



Whale Song
Pakake Waiata Charitable Trust
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Tim Costley
MP for Ōtaki

To whom it may concern,

25/10/24

As the proud Member of Parliament for Ōtaki and local MP in Kāpiti, I want to express my strong support for Whale Song. This is a really exciting initiative that blends economic growth, cultural identity, our past and our future.

Our region has been under-rated and under-valued for too long. Whale Song is one pathway to boosting our region's economy by becoming an attraction of cultural, regional, and national significance; I can't think of an equivalent to this anywhere else in New Zealand.

Partnering with local Iwi and promoting eco-tourism, Whale Song could support local businesses and attract visitors who could help invigorate our economy. This project aims to create job opportunities for our youth, empowering them to engage in meaningful work that fosters a sense of purpose and pride. By supporting Whale Song, we can help our rangatahi thrive and contribute positively to our community.

I imagine a future where people flock to our region to relax on our beaches and walk, ride and run through the hills, and visit our beautiful Island. I see people enjoying our food and beverage sector, and our unique character. Cruise ships should be sending bus-loads on day trips up the new expressway to visit us. Tourists from across New Zealand and around the world should have this region as a 'must see' on their trip.

Whale Song is a bold and ambitious way of sticking a flag in the ground and building towards our shared future. I know Whale Song aims to take centre-stage in telling the 'Kāpiti Story'. I love the thought of seeing these beautiful creatures on display for every one of us locally, nationally, and from around the world.

Please join me in supporting this exciting project.

Tim Costley

MP for Ōtaki



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