



## Chairman's Report to Te Runanga-a-iwi o Ngapuhi Meeting 27 January 2014

### Recommendations;

- i) That the board receive this report and endorse recommendation
- ii) **Recommendation:** That Te Rau Allen be appointed as an alternate Director to NISS and relinquish his role as Chair of the Hapu Development allocation committee. And that Keith Wihongi be appointed as Chair of the Hapu Development allocation committee

Hope that you all have had a great break over the Christmas/New Year period and are all cocked and ready for another year of leading Ngapuhi into the future. I state again that I am continuously grateful, as your leader, for your support and the mahi each of you do as individuals, within your respective Takiwa, and indeed as a whole group. Ngapuhi is well served by your selfless contributions at this level of Governance.

The last six weeks have been harsh on our iwi, especially Kaumatua Kuia, who have passed on. I especially mention the passing of Wayne Young, husband to our current Te Runanga o Taumarere representative on this Board. Lorraine, to you and your Whanau, our deepest sympathy at this very sad time. Guff Rawiri passed on late last year. Guff was an integral part of Te Runanga-a-iwi o Ngapuhi as it was constituted as the Ngapuhi iwi Authority and became more involved as the new leadership took over in 2000. Paratene (Tene) Ngawati is another member of Te Ropu Kaumatua Kuia o Te Whare Tapu o Ngapuhi to pass recently. He was also a Maori All Black and played many games for North Auckland. I am aware of the risk one runs by naming people, in my report, who have passed on as inevitably someone is left out. So to the many Whanau who have lost loved ones over this time, some to kohuru, Whanau Harris, others to Aitua ki nga rori, nga mihi nui ki a koutou. Ko te tumanako, kua tae ke mai nga manakitanga a Io Te Matua ki runga i a koutou katoa e pepehi tonu nei i a koutou ki te taimahatanga. Mauri ora.

Over this period, other than the birth of Jesus Christ, there has been no other bigger occasion for us than the Urgent Hearings called by the Waitangi Tribunal to enquire into the Crown's recognition of the Mandate bestowed on Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku by the Ngapuhi Nation. In my personal opinion, and something that I have expressed all along, is that the Urgent Hearings was a waste of time, and certainly resources, that could have very well been more productive elsewhere. In saying that, it was useful for our iwi to hear Te Ropu o Tuhoronuku's korero firsthand and certainly generated plenty of discussion. I report more in depth on that within the body of my report.

### **Alternate Director NISS/Representative on THOOK Due Diligence Committee**

- Carol and I raised this issue at the last Board meeting
- We have further decided to implement this change of personnel to these respective boards and committees
- This would address the shortage of Directors on NISS, which at times has necessitated cancelling that hui because a quorum was unavailable
- We have also discussed this at the NISS Board level and saw an urgent need for this introduction
- I have spoken with Te Rau Allen who is willing and able to serve the Board in this capacity
- I understand that this committee, including Te Rau, had their first meeting on 20 January with THOOK
- Because of this appointment it is also necessary to relieve Te Rau of his responsibilities as Chair of the Hapu Development allocation committee
- I have asked Keith Wihongi to replace Te Rau on the Hapu Development allocation Committee - *Keith will Chair this committee*
- Both Te Rau and Keith have agreed to serve the Board in those two capacities
- These changes are effective immediately

**Recommendation:** *That Te Rau Allen be appointed as an alternate Director to NISS and relinquish his role as Chair of the Hapu Development allocation committee. And that Keith Wihongi be appointed as Chair of the Hapu Development allocation committee*

### **National Whanau Ora Partnership**

- Whanau Ora has been the flagship of the Maori Party headed by Tariana Turia for some years now and is finally getting the recognition it deserves
- Since she has left Parliament Te Ururoa Flavell has become the Minister for Whanau Ora and is pushing the Crown hard on many issues relevant to this Kaupapa
- I have kept you abreast of the iwi Chairs dealings with this initiative and how we have forged a very positive relationship with the Crown on this important matter
- As verbally reported at our December Board meeting, the iwi Chairs have signed off a Terms of Reference and behaviour that this group will operate under
- This is the first ToR for anyone with the Crown that is based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- These ToR are contained within your correspondence booklet and makes for good reading as this is the kind of relationship with the Crown that our people have been hanging out for
- In this Partnership is six Cabinet Ministers and six iwi Chairs
- The Ministers are Ministers English, Flavell, Parata, Coleman, Joyce and Tolley. The Chair is Te Ururoa Flavell
- The iwi Chairs are Raniera Tau, Naida Glavish, Rahui Papa, Herewini Parata, Ta Mark Solomon and Richard Steadman. The lead Chair for the iwi on Whanau Ora is Raniera Tau
- We have a Technical Advisors team behind us which is led by Lorraine Toki

