

OVERVIEW OF THE AUCKLAND LANGUAGES STRATEGY

#MultilingualAKL

Presentation to
**Ngā Reo Maha, Ngā Reo Rere:
Shaping a Multilingual Auckland**
November 25th 2015

Susan Warren, COMET Auckland

Why a languages strategy?

Reason 1: Auckland is super-diverse

- World's largest Māori & Pacific populations
- 160 languages and counting
- 39% born overseas
- One quarter Asian – one third by 2021



Why a languages strategy?

Reason 2: Value of languages

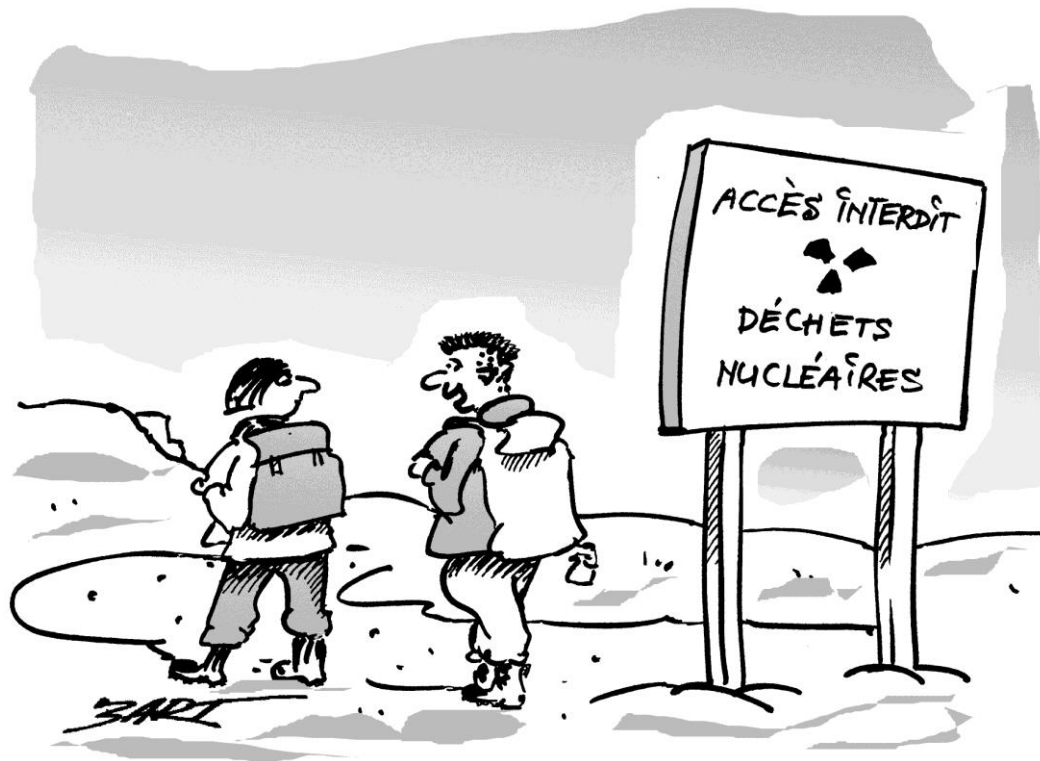
- **Economic – trade and tourism**
- **Social – cohesion, cultural understanding & confidence**
- **Educational – cognitive gains, identity**

Why a languages strategy?

Reason 3: A resource at risk

- **Number of speakers of Te Reo Māori reducing**
- **Several Pasifika languages at risk of extinction**
- **Migrant language loss**
- **No national languages policy**

