



Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitihī Trust
Hui-a-Iwi
1.00pm Sunday 19 June 2016
Rangitihī Marae, Matata

Present: Leith Comer (Chairman), Donna Semmens (Trustee), Tiipene Marr (Trustee), Ken Raureti (Trustee) Cathy Dewes (Trustee), Alana Hunter, Darcy Stoneham, Dougal Stewart, Ken Dinsdale, Fay Patrick, Michael Perenara, Peri Perenara, Brendan Coffin, Delwyn Rondon, Tunis Perenara, Mere Butler, Pia Mason, Erin Tioke, Mertle Perenara, Tim Morrison, Reuben Perenara, Sandy Hata, Mavis Raponi, Paul Warbrick, Monica Te Aonui, Anthony Olsen, Tim Taiatini, Pihopa Kingi, Wynel Raureti,

Apologies: Vanessa Allen, Tony Semmens, Freda Semmens, Clara Marks-Falwasser

Karakia Timatanga: 1.00pm

Leith welcomed all to the hui and urged claimants to give their korero on what they want from their claims.

Comprehensive Claim

1. Update on Treaty Negotiation Process

Leith informed everyone that the Negotiating team of Kenneth Raureti, Tiipene Marr, Peri Perenara, Delwyn Rondon and he will be negotiating with OTS in Wellington on June 22 and 23. Donna Semmens, along with five observers, will be attending the hui on June 23.

2. Explanation of Chapter One, the Ngāti Rangitihī Story

Anthony spoke on the draft Chapter One of the Ngāti Rangitihī Story. Leith pointed out this is a think piece, based on research that has been undertaken by both Anthony and Bruce Stirling. We need to let everyone know that we are a significant iwi and that we were not only based around the maunga. There are a large number of land blocks that our tipuna stated, in Court, were Ngāti Rangitihī, either exclusively ours or where we had a significant interest.

Cathy asked if there has been any feedback on the draft Chapter One and if there are any points of accuracy that have been identified. Anthony confirmed the version about the Te Arawa waka originally put in the story was removed and replaced with another referenced piece of research. Cathy asked about the impact of smoking and messages in the early years that were given to our people. Anthony responded that he has found a number of pieces of evidence that reflects Ngāti Rangitihī as being affected by smoking.

Peri asked what kind of redress regarding contemporary issues did we expect from the Crown. Anthony responded that he is looking at other iwi claims; some have made specific claims, others included it in their overall claims. In his opinion, it is worth pursuing these issues as specific claims.

Tiipene believed that the first part of the Ngāti Rangitihi Story was generic Te Arawa, not Ngāti Rangitihi specific. He highlighted areas in the story that he did not agree with. Anthony responded that part of writing the story is about getting feedback. The historical accounts are from primary sources, referenced from Native Land Court Minute Books from our tipuna korero. Cathy asked for the primary references to be named in the book. Peri said that Raureti gave another account on the order of the tamariki of Rangitihi. If that was to be believed, it wouldn't strengthen our claim with our neighbouring iwi. Reuben believed that would not be an issue, the pou beside the wharenuī tells the story, it has been standing for some time and has never been challenged by other Te Arawa iwi.

Leith believed Chapter One provides Ngāti Rangitihi with good strong credentials to take to the Crown.

3. Crown Acknowledgements

Anthony spoke on the Provisional Acknowledgements that he and Bruce Stirling compiled, which need to be addressed by the Crown. Leith spoke on the confiscated land acknowledgement. We were led to believe that the land given to us was because we sided with the Crown, but evidence shows that was not the case. Ken Dinsdale told Anthony that the Vatican holds a lot of information, including information on Ngāti Rangitihi. Anthony asked Ken to come and speak to him about the Vatican files after the hui, and he will follow it up.

4. Invitation to Claimants to describe their Crown Acknowledgements and Redress Aspirations

Reuben acknowledged all the claimants, including those who have passed on.

Leith noted that David Potter declined the invitation to attend the hui and speak on his claims.

Delwyn asked if David Potter's claim around the Haehaenga Block is being covered in the claims. Leith said yes, all claims are included.

Leith then invited discussion from claimants on the Office of Treaty Settlements List of Wai Claims:

- **Claim 524:** Leith explained that the Claim was to stop the sale of the Ruawāhia block and reclaim it.
- **Claim 1119:** Reuben Perenara said that Ngāti Mahi is also an affected group. Many people registered their votes under Ngāti Mahi in 1908. Peri pointed out that Ngāti

Mahi does not come through Pikiāo, as previously suggested. Reuben said that Ngāti Mahi has a relationship with Pikiāo, but Mahi is distinct. Leith said that from the Whakapapa hui last week, and from Chapter One of the Ngāti Rangitīhi Story, comes the explanation of how different lines have come through Mahi and shows how Mahi is recognised as a senior hapū of Ngāti Rangitīhi. That clarification has been enriching for us all. Reuben said that the train is rolling in terms of the claims process.

