Wānanga

• Wānanga are Māori cultural experiences to support learning.
• Everyone is encouraged to share and reflect on their current understandings so that new knowledge can be created together.
• Therefore, wānanga must be safe cultural spaces where everyone can participate and engage with open minds and hearts.

Wānanga involves:

• Usually wānanga are held in Māori spaces such as marae and are often hosted with iwi, hapū or mana whenua.
• This begins by entering Māori spaces as respectful visitors.
• It continues by participating in processes and conversations to develop new cultural relationships, understandings and skills.
• This means that Māori cultural understandings and tikanga related to knowledge and learning are valued and prioritised.

Expected Outcomes are:

• Providing authentic cultural spaces for community members to connect with each other, to share experiences and challenges, and to plan for the future.
• Marae based wānanga engage participants culturally, emotionally, spiritually and intellectually.
• People often talk about how their thinking has been changed through these new cultural relational processes for learning.

The conversation and learning in this wānanga has hit hard. I went through a lot of emotions, the first being shock and anger, then tears. The new learnings left me feeling ashamed. As a pākēhā, I feel obligated to drive change within our society.

Wānanga participant

Te Hurihanganui Pou and Principles

The pou are:
Kaupapa Māori and Critical Consciousness.

The principles are:
Te Ao Māori, Tino Rangatiratanga, Whanaungatanga, Te Ira Tangata, Mana Ōrite, and Te Hāngaitanga.

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