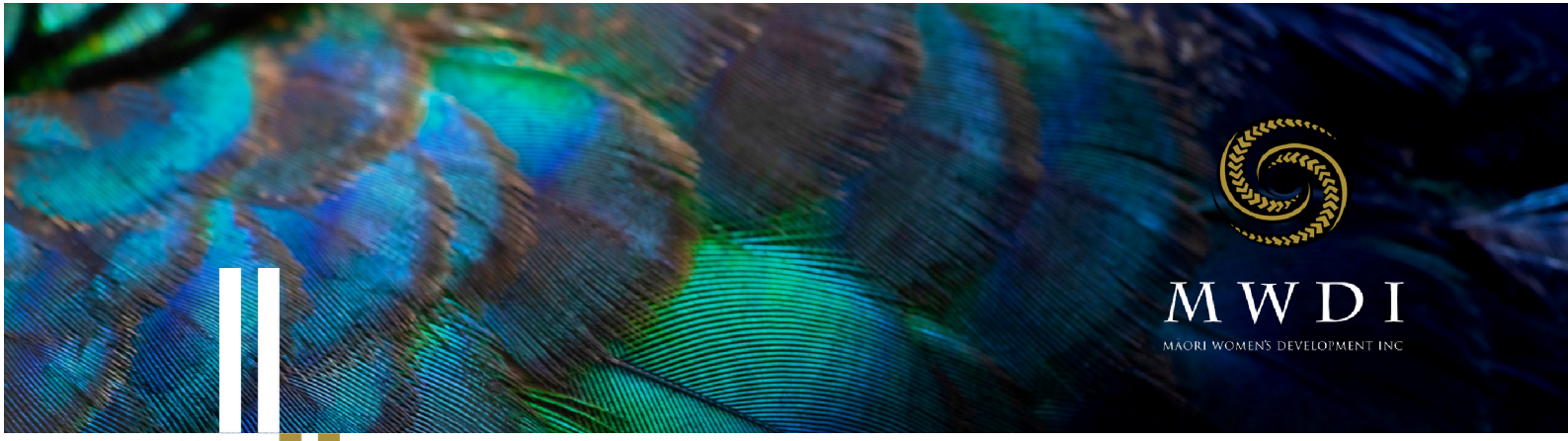

PRESS RELEASE – WELLINGTON, New Zealand 24 October 2025

MWDI Māori Businesswomen's Awards 2025

START

CEO and producer Nicole Horan of Hi Mama Productions wins the MWDI Māori Businesswomen's Overall Supreme Award 2025

Hi Mama Productions, a leading Māori-owned film and television production company, has been awarded *Te Tohu Aorangi* Overall Supreme Winner of the prestigious MWDI Māori Businesswomen's Awards 2025.

This highly coveted accolade celebrates outstanding achievements, innovation, and leadership within te ao pakihi Māori (the Māori business world).

Hosted by Māori Women's Development Inc (MWDI), the MWDI Māori Businesswomen's Awards honour the resilience, creativity, and dedication of Māori women in business, highlighting the significant contributions of wāhine Māori entrepreneurs and professionals across Aotearoa (New Zealand).

Founded by Nicole Horan, Hi Mama Productions shone among a formidable line-up of nominees for its exemplary dedication to Māori business, culture and values through film and television.

A proud *pakihi Māori* (Māori business), Hi Mama Productions is a leading film and television company in Aotearoa. The company remains steadfast in upholding traditional Māori values while embracing a contemporary ethos marked by innovation and limitless creativity. Hi Mama Productions continues to be recognised as a leader in indigenous film and television production within the New Zealand market.

The MWDI Māori Businesswomen's Awards 2025 supports the vision and mission of Māori Women's Development Inc to encourage the economic development of wāhine and their whānau to ensure that Māori contribute equitably to our cultural, spiritual, economic, social and political achievements.

Māori Women's Development Inc is a unique and indigenous organisation which supports Māori women in business and these awards celebrate and showcase the very best wāhine businesswomen and their pakihi (business) to Aotearoa, the Asia-Pacific region and other global markets and indigenous economies.

