

Wayne Hemi – Trustee Profile

Wayne is the son of William (Bill) and Florence May Hemi, and proudly descends from Hemi Whiro. He and his wife Elaine have been together for over 50 years. They are the parents of two children and grandparents to five treasured mokopuna.

Wayne spent the majority of his working life in the fishing industry—beginning as a general factory hand and rising to senior roles including Supervisor, General Manager, and Company Director. In 1992, he was appointed Managing Director of Kaikaiawaro Fishing Company Ltd, representing Ngāti Kuia's fisheries interests under the Crown quota. During this time, Wayne contributed to national Māori Fisheries Settlement negotiations, representing Ngāti Kuia at the Taumata Paepae and Treaty Tribes Coalition forums.

He later served as a Trustee during the Te Whakatau Settlement Negotiations, and for two years acted as interim General Manager of Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Kuia.

Today, Wayne continues to serve his iwi as:

- Trustee, Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Kuia
- Trustee, Kaikaiawaro Charitable Board
- Director, Te Hoiere Asset Holding Company Ltd
- Director, Pakohe LP Ltd
- Director, Titi I Te Rangi Ltd
- Representative, Pou He Pūranga Hua Whakarea

Wayne's service is guided by the wisdom of those who came before – *ka mua, ka muri* – walking backwards into the future with his eyes on the past. In his mahi and his whānau life, he stands connected with others like the kahikatea grove – *kia uru kahikatea te tī* – holding strong in unity for the generations to come.