- **Claim 1125:** Delwyn hasn't yet been able to engage with Anaru Rondon.
- **Claim 1375:** Leith questioned whether Rotomahana-Parekarangi 5B6 was part of Te Ariki. Mavis replied that it is part of the Te Ariki block. Leith spoke on the Wai 7 claim which was not settled under the Waitangi Tribunal, where the 100 acres of Te Ariki were divided up 30% Tūhourangi 70% Ngāti Rangitīhi. It was then settled under the Pūmautanga legislation as 50/50 but we are not happy with that. Where legislation has been passed, it will be very challenging to reverse the decision. Paul Warbrick asked if other claims have been settled, will that give us scope to revisit other areas of interest. Leith replied that yes it will. We want the Crown to acknowledge that they made decisions on previous settlements without consulting us.
- **Claim 1420:** The Claimant names on the list from OTS differed from those on the claim. Anthony said he has asked OTS to clarify.
- **Claim 1452:** Pihopa Kingi said the block of land in this claim did not bring in any revenue, it is mainly full of gorse. There are two hectares of flat land that is leased by a local farmer. Leith asked what it has to do with Ngāti Rangitīhi. Donna pointed out that the Ngāti Mahi hapū was part of the claim.
- **Claim 1486:** Tim Morrison spoke on behalf of the Karora whanau. He said that he found that the transparency being shown by the Trust is good and he is happy with the way the Trust is handling the claim process. He said that the Crown forced us into urbanisation and the effects it has had on the iwi needs to be addressed.
- **Claim 1882:** Mere said their claim was submitted on behalf of her and her siblings. They have appointed Sandy Hata to be their spokesperson. Sandy said that Hare Semmens requested that our kuia be returned in 1982. In 1991 he consistently asked Auckland Museum to return her to her descendants. No action was taken. He then met with Paora Tapsell, who, at that time was the Curator in Rotorua Museum. Over the next three years there were discussions between Auckland and Rotorua Museum. They agreed that the Taonga be bought back to the Rotorua Museum with the agreement renewable every five years. The whanau want recognition from the Crown and they also want the Crown to acknowledge and recognise that we as Ngāti Rangitīhi value all our Taonga. Past Crown actions have had a negative effect on us. Leith said that on the 23 June the Negotiators will be in Wellington speaking

to a number of different organisations, including the keepers of Taonga. On 26th or 27th July, there will be an opportunity for claimants to meet with Crown Negotiators.

- **Claim 1989:** Delwyn was given an email address for the claimant, Hannah Gurnick, but has not yet been able to connect with her.

5. Other Areas for Redress

Leith said that in the 1874 census, 274 Ngāti Rangitihī people were living in Matata. There would have been much more living somewhere else. Our role today is around 4,000. He believed that if we were still living in our rohe, unaffected by urbanisation, our number would be much higher today.

Monika said her grandmother had plenty of land in Matata, but she and her siblings were cut out of the land. Leith responded that if they can prove that the Crown cut them out of the land, they will have a claim against them.

Delwyn believed that the way in which the Crown handled land ownership title affected many whanau. Reuben pointed out that the Maori Land Court was associated with that system.

Delwyn asked if we have uninterrupted title to the seabed and foreshore. Anthony responded that we do. Tiipene pointed out that we have uninterrupted title because of Otago-o-Muturangi. Ngāti Rangitihī have interests in Rurima but have never appointed a kaitiaki under the mātaihai kaitiaki provisions. Reuben said the fisheries claim has already been settled. Delwyn said there was an allocation made but there was an issue regarding the coastal interests. There are two things we need to think about, being disadvantaged because of population and our entitlement being greater than what we have received.

Delwyn said that the impact of our landlessness had many flow-on effects and asked Cathy if the loss of Mātauranga Maori could be linked in with the loss of Reo. Cathy said that in the Lakes claim, she found 14 lake-related tikanga that are no longer known and practised. It was related to the loss of language. Mere said that we could erect a building at Tapahoro to be used for educational purposes, go there to re-connect, to have our fees paid in environmental and rongoā, to re-establish those areas we have lost.

Other Items:

1. Ngāti Rangitihī has endorsed Cathy's nomination to be part of Te Mātāwai, for the revitalisation of reo Maori. Cathy would like support for Pep to be the kāhui representative until such a time as we have a hui-a-iwi to appoint a representative. Voting for the Māngai will be on 6 July.
2. Peri said that currently Te Arawa Fisheries manage our quota. Peri asked if he be considered to manage the Ngāti Rangitihī share of the quota. Leith said there is legislation to pull away from Te Arawa Fisheries but it is difficult to do so. Ngāti Rangitihī

tried four years ago but did not get enough support to withdraw, but will keep the option open.

Closing comments from Pihopa Kingi:

E kōrero mai ana, e whai ake ana, ngā rahinga i ngā whenua, ka tika.
Kia kaha ki a koutou i runga i tō mātou whakawhanaungatanga.

These things won't happen unless we are closely related and working with each other.

Kia whakakotahi ai tātou i runga i te mōhio, ko wai? nā wai? nō hea?

This is the first hui of substance in relation to the claims and nothing will come about unless you remain devoted and together with each other right throughout.
There are a lot of other iwi incorporated, related, with Ngāti Rangitahi.

‘Ko Ngā Pūmanawa e Waru’.

It is important that this continues to be the core body that will realise these thoughts, feelings, hopes and aspirations.

Karakia Whakamutunga: 3.30pm