



Tēnā koutou,

In August 2015 Museums Aotearoa and Te Papa held a series of workshops to share experience, views and ambitions for our sector. Project sponsors Roy Clare and Rick Ellis circulated a letter last November outlining the issues and actions identified.

The overarching goal is coordinated and collaborative strategic engagement across the museum and gallery sector. The following is an update on work on the priority action areas that has begun this year.

Leadership and professional development

What we have been/are doing:

- MA pilot mentoring project developed 2015, started March 2016
- NSTP working to support workplace training through workshops and resource guides
- Both are engaged with reviewing and developing unit standards
- Both are engaged with supporting university Museum Studies courses

What we will be doing and when:

- MA exploring leadership development options and seeking external funding (6 mths)

Networks and national support services

What we have been/are doing:

- MA and NSTP already support and service a wide range of networks and regional groupings
- In many practical ways MA and NSTP collaborate, e.g. to support Kaitiaki Maori working in museums

What we will be doing and when:

- Review established networks and groups to assess support, coverage and alignment (6 mths)
- Look for improved collaboration and support mechanisms (12 mths)
- Use MA and NSTP regional meetings and activities to engage directly (August-October 2016)
- Survey MA members (and wider sector?) to gauge current membership and network coverage and seek input on priorities

Digital

What we have been/are doing:

- MA and NSTP have databases and systems: for memberships, nz museums.co.nz, communications, directories
- MA and NSTP have established communications networks

- MA and Te Papa have engagement across GLAMS e.g. through NDF, government policy input, Te Papa and larger museums digital, outreach and innovation

What we will be doing and when:

- seek synergies to ensure core data is up to date and accessible
- Look into new or shared systems for MA and NSTP
- Promote scalability and service provision of larger museums systems for smaller institutions

Evidence base

What we have been/are doing:

- MA has been working with MCH on analysis of our sector statistics to feed into government policy
- MA and LGNZ set up working party with sector, government, councils and museums to assess current data availability, gaps and uses

What we will be doing and when:

- develop MA-LGNZ project into scalable methodology for museum sector (6 mths)
- MA work with Te Papa, MCH and other agencies to ensure museum sector evidence is accessible by all and integrated onto broader evidence projects and research (6-12 mths)

Task Force approach

What we have been/are doing:

- NSTP has established Expert Knowledge Exchange programme to support museums nationally
- other museums and galleries also support each other, especially regionally

What we will be doing and when:

- Develop collaborative approach with shared goals and action plans to explore opportunities to integrate support and expertise exchange nationally for specific projects and areas of need (6 mths)
- Include MA, Te Papa, larger museums and galleries, other GLAMS and related organisations as required
- Include options to contract out where appropriate

These priorities and actions will be taken forward and reviewed jointly on a two monthly basis.

Ngā mihi nui,

Roy Clare CBE
Chair
Museums Aotearoa
Te Tari o Ngā Whare Taonga o Te Motu

Rick Ellis
Chief Executive
Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa

Arapata Hakiwai
Kaihautū

April 2016