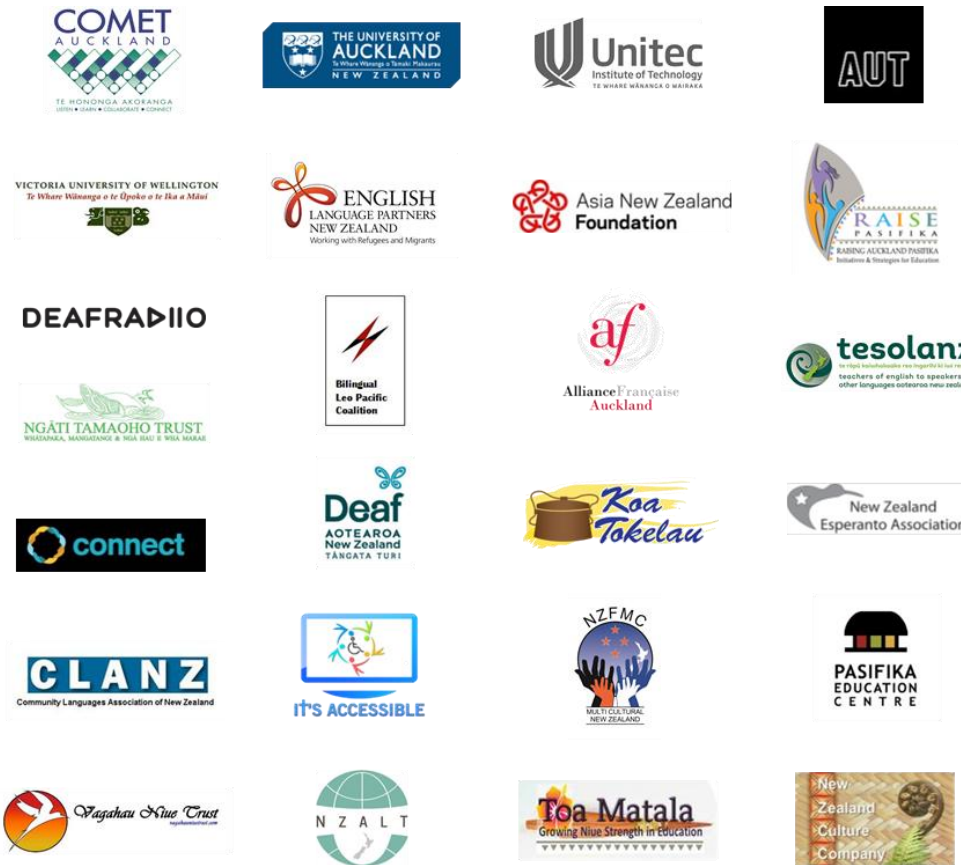
Our biggest issue – monolingual mind-set



*"I say to hell with it. If it can't be said
in English, it ain't worth saying at all."*

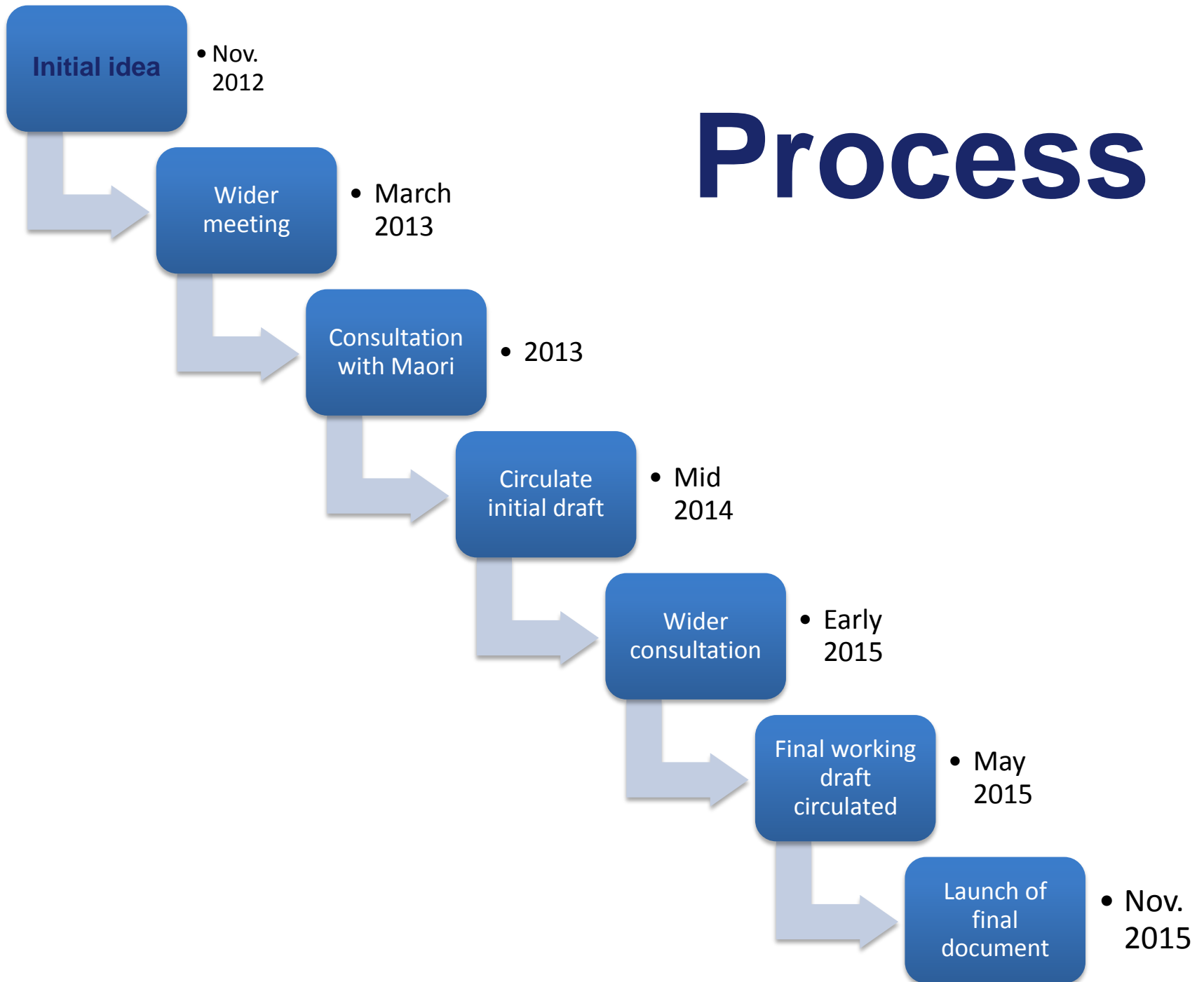
How was the draft strategy developed?