- The Crown also has an advisory team behind them who meet with our officials to do the donkey work for the Partnership Group
- We are just now determining what the role of this group is. We are currently working through that between our technical advisors and the Crown officials
- These will be reported on at the next iwi Chairs Forum meeting which will be held in Kerikeri from 4-5 February
- This is a very serious issue for Maori as the Minister of Whanau Ora is also the Minister of Maori Development, formally Minister of Maori Affairs
- Other iwi have also populated this TAG with their advisors, Tainui, Ngai Tahu and others
- On the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014 we had the inaugural Whanau Ora Partnership meeting to introduce ourselves and outline protocols for moving this concept forward
- There was much korero about Ministers not committing to the kaupapa and money being shifted all over the place
- Iwi Chairs felt that all Ministers needed to feed into this group to ensure the kaupapa is understood throughout all Ministries

### **National Water Issues**

- The iwi Leaders Freshwater Group was established late 2007
- On 12 January Willie Te Aho attended a meeting here at the Runanga regard freshwater or Wai Maori
- Willie is the lead iwi technician who deals directly with bureaucrats from Ministers Office on this issue
- There was a good turnout of Hapu and iwi representatives on the day
- This issue has been around for about six years now and headed by the National iwi Chairs Forum
- Iwi Chairs have been meeting with Government for many years but by and large have not made the necessary breakthrough we are wanting
- As you are aware the NZ Maori Council also took the Crown to Court over their right to sell shares in Mighty River and Genesis power stations
- As I reported before this case was further taken to the High Court at a very high cost to Maori
- Te Wai Maori Trust, one of the Te Ohu Kaimoana suite of Trusts and Companies paid some \$465,000 on behalf of Maori for that case. Ngapuhi of course paid the most as we are the biggest shareholders in that Trust
- This matter really centres on the ability of Local Councils, or the Government in the case of Power Stations etc., to allocate water and this allocation becoming as a property right
- Discussions then naturally centred on Maori rights to freshwater and how Maori might have a say in the allocation of water
- In the Sapere report, commissioned by the iwi Chairs Forum to investigate the use of Freshwater, found that: *“one estimate found the settlement of iwi rights to fishery quota increased the value of quota (for all commercial users) by 45% through removing residual uncertainty...A similar gain in the value of water assets to the Primary Sector would translate into a gain of \$3.5b.....*
- This is what the iwi Chairs Forum is seeking, the removal of uncertainty around the ownership or use of freshwater

- The removal of uncertainty is simply the Crown making a decision around what the rights of Maori are to freshwater
- For Maori – Te Tiriti o Waitangi is explicit in what those rights are and we are wanting to get the Crown to agree that this is indeed the case
- I see that the NZ Maori Council has opposed the iwi Chairs Forum thrust to get a National agreement on Maori water rights and then each iwi would deal with the Crown on a local basis
- The National agreement settle on with the Crown will underpin all local iwi agreements

### **Housing**

- Housing is something that has been on our radar for some time now and finally at iwi Chairs level we are starting to progress this matter
- There are two types of housing we are looking at, firstly is the Social side of housing and secondly, the Commercial part of this kaupapa
- We currently have Kara George as part of the Social TAG team for this kaupapa, which is being headed by Naida Glavish as the iwi Chair
- The Commercial side of this is headed by Raniera Tau as Chair and Willie Te Aho as lead Technical Advisor to the iwi Chairs Forum
- At the moment we are working on Terms of Reference and behavioural protocols with the Crown
- We are hopeful that these ToR are not that dissimilar to the Whanau Ora Partnership ToR
- On a local level, Iain and Kara are making inroads into local and Papakainga Housing that was left after Ngapuhi Housing went to the wall under the old Runanga regime
- It has taken a while but we are confident that with the right foundation, housing in Ngapuhi will fly
- I have also asked Allen to allow Kara to be part of the Housing TAG group

