

FOR RELEASE: Te 1 o ngā rā o Poutūterangi 2022 | 1 March 2022

E HAUMITIA ANA E TE KĀWANATANGA TE ARANGA AKE O MATARIKI

He kaupapa **tuku pūtea hou** a **Matariki Ahunga Nui** hei haumi i te ohotanga whānui ki te Kāhui o Matariki – te kāhui whetū o Pleiades. Ka whakawāteatia he pūtea hei tautoko i te whanaketanga o ngā kaupapa e arotahi ana ki Te Kāhui o Matariki ka whakanui i te hararei tūmatanui tuatahi nei.

I te 2020, ka pāhotia e te Kāwanatanga te whakatūria o te Hararei Tūmatanui o Matariki ā te tau 2022 hei whakanui i te Kāhui o Matariki. I whakatakihia Te Pire mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o Te Kāhui o Matariki / Te Kāhui o Matariki Public Holiday Bill ki Pāremata i te 28 o Mahuru 2021 hei whakatū i te hararei tūmatanui ka whakanuia tuatahitia ā te **Rāmere te 24 o Pipiri 2022**.

E haere tonu ai tā te Kāhui o Matariki i tohu ai, ka whanaketia a Matariki Ahunga Nui hei whakatupu kaupapa kei tōna pūtaka ko ngā mātaḥono me ngā uara e pā ana ki te Kāhui o Matariki. E tukua ana he haumitanga hei whakapakari i ngā pūkenga me ngā mātauranga o te hau kāinga mō te Kāhui o Matariki ka taea te tuari ki Aotearoa.

Hei tā Lil Anderson, Tumu Whakarae o Te Arawhiti, “e hiranga ana te āta whai kia arahina ā tātou kaupapa whakanui e te mātauranga e pā ana ki a Matariki. E hiahia ana mātou kia āwhinatia te motu e ngā whānau, ngā hapū, ngā iwi me ngā rōpū Māori e noho mātau ai te motu ki te hiranga o Matariki. He takahanga whakamua nui tēnei i te mea ko Matariki te rā tuatahi o te motu e whakamanahia ai te ao Māori.”

GOVERNMENT INVESTS IN THE RISE OF MATARIKI

Matariki Ahunga Nui is a **new funding initiative launched today** to invest in building greater awareness of te kāhui o Matariki – the Pleiades star cluster. Funding is now available to support the development of te kāhui o Matariki focused events and resources that also recognise the inaugural public holiday.

In 2020, the Government announced the establishment in 2022 of the Matariki Public Holiday to celebrate te kāhui o Matariki. Te Pire mō te Hararei Tūmatanui o Te Kāhui o Matariki / Te Kāhui o Matariki Public Holiday Bill was introduced to Parliament on 28 September 2021 to establish the public holiday that will be celebrated for the first time on **Friday 24 June 2022**.

To perpetuate what te Kāhui o Matariki represents, Matariki Ahunga Nui Funding Initiative was developed to grow initiatives that are grounded in the principles and values associated with te Kāhui o Matariki. Investment is being made to build local capability and knowledge that may be shared with Aotearoa about te Kāhui o Matariki.

Lil Anderson, Tumu Whakarae (Chief Executive), Te Arawhiti, says that “it’s important to ensure that mātauranga related to Matariki informs our celebrations. We want whānau, hapū, iwi and kaupapa Māori rōpū to help the country understand the importance of Matariki. It is a significant step forward, as Matariki is the first national day that recognises te ao Māori.”

Ka tuwhera ngā tāpaenga tonono i tēnei rā te **1 o Poutūterangi 2022** mō te whā wiki, e whakahaeretia ai he kaupapa ka whakanui i te tino o tā Matariki i tohu ai ki a ngāi Māori. E rurukutia ana e Te Arawhiti – the Office for Māori Crown Relations te pūtea i runga i te tautoko a tō rātou Kaiarahi Matua mō ngā Matauranga o Matariki, a Ahorangi Rangi Mātāmua.

E hīkaka ana a Lil “ki te mahi tahi ki a Ahorangi Mātāmua mō te kaupapa nui whakaharahara nei me te āta whai kia kawea ake te kaupapa kei mua i a tātou e mārama ai, e whakanuia ai e tātou a Matariki.”

Ka tohu te aranga ake o Matariki i te mātahi o te tau (e mōhio whānuitia ana ko te Tau Hou Māori), te kaupapa hiranga katoa ka whakanuia i te maramataka Māori. E haere tonu ana te whakanuia o te aranga ake o te Kāhui o Matariki i ēnei rā nei ki te tikanga me te kawa ka tohu i te wā o te hokinga whakaaro, te maharatanga, te whakanui me te mahi āhuareka, ka arotahi ai ki ngā painga ka kawea mai e te tau hou.

Ka kitea ngā kōrero mō te kaupapa nei – pēwhea te tuku tonono mai, ngā taumata tuku pūtea me ngā paearu i te paetukutuku a Te Arawhiti i: www.tearawhiti.govt.nz/funding-for-matariki-celebrations

Mō ētahi atu pātai, toro mai ki a matarikifunding@tearawhiti.govt.nz

Mānawatia a Matariki!

Applications **open today, 1 March 2022 for four weeks**, to enable initiatives that acknowledge the essence of what Matariki represented for Māori to be submitted. Te Arawhiti – the Office for Māori Crown Relations is coordinating the fund with the support of their Chief Advisor Mātauranga Matariki, Professor Rangi Mātāmua.

Lil is “excited to be working with Professor Mātāmua on such an important kaupapa and ensuring that we take the opportunity before us to understand and celebrate Matariki.”

The rising of Matariki marks the beginning of te mātahi o te tau (commonly known as the Māori New Year), the most significant celebration in the traditional Māori calendar. The appearance of te Kāhui o Matariki continues to be honoured today with ritual and ceremony that marks a period of reflection and remembrance, celebration and festivities, and focuses on the promise of a new season.

Information about this initiative – how to apply, the levels of funding and criteria can be found on the Te Arawhiti website at www.tearawhiti.govt.nz/funding-for-matariki-celebrations

For any further information, contact matarikifunding@tearawhiti.govt.nz

Mānawatia a Matariki!

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