# Video transcript - Interview with Luke Rowe, Iwi Māori Partnership Board - Health Workforce NZ Dialogue

And Luke what brings you here today? Well in the first instance, as I say, my first love is Māori mental health.

I work in generally Māori Health in Whanau Ora and so it's, I guess, against that backdrop that I'm here.

I think it's important that with these new transformational changes that we need to be enthusiastic about this.

We're not often as a country and enthusiastic about many things.

Unless it's got to do with the All Blacks or Six60.

And so I think it's really critical that as part of our journey as a country, when we're thinking about health and the transformations and the changes that happen at the moment with our two new authorities, that we're enthusiastic about it and that we are visibly seen to be optimistic about these changes.

Yeah, yeah, the one the one, many sort of key messages, probably the one that I will touch on as from Riana Manuel CEO and her important points about holding on to some of the narratives.

And so she really just kind of solidified the background story to the two names of the new authorities and I think that's actually quite important as well as we move forward, as we journey forward, that we remember some of those narratives.

Because that's what's going to hold us as a workforce and it's also what's going to hold us as a country.

Yeah, good question.

I would say that, if there were organisation s or sectors that I'd be more interested in connecting with, they're probably outside of health because as we know more of the health outcomes happen outside of health, and so I'd be kind of keen to sort of connect with some of those sectors in especially the philanthropic trusts, some of the private business entities that could really sort of help us kind of propel forward some of these aspirations that we have for health and Māori health in particular.

Does it make you feel hopeful, then, the conversations? Short answer? Yes absolutely hopeful.

Never been done before, right, in terms of Te Aka Whai Ora in particular - the Māori health authority.

And I see that as a real sort of giant step forward in the right direction.

Notwithstanding some of the challenges that are obviously going to be confronting the new entity and the workforce and we've heard about some of those kind of challenges this morning, but you Know, as one of our far north kaumatua once said, we've come too far not to go further.