Cross-sector writing group plus wide consultation



Informed by expertise of group and by Royal Society paper *Languages in Aotearoa*

Process



The Strategy - vision

A multilingual Auckland that benefits socially, culturally and economically from an increasing number of Aucklanders speaking more than one language.

Our strategies



Value



Maintain



Learn



Use

Our goals

- All Auckland's languages acknowledged, promoted & celebrated
- Te reo Māori widely used
- Everyone able to communicate in English
- NZ Sign Language (NZSL) supported, available & used
- Translation and interpreting available for all who need them
- Pacific languages flourish
- Community & heritage languages maintained
- Languages available for trade, tourism & international relations
- Stakeholders develop & implement sector language action plans

Our targets

- Auckland **values and celebrates** languages
- Access for all to **Te Reo Māori**
- **Pasifika and migrant languages** maintained across generations
- **At least 50% of residents** speaking more than one language by 2040 (up from 28.68% in 2013)
- **At least 80% of school leavers** able to speak more than one language by 2030

How we're using the strategy

- **Raising awareness**
 - Media interest
 - Means to engage local and national government
- **Creating connections**
 - Focus for conversations
 - Opportunity to engage cross-sector
 - Side-benefits – understanding, collaborations
- **Promoting need for a national policy**



What's the process from here?

- **Launching the strategy – today!**
- **Actions from event**
- **Looking for more endorsements**
- **Using the strategy**
 - **Working document to create focus and coherence**
 - **Tool for advocacy**
- **Annual review**



Endorsements so far

Multicultural New Zealand

Pasifika Information Management Network (PIMN)

Auckland Regional Migrant Services Trust

PacificWIN - Niue (Pacific Women's Indigenous Networks)

Korea NZ Cultural Association

Niche Media

Confucius Institute Auckland

Onehunga High School

Auckland Primary Principals Association

COMET Auckland

Wellington Hindi School

CLANZ

TESOLANZ

NZ Esperanto Association

NZ Association of Language Teachers

College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Massey University

School of Humanities, Massey University

English Language Partners NZ

Hindi Language and Culture Trust of NZ

Teach Hindi NZ

Migrant Action Trust

Graduate Diploma of TESSOL teaching team, Faculty of Education and Social Work, The University of Auckland

AKTESOL

Asia NZ Foundation

Japanese Studies Aotearoa New Zealand

PPTA

Pasifika Education Centre

Ngāti Tamaoho



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