Workshop: *Árran (heart, fireplace)* - The achievements, advancement and recognition of Sámi education 15-16 April 2021



## Day 2: 16 April 2021 at 9.25 (UTC +3) Indigeneity and Higher Education: A Maori perspective and experiences developing kaupapa Maori education initiatives within the Academy

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## Abstract

While there is a growing body of positive Indigenous initiatives in education recorded in the literature, what is not so well documented are the different layers of unseen barriers that continue to challenge indigenous educational ideas and practices in higher education, particularly from the standpoints of the important relationship between institutions and their indigenous communities and of community engagement and partnerships—the 'town to gown' relations. In Aotearoa, New Zealand, the idea of such relationships with Māori communities, at least in the university sector, is still evolving, as systems, processes and values within institutions adjust to Māori priorities.

This presentation focuses on indigenous community partnerships in higher education aimed at improving the education outcomes and life chances of Māori learners and their families, in particular, the development of university-based full immersion Māori language initial teacher education programmes (ITE). These programmes are unique because they represent a bold new direction in ITE provision in New Zealand through collaboration and partnership with the Kura Kaupapa Maori sector of education and Te Rūnanga Nui o Ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori o Aotearoa (TRN), the national organisation responsible for overseeing all Kura Kaupapa Māori. This community partnership approach to the provision of Māori immersion ITE programmes within the academy is a pragmatic, innovative and positive solution to addressing the national teacher supply problem in Māori language immersion education.