



Photo credit: Phil Yeo

## Glenis Philip-Barbara

*Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Uepōhatu, Clan McDonald*

Glenis has a lifelong interest in the sustainability of Māori knowledge systems and practices, especially te reo Māori, and has worked in the public service for thirty years. As an Executive Coach and experienced leader she has supported a range of organisations to implement change with a clear eye on the why and the how.

In previous roles Glenis has led national research projects, initiated specialised learning services, led the establishment of a regional education plan, helped the marae with restoration projects, initiated and established a national Māori language research centre and rolled out five major investigations into the state of te reo, supported the safe inclusion of care experienced young people into a major change programme and assisted Tertiary Education providers to improve their performance.

While based in Wellington Glenis held the roles of Chief Executive, Māori Language Commission and Associate Deputy Chief Executive, Child, Youth and Family. She went into the second role specifically to help drive the system change being discussed at the time to ensure that the voices and experiences of young people, families and caregivers would help shape the new Ministry being created. Here in Gisborne Glenis was formally the Director of Business Development at Tairāwhiti Polytechnic and Education and Environment Projects Manager at Te Runanga o Turanganui a Kiwa.

In recent years she founded a charitable organisation that is focused on recycling and up-cycling high quality second hand goods into communities in need and since returning to

Gisborne from Wellington, has established a management consulting business. Glenis led the launch of Tuia 250 ki Tūranga for Te Hā Trust, collaborating extensively with the community and iwi to do so. Glenis is the Chair of Te Tairāwhiti Arts Festival, represents Gisborne District Council on the Board of Tairāwhiti Museum and serves as a community Board member for SuperGrans Tairāwhiti and Tōnui Collab.

During lock down level 4 back in March, Glenis established a programme team for Gisborne District Council and managed a \$23m redeployment programme which has seen 236 redeployed workers supported to find new work and enjoy significant training and skills development in the Tairāwhiti region.

Glenis hails from a Reporua, North East of Ruatoria on the East Coast, is Mum to seven grown up children and wife to Nick Barbara.