This year's event received over 100 nominations and 44 finalists, across eight regions (Te Tai Tokerau, Tāmaki Makaurau, Tainui, Waiariki, Te Tai Rāwhiti, Ikaroa, Aotea, Te Waipounamu) and ten business

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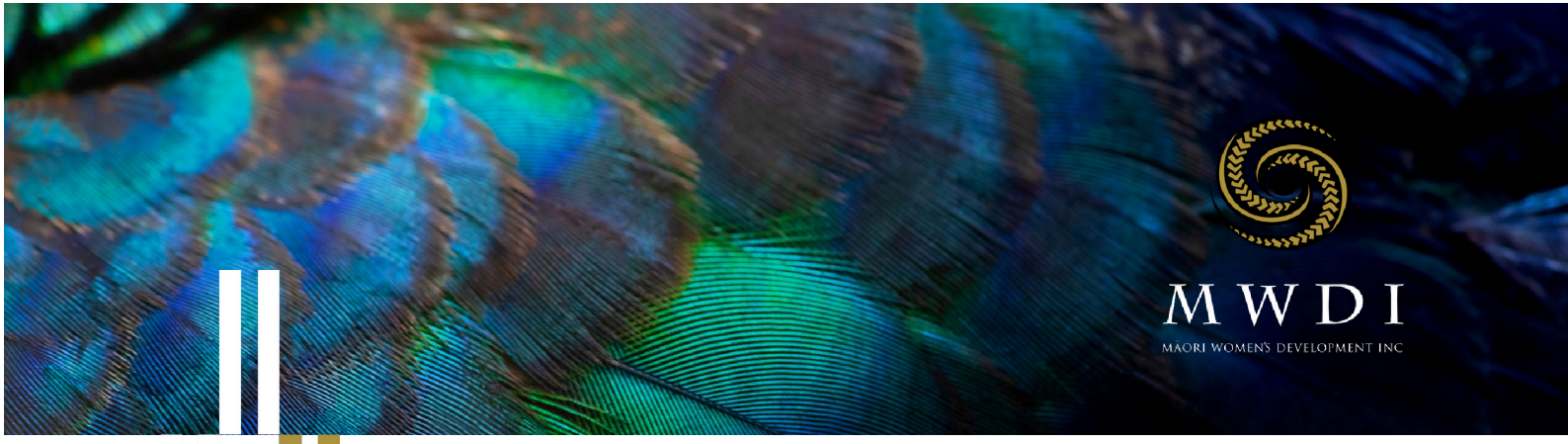

excellence categories through various disciplines such as: Creative Arts & Design, Technology, Export, Business Collaboration, People & Capability, Innovation, Employment & Growth, Emerging Business, Social Enterprise, Marketing & Sales.

MWDI Kaiwhakahaere Linda Clay, "These awards are a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our nominees, finalists, winners, and all kaipakihi wāhine Māori showcasing their businesses on the economic world stage. Despite ongoing economic challenges, our wāhine and their businesses continue to stand strong and thrive. We're also very grateful to all our sponsors for their tautoko and look forward to next year " (Ngāti Awa, Te Whakatōhea) said.

Judges, Te Whānau o Waipereira Trust COO Awerangi tamahere, Poutama Trust CEO Koroninia Dickinson and MWDI Kaiwhakahaere Linda Clay were impressed with the high calibre of nominations befitting to all regions and categories.

Māori Women's Development Inc are pleased to announce the following individuals and businesses as winners for the 2025 Awards:

Category	Winner	Business
Te Tai Tokerau	Hiria Faofua	Korowai by Hiria
Tāmaki Makaurau	Marissa Lewis	Whanake Group
Tainui	Nicole Horan	Hi Mama Productions
Waiariki	Renee Tapsell	Aotearoa Dive
Te Tairāwhiti	Ashley Kemp & Pania Rowe	Nōku Pakihi Ltd
Aotea	Kiri Erb	Tika Catering Limited
Ikaroa	Kathie Irwin	Kathie Irwin & Associates
Te Waipounamu	Hayley-Chānel Simeon	Hayz At the Anchorage
Pakihi Toi Ora (Creative Arts & Design)	Riana Tamati	Ruruku Limited
Pakihi Whai Ora (Social Enterprise)	Harlem-Cruz Ihaia	Purotu Limited
Te Amorangi (People & Capability)	Nicole Horan	Hi Mama Productions

