

Run Sheet for SCUFN Conference (Opening Ceremony)
Tuesday 23 October 2012

9.00	All participants seated in Huia	Participants have been briefed about process
9.05	Opening Karakia and Whaikorero	Api Williams - LINZ
9.20	Waiata	Whanau Group LINZ
9.25	Reply to Whaikorero	Rawiri Faulkner, General Manager Māori Strategy Te Pu Ao GNS Science
9.35	Waiata	GNS support group
9.40	Closing Karakia	Api Williams - LINZ
9.45	OPEN FORUM	SCUFN invited speakers LINZ CEO – Peter Mersi GNS CEO – if available NIWA CEO – if available
10.00	Close Whakatau - Hongi	Api Williams - LINZ
10.05	Karakia	Kai/morning tea
10.30	Poroporoaki	Host group vacate conference

Mihi whakatau ki ngā manuhiri – Welcome to visitors

A mihi whakatau is a Māori term used to describe a formal speech and ceremony of welcome to visitors. It is a formal indigenous manner of respecting and acknowledging the dignity and sacredness of a person or people. It is a sign of respect to conduct a mihi whakatau on important occasions.

Timata mai (the process begins)

Visitors enter and are seated and will remain so until politely asked to advance forward. The hosts remain standing until all visitors are seated, then they will sit also. A host speaker (Kaikorero) will begin a sequence of korero (speaking) usually by reciting a karakia (prayer) to spiritually cleanse the environment, then a tauparapara (a chant) to lead into the whaikorero (speech of welcome), in which he will include an acknowledgement to the deceased, to the living, to the special guests, and to everyone else in general. He may speak about the kaupapa (reason) for the conference or intersperse with a whakatauaki (an appropriate proverb) to provoke some thought and discussion. He will then summarise his whaikorero and finish with a waiata (song).

Whakawhiti korero (exchange speech)

A speaker from the visitors will respond with a similar or slightly varied format. A waiata to kinaki (relish) his korero signals the end of his speech. Sometimes (but in this case, not necessary) a koha (monetary gift of any amount the visitor wishes to give) is laid down (put on the floor in front of the hosts), this is an acknowledgment of assistance towards the cost of the occasion and given in a spirit of goodwill.

Ka hikitia te tikanga (suspend custom)

The host speaker will then recite a karakia to spiritually suspend the custom to acknowledge other speakers to stand and talk. This need not follow the same format as the whaikorero, but should be interesting, topical and engaging until the last speaker is done.

Timata anō te tikanga (recommence custom)

The host Kaikorero then recommences the customs by inviting all the visitors to hongī, press noses. At this point the host and visitor enter into each others space, kanohi-ki-te-kanohi (face-to-face), eye-to-eye, with peace and respect

He kai (partaking of refreshment)

The host kaikoreo will bless the food. The partaking of refreshment completes the ritual of encounter by placing everyone into a state of noa (equal footing).

Poroporoaki (farewell)

A brief farewell speech and song to vacate and wish the participants a successful conference or occasion.