

22 Pipiri / June 2011

TE PŪRONGO

An update from the Chief Executive



Kei aku nui, kei aku rahi, kei aku whakatamarahi ki te rangi – Tēnā koutou katoa.
Ngā mate huhua o te wā, haere atu koutou ki te huihuinga o te Kahurangi,
whakaoti atu ai. Tātou ngā mahuetanga iho, ngā kanohi ora, tēna tātou katoa.

Greetings to you all,

The arrival of Matariki signals an ending and a time of new beginnings. Coincidentally, the Trust is now at a critical yet exciting phase of development, and so I am happy to establish the first of our regular CEO updates. This reflects a desire to let you know what we are doing as it happens. It will be supported by a series of newsletters and a rebuilt website (go to www.ngatirangitih.iwi.nz)

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 Rangātiratanga mō ake tonu atu (To enable Ngāti Rangitīhi to flourish in perpetuity supported by their unique self-determining capabilities)

I am sure that it feels like a long time coming but rest assured that we are moving things as fast as we can without compromising on quality.

It is really important that 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. Trial and error over the next two to three months will ensure we iron out any kinks. 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@ngatirangitih.iwi.nz.

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 through until the end of July, 2011. As this process concludes we will move into the planning phase with a focus on developing programs that meet the needs/priorities identified.

In the meantime, we are stepping out to support a whole range of initiatives. All are detailed on our website and will also be highlighted in our monthly newsletter *Kawerongo*, which is distributed by email and post (to those without email) and available to view or download on our website.



There is ongoing effort to bring on board the necessary expertise to help deliver the services required of us to reach our desired goals. At current, we have four advertised vacancies on our website; Environmental Manager, Fundraising Manager, Office Administrator and Te Reo Māori Programme Manager. It is, therefore, important that I make clear our Recruitment Policy.

The Board have committed to the setting up of the Trust as a sustainable organisation that will endure and develop both the resources which we currently hold, and those that will come to us in the future in a manner that will benefit Ngāti Rangitīhi whānui. We have limited resources and so it is essential we implement a way of working that meets the Tikanga of Ngāti Rangitīhi. The policy then states the following:

Te Mana o Ngati Rangitīhi will employ the most suitable personnel for all positions advertised. All staff shall be appointed on the basis of merit having regard to the necessary requirements of the Position. Merit shall be identified according to the qualities, expertise, skills and personal attributes of individual applicants.

My priority first and foremost is to deliver the best possible service to Ngāti Rangitīhi whānui via the programs delivered by the Trust. Nevertheless I do foresee a future where an absolute majority of our staff and contractors are of Ngāti Rangitīhi descent.

Anyone with an interest in working for the Trust should check our website (www.ngatirangitihiiwi.nz) regularly for all current job opportunities.

Important also I know that all are aware as to how and where Settlement funds are being spent. Our communication systems are designed to provide genuine transparency. In addition to the various mediums I have described we will be completing an annual report (due in August) which will include detailed financial reports. A full external audit of accounts is scheduled for July 2011.

As a final note, I welcome any Ngāti Rangitīhi 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. We wish to build our structure and support systems around those with similar, positive mindsets to enable Ngāti Rangitīhi to flourish in perpetuity supported by their unique self-determining capabilities.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Nick Alexander
Tāhūhū Rangapū / CEO
Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitīhi Trust

Some examples of our mahi to date include:

- Funding and administrative support provided towards the Te Arawa Games (Te Papa Tākaro o Te Arawa)
- Funded around NZ\$75,000 for the renovation of the Marae during the Marae DIY (ScreenTime / Māori TV)
- Funding and managing of Te Reo Māori classes in Matatā (Toi te Kupu and Kāinga Kōrerorero)
- Providing support to our Kaumātua/Pakeke in Matatā
- Funding provided to a Wellington-based research team to complete a History of Ngāti Rangitīhi Customary Interests (in due time this will be made available on our website)
- Funding of a research project based at NZ Archives in Wellington, with a focus on sourcing any and all historical records relating to Ngāti Rangitīhi (again these records will soon be made available for viewing on our website)
- Carrying out an environmental management planning exercise with a view to defining our historical sites along with the Tikanga and Kawa of those sites