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**Evaluation in an indigenous context: New Zealand Māori language immersion schools**

M J Hollings, K M Sewell

*Education Review Office, Wellington, New Zealand*

The New Zealand Education Review Office (ERO) is responsible for reviewing and reporting on the performance of all New Zealand schools including kura kaupapa Māori (Māori language immersion schools). Some of these kura have been established and operate in accordance with a particular set of principles – those of Te Aho Matua.

The evaluation methodology for these Te Aho Matua kura was first implemented by ERO in 2001 and has been recently reviewed during 2006.

This presentation explores the way in which the evaluation methodology has been reviewed through a partnership between ERO and

Te Runanganui o Aotearoa ( a group charged with promoting Te Aho Matua principles in kura). It also describes and analyses the way in which these particular evaluations are now being carried out in the kura, drawing on the knowledge and expertise of the whānau (the school community) as well as the evaluation experience of ERO.