



The Tūramarama Declaration

We, participants in Tūramarama ki te Ora World Indigenous Suicide Prevention Conference, held in Rotorua, Aotearoa New Zealand on 1-3 June 2016, are deeply concerned about the high rates of Suicide among indigenous peoples.

1. **We weep** for the increasing number of our people whose lives have been cut short by Suicide;
2. **We respect** the courage and fortitude of families and friends who have endured unexpected and often inexplicable losses of dear ones;
3. **We commit** ourselves to healing our own wounds and the wounds of our lineage, and in so doing to exemplify the ways in which light can be brought into the world inhabited by our elders, our peers and our young people;
4. **We declare** that all our people should be able to 'live well, into old age';
5. **We believe** that the will to 'live well' is strong when the human mauri is strong; 'living well' means being able to live as Māori, as indigenous peoples, and as citizens of the world;
6. **We will** strive to build safe and nurturing communities that generate confidence, integrity, inclusion, equity, & goodwill;
7. **We recognise** the key roles that whānau and families play in strengthening the mauri by transferring knowledge, culture, language, values, and love to their children and grandchildren;
8. **We endorse** the benefits of tikanga, kawa, healing, and other cultural protocols to lift the spirit and strengthen our people in schools, health centres, sporting clubs, social media, the workplace, and the streets;
9. **We expect** health, education, and all social service providers to offer services that are accessible, timely and effective for indigenous peoples;
10. **We urge** our own indigenous leaders, tribal authorities, and community champions to create opportunities for our children, youth, women, men, and our older people so they can be part of te ao Māori and the indigenous world, and can be active participants in the communities where they live and work;
11. **We challenge** national and local authorities and city councils to adopt and enforce regulations to reduce the availability of alcohol and other harmful substances to ensure that homes are warm, comfortable, and affordable, to insist that streets, workplaces, schools, and the internet are all safe places for our peoples, and to combat practices that diminish self-worth and hope;
12. **We call** on our elected leaders in Parliament, especially those who have indigenous development, and the environment, to work together in order to create a society where equity of access, equitable outcomes, and extended opportunities can prevail;
13. **We recommend** that our people in the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues make all nation states aware of the extent of Indigenous suicide and ensure that suicide prevention is highlighted in the UN Millennium Goals;
14. **We pledge** ourselves to work collectively so that our combined energies can create a world where the mauri can flourish and all our peoples can live well, into old age.

