

Student 4: High Achieved  
 NZQA Intended for teacher use only

The focus for my inquiry is the growing push for places names to be changed to Maori. I am from Whanganui and I am really pleased that that they added the 'H'. I believe that it is the traditional way and the colonization of New Zealand by Europeans has impacted on traditional names which have a significant link to legend, family, mana and so forth.

I am going to look at

- What are the differing opinions about replacing European names with the original Maori names?
- What are the opinions about making more European named streets, Maori?
- What actions have people done to get the names changed or kept the same?
- When and how did this growing push start?

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### Controversy over Maori street name

By Andre Chumko | May 24, 2017

Lower Hutt residents are split over a decision to name a new street in the suburb of Maungaraki after the Maori name for New Zealand's native falcon – Karearea.

A Hutt City Council city development committee decided earlier this month to name the new private street Karearea Lane over alternatives which included Falcon Lane and Camel Hump Lane.

The carriageway is part of Otamarau Grove in Maungaraki and has five properties, including three private residences and two council reserves. Development of a former property on the street would create three new residential properties, meaning the carriageway, which would have eight properties, would become a private lane.

Otamarau Grove resident Ben [redacted], whose house was on the new lane, told the committee the Maori name was problematic. "Having too many names that are difficult for an everyday person to remember or be able to even write down can be problematic. At the moment we live on Otamarau Grove, a very nice name, which is in Maungaraki. If I was to have a courier deliver us a parcel at the moment it's rather difficult. It's nothing against a Maori name, it's just being practical."

Despite the plea, the committee unanimously approved Karearea.

Otamarau Grove resident [redacted], whose house was also on the new street, said he and his wife [redacted] were pleased with the decision. "Every country has got a falcon. You can have Falcon Lane anywhere in the world but our bush falcon is a bit special and unique to New Zealand." [redacted] said he had been living in Maungaraki for 17 years and submitted Karearea Lane as a potential name to council as he had falcons living near his house. "This year they had a young fledgling. Most days if you're at home you'll either see them or hear them. They're an important member of the neighbourhood."

Wainuomata ward councillor Josh Briggs, who sat in on the committee, said the indigenous name was the appropriate decision. "If the rationale for naming a street after an indigenous bird is because it's the natural feature then you should be using the

Secondary:

From:

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/~wwjourn/controversy-over-maori-street-name/> March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

Checked for accuracy on

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/news/92945062/it-is-on-our-20-note-but-karearea-is-too-hard-for-one-hutt-resident-to-pronounce>

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[redacted] believes it is impractical to have a name change and he also believes there are already Maori names as the Grove has a Maori name.

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[redacted] believes it is great to have a name change. He thinks the Maori names are unique to NZ and should be used.

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Josh believes that it is important to use the correct words and that companies who deliver to customers on Maori named streets will be response to the changes.

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indigenous name. I would hope that New Zealand Post or any other post service would actually be listening to their clients and being appropriate around understanding name pronunciation."

<file:///Users/jhealy/Desktop/18-076-X3-Appendix-2018-Name-change-Application2.pdf>  
<http://qisborneherald.co.nz/localnews/2672581-135/name-change-on-table>  
<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/102186560/hamilton-or-kirikiriroa-city-council-mayor-suggests-a-new-name>  
<http://www.massey.ac.nz/~wvjourn/controversy-over-maori-street-name/>

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**Primary or secondary**

**The history of our name change**

1991 - The name of the Whanganui River was changed by the Government following consultation to reflect the Maori spelling.  
 2012 - Alternative spellings for the city were officially recognised in Parliament. At that time it was determined that both spellings are acceptable and correct when referring to our urban area or city.  
 December 2014 - The Whanganui District Council voted to ask the New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (NZGB) to undertake the process to change the name of the district from Wanganui to Whanganui following a request from Tupoho, a Whanganui iwi hārangia.  
 The NZGB accepted this request and their public consultation process on the proposal closed on 28 August 2015.  
 November 2015 - After considering the submissions, the board made a recommendation to the Minister of Land Information.  
 On 17 November 2015, former Land Information Minister Louise Upston said "the spelling of Wanganui District will be corrected to Whanganui District" - reflecting the views of the Whanganui District Council, local iwi and public submitters".

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References: <http://www.whanganui.govt.nz/our-district/spelling/Pages/default.aspx> 22nd March, 2018

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**Explanation of relevance:**

This information lets us know the action that was taken by the Whanganui District Council to get the New Zealand Geographic board to change the name of the district from Wanganui to Whanganui. This request was initially started by Tupoho a Whanganui iwi. This information outlines the process for the change happening.

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**Ethical procedures followed:**

I looked on this website and found that as it was a government site the information would be accurate and so I did not need to look elsewhere to check the information. However, my teacher suggested I rang the New Zealand Geographic board and they said exactly the same thing about the timeline. I can surmise that the information is therefore correct.

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More templates of this calibre would be needed for High Achieved.

**Primary or secondary**

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Interview with Kaumatua at our school March 16<sup>th</sup> 2018

**Can I use your name in my report?**

No I would like to remain anonymous

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**What is your opinion about place name being changed to Maori place name?**

I guess as a Maori person I think it is important to see the place names of our past used. I would hope that New Zealanders generally would like to honour the tradition and man of the original Maori names. We are lucky in New Zealand as Maori is spoken nowhere else in the world. What a wonderful thing to have our language spread everywhere in New Zealand and used.

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**Have you been involved in any actions to have names changed?**

I was very vocal with the change of the "h" into Whanganui. I petitioned the council along with many others. I felt passionate about doing something in my lifetime to forward Te Reo. It was so wonderful when it was decided to be changed. Now it feels commonplace. I would love to get involved in the Hamilton action. I think they have just started talking about it and it would be great if this process was pushed along quickly.

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**Explanation of relevance:**

Anonymous (Kaumatua at my school) believes that it is important to change the European names back into the traditional Maori names where possible. He believes that the uniqueness of our language in New Zealand means we need to honour and enjoy it. He has been involved in social action with the H in Whanganui and sees this as a positive experience.

**Ethical procedures followed:**

Used anonymous in my report

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More templates of this calibre would be needed for High Achieved.