

AUCKLAND PRIDE COMMUNITY HUI

AUGUST 2018

COLLATED FEEDBACK



Throughout August, the Board invited LGBTIQ+ individuals and Tāmaki Makaurau's rainbow communities to join in the kōrero at our annual Auckland Pride Community Hui series. This year's series included three public meetings in Ponsonby, Epsom and Manukau – plus our first ever Facebook LIVE session.

The kaupapa of the Hui series was to discover what relationship our communities have with Auckland Pride today; what Pride means to our communities; what important issues are at play; and what people would like to see more of/less of within the Auckland Pride Festival and Parade.

Common themes included, the need for more interconnectivity across our rainbow communities and with Auckland Pride; balancing corporate and community visibility within the Parade; balancing celebration with political advocacy; reconnecting with our activist roots; creating safe spaces for challenging conversations within the Festival; the State sector's place within Pride; supporting the development of Takatāpui-led Tikanga and programming; addressing homophobia within Pacific power structures; transphobia, racism and misogyny within our Rainbow communities; making the Board more accessible and accountable; being more visibly QUEER; and moving forward together.

While acknowledging the inherent difficulty of accurately collating face-to-face conversations into one document, we're pleased to share some of the standout topics, issues and themes that emerged in each of these informative discussions.

PONSONBY HUI

Saturday 18 August, Studio One Toi Tū

Hot topics, issues and themes included:

- Stories from Auckland's LGBTIQ+ histories, past events and social change actions
- Connect with activist roots, continue the legacy
- Celebrate and document our rich histories
- Lead on social justice issues
- Auckland Pride's future legacy
- Balance of celebration and political advocacy
- Auckland Pride serves diverse communities, with diverse needs
- People not feeling as connected to Auckland Pride as they would like/we would like
- Corporate/community balance needs addressing, especially in Auckland Pride Parade
- How can corporate organisations use their power/money to better support our communities
- What are the criteria for Parade engagement
- People want a more creative and queered up Parade

- People don't want "our Parade" to be desexualised
- People want sexuality, not sanitisation
- People want more family-friendly activities at Big Gay Out
- People want more forum events/challenging conversations within Auckland Pride Festival
- Inclusion of Police and Corrections in Auckland Pride Parade
- Understand and address transphobia/racism/sexism/misogyny within rainbow communities
- More visibility for lesbians
- Address accessibility issues, especially disability and financial inequality
- Address safety issues, violence towards rainbow communities
- Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Address lesbian versus trans narrative
- Explore the commonalities within our communities
- Create cohesion, connection, continuity
- Find common ground, to bond, listen to each other, better understand each other
- Connect generations
- People want a more transparent, responsible, open, accessible and accountable Board
- We are stronger together, need to keep talking with each other, moving forward together
- Auckland Pride to host community update sessions at monthly Board meeting

EPSOM HUI

Tuesday 21 August, Te Unga Waka Marae

Co-hosted with Ahakoa Te Aha

Hot topics, issues and themes included:

- Takatāpui tired of tokenism, feeling disenfranchised
- Ahakoa Te Aha very supportive of Auckland Pride
- Much energy has been given, not always reciprocated
- Visibility and inclusivity are important for Takatāpui
- Platform to reach out to other Takatāpui
- New Takatāpui-led Tikanga needed
- Equal partnership
- Start consultation process earlier
- More resourcing for Takatāpui engagement
- Need to denounce all racism, stigma and discrimination
- More understanding of intersectionality
- Auckland Pride needs to be an inclusive space, not a privileged space
- Tackle the challenging conversations
- Listen to and share resources with Takatāpui
- Continue these conversations, move forward together
- Next Hui with Takatāpui to be scheduled in September



ONLINE HUI

Wednesday 22 August, Facebook LIVE

Hot topics, issues and themes included:

- More digital connectivity, online engagement
- Queer community/commercial balance
- Partnerships should involve money and values, not selling ourselves short
- More support needed for community groups from corporate companies
- Decentralise Festival programme, more activity/visibility in East, West and South Auckland
- More inclusivity, especially for trans people
- More accessibility, especially for disabled people
- More Takatāpui programming
- Political advocacy to address homophobia in Pacific
- Community conversations/forums are needed
- Intergenerational discussions, panel and debate events
- Hear from each other, address political issues, voice concerns in safe environment
- More inclusivity and gender diversity at PROUD Party
- Auckland Pride volunteers need to be acknowledged by the Board for their work
- Rain date and more children's activities at Big Gay Out
- QUEER is desirable, especially in Auckland Pride Parade
- Get back to our activist roots, history of social change
- Politics can deepen, change and expand through Pride
- Need to address youth homelessness, youth suicide, mental health and depression
- Festival plays important arts development role for LGBTIQ+ artists
- More representation for queer women and events for lesbian audiences
- Local LGBTIQ+ histories need to be documented
- More Board accountability, transparency and openness
- Board mindful of representation, skills, looking for the gaps, different experiences
- Need for Trans, Pasifika, Māori, Asian representation on Board
- Pink washing and the role of protest within Pride
- Police involvement and role of State in Auckland Pride Parade
- Address transphobia, racism, misogyny, Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminist (TERF) issues
- Auckland Pride to be a platform for change and positive influence

MANUKAU HUI

Saturday 25 August, Ministry for Pacific Peoples

Co-hosted with Love Life Fono

Hot topics, issues and themes included:

- The impact of colonisation on indigenous Pacific roles and identities
- Diverse indigenous identities versus universal framework
- Address homophobia in Pacific governments and power structures



- Advocate for political change, legalisation, end discrimination in Pacific
- Pasifika people need strategic plan in Palagi space
- Visible leadership important
- Succession planning and capability building
- Train and mentor young Pasifika and Māori people for leadership roles
- Need to bridge the generation gap
- Women's spaces important
- Address persistent racism and discrimination within rainbow communities
- More understanding of intersectionality
- Explore issues that need to be amplified for Pasifika communities
- Tell Pacific LGBTIQ+ stories
- Corporate and ally participation in Auckland Pride Parade
- LGBTIQ+ people need to "own" their Parade
- Resourcing for Pasifika floats in Parade
- Previous experiences on Board not positive for Pasifika, restore balance and honour
- Board responsibility to raise issues and hold people accountable
- Create Tikanga, value base will define Auckland Pride Parade and Festival
- Connection to traditional practices and stories
- Continue the conversations, more talanoa
- Plan and consult with Pasifika community, build together