te mihi ki ngā rōia Māori katoa. Nōku te  
whiwhinga ki te noho i tō koutou tēpu, ki te eke ki tēnei taumata hōnore.

Ki te Iwi o Ngāti Whakaue, Te Hope o Tūtānekai, tēnā koutou i tā koutou tautoko mai  
ki a au i tēnei rā, i ngā rā o mua anō hoki. Kei te mōhio au he hōnore nui ki te noho i  
roto i tēnei whare tupuna, ā, i pōwhiri mai koutou i a au me te mea nei he uri au o  
tēnei Iwi Ariki.

Ka nui te mihi ki ngā Iwi katoa o Te Arawa whānui anō hoki. Ki ngā pūmanawa e  
waru o Rangitīhi. E ngā pūioio rau o te tōtara haemata o tō tātau nehenehe nui.  
Rotorua Matangi Rau, tēnei au e mihi ana.

Ki tōku whanaunga nō Te Whānau-a-Apanui. E ngā Taitamawāhine o te Tai Rāwhiti. Tēnei tō uri e mihi ana

Ki tōku whanaunga hungawai nō Te Taitokerau. Ngāpuhi nui tonu, kāinga o te kauri tū mahuta i te wao nui a Tāne. Tēnei te mihi ake.

Ā, ki a koutou katoa nō ngā hau e whā. E ngā rāuru o kurumatarērehu. Ka nui te mihi.

Ki a koutou e ngā kaikōrero o te wā. Te Ururoa, Anette, Whaimutu, Jonathon, koutou ko tōku pāpā. E ngā manawa whenua o te kī. Tēnā koutou i ā koutou mihi mai ki a au, ki a mātau katoa hoki.

Ki ōku kiritaki i taku mahi. Ki ngā kiritaki ā-Iwi, ā-Hapū hoki. Ngāti Whakaue, Ngāti Pūkiao, Ngāti Rangitīhi, Ngāti Mākinu, Waitaha, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Māhanga, Ngāti Kaharau, Ngāti Hau, Poutama. Ki ngā kaitiaki o ngā poari rangatira. Pukeroa Oruawhata, Rotoiti 15, Te Manawa o Tūhoe, Rotomā No 1, Paehinahina Mourea, Pouakani, Te Pūtahitanga o Ngā Ara, Ruawāhia 2B, Maraeroa, Haumingi, Tiki Te Kohu, Kāpenga, Mokoia. Ā, ki a koutou katoa e ngā maunga whakahī o tāukiuki rā anō. Nā koutou ahau i whakapiki ki tēnei turanga.

Ki ōku hoamahi o tōku tari, o ngā tari ture o ētahi atu, o ngā kōti anō hoki. Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora te manuhiri.

Hei whakamutungā māku te mihi ki aku huia kaimanawa, ki aku māpihi maurea. Tuatahi, me huri au ki a koe Missy. E taku kuru tongarewa. Kei te whiti mai i tāu ātaahuatanga mehemea ko Kōpū e rere ana i te pae. Ki ā tāua tamariki, Kimiora kōrua ko Aria, ki ā tāua rau amokura. He tino nui rawa atu taku aroha ki a koutou tokotoru. Kei taku piringa koutou tokotoru i te āwhā me te karawhiu o nga haumātakataka o te ao. Mei kore ake i a koutou, kua kore au e tū ki konei.

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

Just to follow on from what I was saying in Maori it really is a great honour and a privilege to be sworn in as a Judge of this honourable Court, alongside such an esteemed bench, in such a revered whare, and in front of so many honourable tohunga, kaumatua, kuia, rangatira, political leaders, senior Counsel, whānaunga and friends. It is a great honour for me but what makes it so special is being able to share it with all of you so thank you.

I also once again want to thank Ngāti Whakaue and Te Arawa whānui for the privilege of having this occasion in this beautiful esteemed house. Thank you also for all of the hard work and the support that you have shown in organising this event, and also for the support that you have shown to both me and my family during my time in practice and throughout our time living here in Rotorua.

I also just want to acknowledge the very tragic and sudden loss of Rawiri Rangitauira earlier this week. Of course Rawiri was the founding partner of our firm, Rangitauira & Co, it was he and Annette Sykes who first employed me as a solicitor when I

returned from London, and he was very much a mentor and a leader for me during my early years in practice. On top of that he was also a senior kaumatua and tribal leader for Ngāti Whakaue and his sudden and unexpected death was a huge loss to us all.

I also want to acknowledge my kuia Hariata Kingsnorth who passed away in October last year after a long battle with cancer. She was the most beautiful kuia and was a true stateswoman in every sense of the word. I certainly tested her patience when I was young but I was very close with my nan as she was with all of her mokopuna and she is certainly missed here today.

Finally I want to acknowledge Gerry Pouwhare who passed away yesterday. Gerry was a very knowledgeable kaumatua from Ngāi Tahu, was a veteran of the Vietnam war and was a lovely, kind and gentle man and again his death is a great loss.

To the Chief Judge, the Deputy Chief Judge, the Deputy Chair of the Waitangi Tribunal, and all of the Judges of this Honourable