

**TE OHAAKII A HINE – NATIONAL NETWORK
ENDING SEXUAL VIOLENCE TOGETHER**

**RELATIONSHIP AGREEMENT
DOCUMENT**

**Relationship Agreement
for
Te Ohaakii a Hine
- National Network for Ending Sexual Violence Together**

Te Ohaaki a Hine – National Network for Ending Sexual Violence Together (TOAH-NNEST) is a network committed to ending sexual violence within our communities.

The Network consists of two “Houses” designed to reflect the relationship envisioned in Te Tiriti o Waitangi. One “House” will therefore be known as the tikanga Maori House or Nga Kaitiaki Mauri a Te Ohaakii a Hine – National Network Ending Sexual Violence Together and the other will be known as Te Ohaakii a Hine – National Network Ending Sexual Violence Together – Taiwi Caucus Incorporated.

1. We affirm that our relationship will be based upon the following;

- a) A shared agreement that Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the founding document for relationships between Tangata whenua within Aotearoa and Taiwi (The Treaty Relationship).
- b) A shared agreement that the members of both “Houses” are entitled to be guided by the values and practices which derive from their respective world views,
- c) A shared belief that together those values and practices can be positively used to eliminate sexual violence within our communities.

2. Together we understand that the Treaty Relationship;

- a) Involves whanau, hapu and iwi who have whakapapa to a shared Maori ancestry and Taiwi who are all those people of other cultures who have chosen to make this land their home,
- b) Means mutual respect and a willingness to use our collective wisdom and power to build a stable relationship,
- c) Requires equitable and adequate access to resources and decision making so that both “Houses” may properly participate in the elimination of sexual violence within our communities.

3. Together we agree to work within the Treaty Relationship to achieve the following collective aims:

- 1) To promote social, political and institutional change so that all people can live free of sexual violence and its effects,

- 2) To promote the right of Maori to receive and deliver services which work with the entire whanau to address the adverse effects of sexual violence,
- 3) To provide and promote for capacity building of kaupapa Maori services, response to sexual violence,
- 4) To work with the diverse range of groups and communities to identify appropriate responses and solutions to dealing with the issues of sexual violence,
- 5) To promote capacity building of services for all cultures affected by sexual violence,
- 6) To promote the right of children and young people to have their family and community involved in addressing the adverse effects of sexual violence,
- 7) To publicly advocate against all forms of sexual violence and to give voice to the needs of those who are harmed by sexual violence,
- 8) To raise the political and social profile of sexual violence as a significant social problem,
- 9) To expand and disseminate knowledge and understandings about why sexual violence happens, the effects it has, and effective responses and preventative actions,
- 10) To increase our knowledge and information about the nature and needs of the sexual violence response sector so that we may attract and develop additional resources,
- 11) To work against the divisive effects of the competitive environment in which the sexual violence response sector is currently invited to operate in,
- 12) To increase the resources, especially monetary, available to the sexual violence response sector, through the sharing of information, lobbying at a national level, and inter-agency co-operation,
- 13) To foster cooperation, communication and accountability, both within the sector, and between the sector and other agents,
- 14) To advance education in the community around the issues of Sexual Violence by sharing information within and between agents in the sexual violence response sector.

4) Together we acknowledge that;

- a) Each "House" has the right to conduct all of its affairs in ways that are consistent with their world view or views.

5) To give life to the Treaty Relationship we also acknowledge that;

- a) The two "Houses" will come together at agreed and appropriate times to make joint decisions on common issues of sexual violence,

- b) The two “Houses” together are the constituent bodies for TOAH-NNEST,
- c) The two “Houses” together will provide strategic direction for TOAH-NNEST and advocate on common issues of sexual violence,
- d) The two “Houses” together develop appropriate procedures to govern the meetings and dialogue between them.

6) To further enhance the Treaty Relationship we together agree;

- a) That during joint meetings both “Houses” are entitled to caucus and discuss particular issues,
- b) That the time and place requested for caucus shall be reasonable and respectful of the different perspectives and world views involved.

7) To also enhance the Treaty Relationship we together acknowledge;

- a) That from time to time differences may arise between us which will require resolution and the mending of relationships,
- b) That a process of reconciliation is best suited to the maintenance of a good Treaty Relationship and most relevant to the work to which we are all committed,
- c) That the relationship mending process shall therefore require from each “House” 1 kaumatua/kuia or wise person plus 1 other representative to facilitate discussion and restore the integrity of the relationship.
- d) That both “Houses” will engage in the spirit of the relationship document to enhance the working relationship, together with the common goal of having a society free of sexual violence.