News Release

IAEM Announces the Winners of the IAEM-Oceania
and the IAEM-Global Partners in Preparedness Award

Oct. 18, 2018 (Falls Church, Va.) - The IAEM-Oceania Awards Committee of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) is pleased to announce the winner of the IAEM-USA 2018 Partners in Preparedness Award. At the same time, this winning project was recognized by the IAEM-Global Awards & Recognition Work Group, which announced that it also won the IAEM-Global 2018 Partners in Preparedness Award. The award winners will be recognized at the IAEM 66th Annual Conference & EMEX, Oct. 19-24, 2018, in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The winner of the **2018 IAEM-Oceania Partners in Preparedness Award** and the **IAEM-Global Partners in Preparedness Award** is the **Marae Emergency Preparedness Project and Implementation Program, a partnership between the Bay of Plenty Civil Defence and Emergency Management (CDEM) Group, and Te Puni Kokiri, the Ministry for Maori Development**. The Marae Emergency Preparedness Project and Implementation Program demonstrates the strong partnership between the Bay of Plenty Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group and Te Puni Kokiri, the Ministry for Maori Development. The aim of this project was to improve the way the Bay of Plenty Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group connects with Marae communities, by: giving recognition for the important role they perform in emergencies; promoting and educating on emergency preparedness; and providing a way to move forward in the way local Maori response structures integrate into a Civil Defence Emergency response.

This partnership successfully demonstrates a multi-agency at all levels approach to progress indigenous inclusiveness in emergency management. There is considerable interest and increased awareness in Marae communities and in the CDEM sector, demonstrated through the increase of information requests and the demand for resources, advice, and information. The toolkit has been promoted and distributed/presented internationally, nationally and locally – and is available on the national Emergency Management Information system with the planning template accessible through the [BOPCDEM website](). Project participants successfully collaborated with Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiarangi, a prominant Maori University, resulting in the promotion of the bilingual resources through the Marae Health and Safety programme coordinator.

The real benefit of this work is demonstrated through coordinated Marae response to recent events. One example is Rautahi Marae, one of the Marae to trial the draft toolkit, who activated in a recent major local disaster, working under local civil defence to provide a welfare response for flood affected residences. Over 50 Marae members volunteered over 10 days to help in this response.

The IAEM Partners in Preparedness Award recognizes programs or processes that demonstrate innovative, multi-participant involvement between local governments and governmental entities and private sector businesses, non-governmental organizations and non-profits, or individuals which have resulted in effective and efficient incident management, emergency management or homeland security processes. Learn about the IAEM Awards Competition at www.iaem.com/Awards.

IAEM is a nonprofit professional organization representing more than 5,000 emergency management and homeland security professionals for local communities, state and federal disaster officials, private sector, non-governmental organizations, and others involved in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from all types of disasters, including acts of terrorism. IAEM provides access to the largest network of emergency management experts who can provide advice and assistance; the Certified Emergency Manager/Associate Emergency Manager program; annual scholarships; a comprehensive monthly newsletter; and more.

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