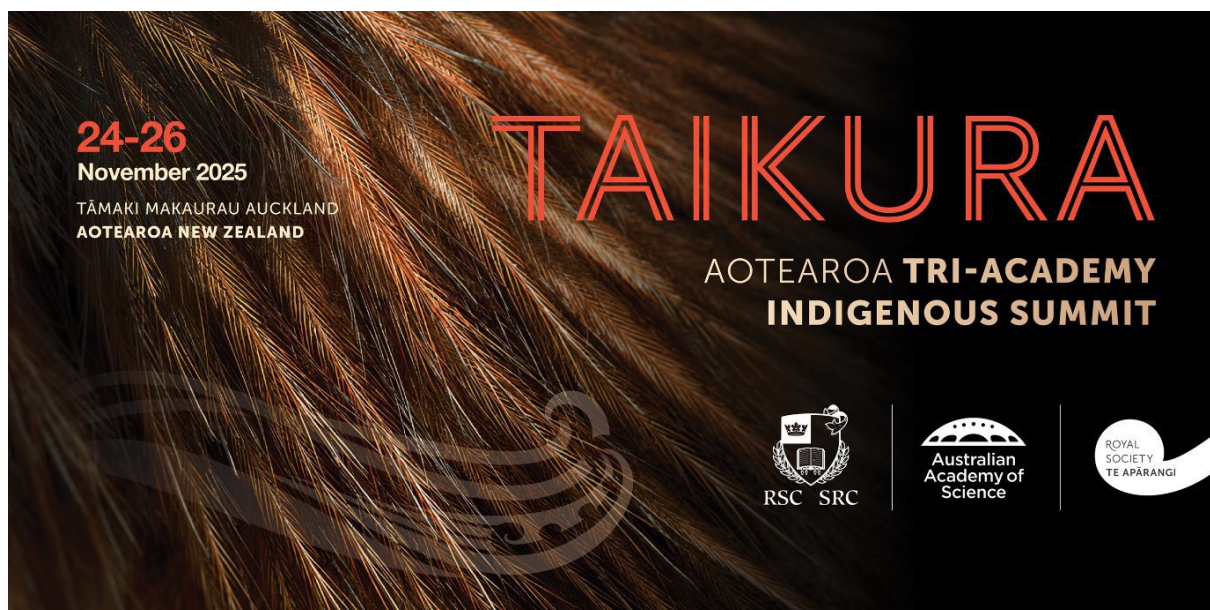




Communiqué from Taikura Tri-Academy Indigenous Summit 2025

**26 November 2025, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland
Aotearoa New Zealand**

This communiqué is from participants at the second Tri-Academy summit 'Taikura' convened by Royal Society Te Apārangi, 24–26 November 2025. Over 130 delegates from Aotearoa, Canada, and Australia were joined by representatives of Royal Society Te Apārangi, the Royal Society of Canada, and five Australian learned academies.

We, the participants of Taikura the Tri-Academy Summit 2025 – predominantly Indigenous scholars and knowledge holders, and members of the Academies – affirm our shared vision of advancing Indigenous leadership and self-determination in research and scholarship at every level, to benefit people and planet. We call on the learned academies in our respective countries to take action in support of our shared vision. This includes recognising the critical importance of Indigenous Knowledges and removing barriers to enable the flourishing of Indigenous scholarship. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples affirms this call to action.

The Summit recognises that Indigenous Peoples are the rightful leaders, authorities, and stewards of research concerning their communities, territories, and knowledges. Indigenous research is grounded in distinct systems of knowledge, practice, and ethics that have sustained societies and ecosystems for millennia. These knowledge systems, sciences and artistic forms constitute rigorous and essential ways of knowing and understanding the world. They are not supplementary to other science methodologies. They have their own integrity and value.

We acknowledge the enduring impacts of research practices that have marginalised, misrepresented, or appropriated Indigenous knowledge. Correcting these legacies requires fundamental transformation within institutes of higher learning and learned academies. This includes:

- addressing structural racism and inequities, including for Indigenous people with

- diverse sexual orientations or gender identities,
- affirming the sovereign right of Indigenous Peoples to determine their own research priorities, methodologies, and outcomes, and
- enabling Indigenous Peoples to maintain, protect, and develop Indigenous knowledge systems, intellectual property, and data.

The participants of this Summit collectively affirm that Indigenous knowledges, languages, and practices hold critical importance for addressing the urgent challenges that we collectively face. These challenges include climate change, erosion of human rights, land rights, and biodiversity, health and education inequities, food, water, and employment insecurity, and harmful data practices. The transformation of our academies needs to redress the impacts of ongoing colonialism to support Indigenous Peoples' self-determination, preserve and promote Indigenous knowledges, cultures and languages, and realise our sovereign wealth. These challenges demand approaches rooted in respect, relevance, reverence, and reciprocity – principles long embedded within Indigenous Knowledge systems.

In issuing this communiqué, we affirm our shared vision of a global research landscape that is inclusive, respectful, and transformative – one that recognises Indigenous Peoples as equal partners and leaders in the pursuit and application of knowledge.

Summit Indigenous leaders working group

Aotearoa: Professor Gail Gillon FRSNZ, Professor Anthony Hōete FRSNZ, Professor Helen Moewaka Barnes FRSNZ, Professor Tahu Kukutai FRSNZ, Professor Paul Kilmartin FRSNZ, Professor Carwyn Jones FRSNZ, Distinguished Professor Linda Tuhiwai Smith CNZM FRSNZ, Professor Leonie Pihama FRSNZ, Professor Jarrod Haar FRSNZ, Professor Denise Wilson FRSNZ, Distinguished Professor Hingangaroa Smith CNZM FRSNZ, Distinguished Professor Michelle Thompson-Fawcett FRSNZ

Canada: Professor Frank Deer

Australia: Professor Tom Calma AO FAA FASSA FAHA