



TE PŪRONGO

An update from the Chief Executive

ISSUE

03

3 Hereturikōka
/ 3 August
2011



E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e ngā uri o Ngāti Rangitīhi whānui – Tēnā koutou katoa. Tangihia ō tātou tini aitua o te wā, rātou kua rūmene ki tua o te ārai, haere atu rā. Tātou ngā mahuetanga iho, ngā kanohi ora, tēna tātou katoa.

Greetings to you all,

As I mentioned in my last update I have been mandated by your Board to develop a set of operating plans, budgets, policies and the Human resources necessary to deliver on the Trust Kaupapa;

Kia tū ora ai a Ngāti Rangitīhi i runga i tōna ake Rangatiratanga mō ake tonu atu (To enable Ngāti Rangitīhi to flourish in perpetuity supported by their unique self-determining capabilities)

I start with an apology. I note that some of the copies of our newsletter contained an inaccurate statement about the Te Papa Takaro o Te Arawa Games, stating that I had presented the trophy. I then failed to proof it properly, so entirely my fault. A simple error but I am disappointed as the central point was to highlight and celebrate Ngāti Rangitīhi participation and success, and to thank and congratulate Donna Semmens and the organising team of Pepi and Renee. A small error, as I say, but significant in my view and for this I sincerely apologise to all concerned. I have taken the necessary measures to ensure that the appropriate corrections are made in our upcoming newsletter and have directed my staff to amend all previous communications to reflect the amendments detailed.

I think it is important to emphasize again that the Board believe it is very important we invest in a high quality operating platform, one which can stand the test of time. One which will also ensure that Ngāti Rangitīhi can deliver their own social, cultural and economic programs rather than having to continue to depend on a whole range of external agencies. That's not to say that we won't be seeking funding and support from government social service providers. However, the simple reality is that if we do not take a stand at this time and invest in our future we will be dependent on, and subject to the Crown in perpetuity.

We are now getting to the point where plans, budgets, policies and procedures are in place, along with our communications systems. Any ideas you or your whānau may have to further enhance our current communications are welcome and appreciated. You can submit feedback via our email at info@ngatirangitihikiwi.nz.

As I mentioned in my last update we want to ensure a set of social, cultural and environmental programs which meet YOUR stated priorities. As a result we are carrying out extensive iwi wide consultation. As this process concludes we will move into the planning phase with a focus on developing programs that meet the needs/priorities identified. I feel the need to emphasize again that if any whānau group feels that they have not been properly heard or consulted, please believe me when I say that this is not intentional and we definitely want to hear from you. Please contact me directly if you would like us to come and meet with you.

As many of you may be aware, we have called a Special General Meeting on Saturday 27 August, 2011 for the purpose of confirming that Ngāti Rangitīhi has the sole mandate of the iwi to apply to withdraw from Te Kotahitanga o Te Arawa Fisheries (TKoTAF).



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Some examples of our mahi to date include:

- 31 Household grants to a value of NZ\$20,500 to date of our Ōtautahi Whānau
- Support for the development of a Programme for our Rangatahi with Vicki Ann Falwasser and Kayla Kepa
- Management and funding of monthly Sunday lunches on the Marae.
- Expression of interest has been presented to DOC for the management of camping grounds within the Rohe.
- Tidy up of the database to ensure we have correct contact details for all of our people.
- Development of a Mirimiri program

This is the first step in the withdrawal process. There is plenty of further information now being circulated about that withdrawal process and in particular the further steps required to achieve a withdrawal so I will not duplicate that information here. What I will say is that the withdrawal process requires four further hui where the pros and cons of withdrawing will be discussed in detail (including input from TKoTAF) and that it will not be until the fourth and final hui that a decision whether to withdraw or not will be made. However, to even get to that second step, so that the issues are fully explored, we need to confirm that we have the sole mandate to commence the process.

If Ngāti Rangitahi don't withdraw from TKoTAF, TKoTAF would continue to deal with individual Ngāti Rangitahi members in accordance with the provisions of its own trust deed (e.g. via registering individual members, elections, votes etc). There isn't any room in the legislation or the trust deed for TKoTAF to deal with an iwi via some mandated entity. Accordingly, trying to obtain a broader mandate at the SGM to represent Ngāti Rangitahi on all fisheries issues going forward would be, in our view, ineffective in terms of dealing with Ngāti Rangitahi's share of the Te Arawa Fisheries' asset.

In summary, by confirming the mandate on 27 August it will commence a process which will result in a detailed consideration whether or not withdrawing from TKoTAF is in the best interests of Ngāti Rangitahi. We therefore urge you vote in favour of the resolutions so that the withdrawal process can be commenced. All information has been posted to our website www.ngatirangitahi.iwi.nz.

Due to popular demand, Te Reo Māori tutor Krishna Smith will return with the "Toi te Kupu" Māori language program from Tuesday 9 August to 13 December, 2011. The course objective is to promote and enhance Te Reo Māori within Ngāti Rangitahi and the wider Matatā community. The driving force behind this course is our desire to strengthen community through the medium of Te Reo Māori and to provide people with the time and place to practice and advance their reo. Learners will come with varying degrees of ability so the challenge will be to provide a course that caters to all levels, from the beginner to the advanced. By utilising the Māori concept of ako, which acknowledges that all students are teachers and vice versa, we will meet this challenge by encouraging students to teach and encourage each other. In this way, the learner who becomes the teacher reinforces their knowledge by virtue of imparting it to others.

Important also to note that unlike other reo programs Toi te Kupu focuses strongly on taking Te Reo out of the classroom and into our homes, recreational areas and work places. The foundation stones of this course are community spirit and fun. Therefore an integral feature of the course will be learning through the medium of games, waiata, and practical activities that can be shared with tamariki in the home and at work. Evening classes will be complimented by a wānanga, which will include practical activities that employ reo in everyday situations. All learners are welcome regardless of previous experience.

In other great news - our own Trustee member, Cathy Dewes, is developing a series of Tikanga wānanga that will be based on our Marae, commencing around the end of 2011. Details to come over the next two to three months.

On a final note, although we do not have unlimited resources and may not be able to deliver on all that you may like to see, exactly when all would like to see it, we intend to honour the stated will of our people. We expect you to hold us accountable. Essential also is the fact that we cannot do it without you. We continue to welcome any Ngāti Rangitahi iwi member who has ideas and a passion for serving their iwi to contact us and discuss how we might support your kaupapa. We are already assisting a wide range of individuals to get community-focused initiatives off the ground. This is clearly what is needed at this time; people who are willing to ask not what the iwi can do for them, but what they can do for their iwi.

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