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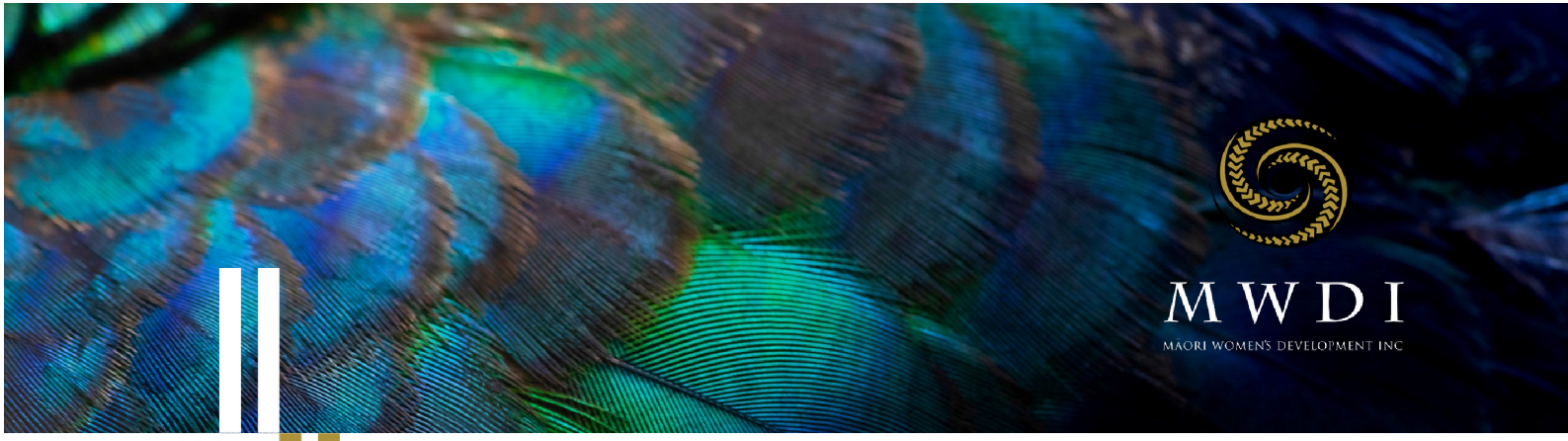

Te Auahatanga (Innovation)	Kiriana Eparaima-Hautapu	ATA Limited
Te Kaweake (Export)	Kelly Pihema-Berridge & Ashley Pihema	Rerehua Boutique
Te Pōiketanga (Emerging Business)	Danielle Allen-Sutton	The Law Lady Limited
Te Pou Whirinaki (Business Collaboration)	Kaye-Maree Dunn	Making Everything Achievable
Te Whakatairanga & Tauhokohoko (Marketing & Sales)	Dayna Slade & Amy Barratt	Bo & Ko
Te Whanaketanga (Employment & Growth)	Moira McGarva-ratapu	Pursuit Limited
Te Tohu Aorangi (Overall Supreme Winner)	Nicole Horan	Hi Mama Productions

The MWDI Māori Businesswomen's Awards 2025 was proudly sponsored by:

Manatū Wāhine Ministry for Women

Poutama Trust

PwC

Kirikiriroa Family Services Trust

Te Nehenehenui Trust

Te Kōara

Te Whānau o Waipereira

Te Taumata

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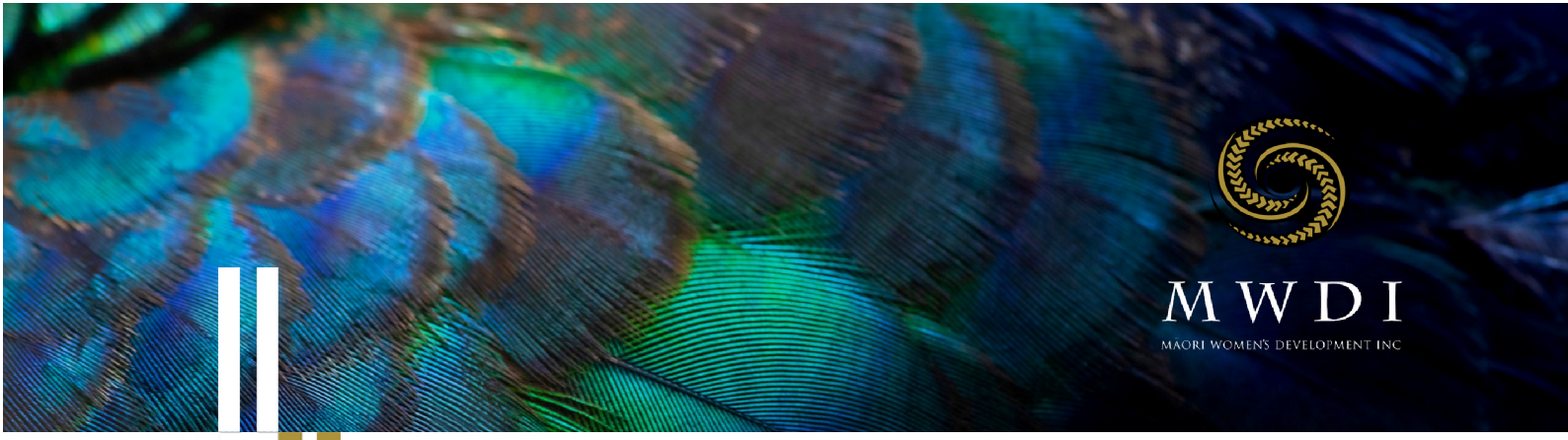

Te Wānanga o Aotearoa

The MWDI Māori Businesswomen's Awards were held at Tākina Convention Centre, Wellington, Aotearoa New Zealand, on Friday, 24 October 2025.

MWDI Māori Businesswomen's Awards 2025
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END