

# COVID-19 LEVEL 4 - ELIMINATE



**Te Rōpū  
Whakakaupapa Urutā**  
NATIONAL MĀORI PANDEMIC GROUP

# TIKANGA

**Keeping ourselves and our whānau safe is vital.**

**Here's some advice and guidance on tikanga, hui and tangihanga for Alert Level 4 – Eliminate**

## **TIKANGA**

Hongi, hugging or kissing are absolutely out! You should be at home. If you meet and greet someone there should be no touching at all.

- The East Coast wave
- The 'chur bro' greeting
- The thumbs-up sign

**Why?** Because the COVID-19 virus spreads by droplets in tears, hupe and saliva and by touch.

## **HUI**

All hui are cancelled:

- Cancel any hui/gathering at the marae, clubrooms or in homes
- Use teleconferencing (Zoom, Skype) or live-streaming.

**Why?** Because this is the best way to reduce contact and spread of disease and save the lives of our kaumātua and other whānau, hapū and iwi members.

## **TANGIHANGA**

No tangihanga until further notice.

**Why?** Because COVID-19 is now in the community and kaumātua, whānau and manuhiri would be infected with COVID-19.

- Immediate burial at urupā
- Consider cremation and a delayed process for ashes burial
- Consider tele-tangi or live-streaming of any tangihanga/burial processes for broader whānau.
- No visiting ope/groups – no “whānau who are sick – someone who has a ‘cold’, is a ‘contact’ of a COVID-19, or has chronic illness like chest disease, cancer, heart or kidney disease.
- Closed coffins for a COVID-19 death.

**Why?** This advice is the best way to reduce contact spread of COVID-19 to our kaumātua and other whānau, hapū and iwi members.

## **Other advice around tangihanga:**

The Ministers, kaumātua, kōeke and tohunga who run our tangihanga are older and likely to be at great risk. They should not be present. Each whānau will probably have to run its own service. Some whānau will consider not having a service at all – just immediate burial with a karakia.