### **National iwi Chairs Forum February 2015**

- Every year during the Waitangi celebrations the iwi Chairs meet as part of their quarterly meeting circuit
- This year Ngati Kahu is hosting and have elected to have this hui in Kerikeri which is very unusual given that the Copthorne Waitangi has reserved Waitaha for this annual occasion
- The meeting will be over a two-day period from 4-5 February 2015
- Issues on the Agenda are many and some have been on the Agenda for many years
- People often ask why issues remain on the table for so long
- The answer to that is, that iwi Chairs have to meet with Ministers of the Crown who then meet with their colleagues to try and convince them that we are on the right track
- Ministers then have to go to Cabinet to gain their approval before anything can be progressed
- This is what takes the time
- Classic examples of this is the Freshwater issue, Climate Change, Whanau Ora, Housing and many other issues that are on the Agenda at this time

- Remembering that the emphasis of this group is on elected Chairpersons of recognised iwi
- We have some instances where Hapu have tried to become members and have been kindly asked to go home and sort things out with their respective iwi
- Anyone is welcome to attend but **ONLY** recognised iwi Chairs have speaking rights
- Any issue being brought to the table needs to come through an iwi Chair
- Often the Agenda is that cluttered that we are rushed to finish our business and often justice is not given to big kaupapa because of time restraints
- We are currently looking at reducing Agenda items to give port-folio holders more time to talk about their kaupapa

### **Tuhoronuku Independent Mandated Authority (TIMA)**

- As the Te Runanga-a-iwi o Ngapuhi it is my duty to report to you on the progress of this Ropu as we move on with our Te Tiriti o Waitangi settlement programme for Ngapuhi
- Your continued support of me as your representative on this committee is very much appreciated
- I am under no illusion as to the weight that this calling bears and I have no issue with conflicts of interest as I balance those at all times
- As you are aware, I was fortunate enough to be elected as the TIMA Chair and again there is no conflict – *in my humble opinion*
- I reported to you verbally on the Urgent Hearings had in Waitangi from the 1–5 December 2014
- Again I want to thank those of our team, from our Legal Team to our operations team who provided all the information for us to be successful
- To all those who presented on our behalf, a big thank you for the effort
- The downside to the Urgent Hearings was, as stated above, a drain on resources and operations time, which could have been used to progress our work plan
- Finance is becoming a real issue as the Crown is losing its appetite for funding his process given the many delays etc. along the way
- Operations are working tirelessly with OTS on getting our Terms of Engagement completed so they can be signed off

### **Secondment of MPI Staff Member to Te Runanga-a-iwi o Ngapuhi**

- You would have all seen my letter to the Minister for Primary Industries – Nathan Guy asking for the secondment of an MPI Staff member to Te Runanga-a-iwi o Ngapuhi
- I understand that it is Government Policy to allow secondments of their personnel to assist iwi ready themselves for Te Tiriti o Waitangi Settlements
- We have asked for Natasha Clarke who works out of the Whangarei MPI Office
- I have asked for an initial secondment term of three years
- I understand that the Minister has viewed our application but has sent the request on to his Operations Staff
- I understand that it is at the Secretary General of MPI level
- This secondment was actually offered to me by the Prime Minister in one of our meetings and I am grateful for that offer

## **Conclusion**

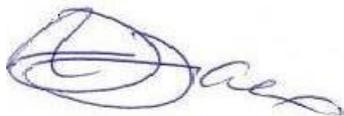
It is apparent from my report how much emphasis I place on the National iwi Chairs forum to push National issues along. The outcomes of those National issues subsequently have a direct impact on us as Ngapuhi and how we progress matters at a local level. An example of this is the freshwater issue where an outcome from the National iwi Chairs will dictate how we deal with water in our respective catchment areas.

Poroti Springs is a classic example of an issue waiting to be resolved but we are reluctant to move ahead at this stage given the precedent that will set for the rest of the country if it is not coordinated from a National level. Lake Omapere and Ngawha Springs are two other examples of issues ready and waiting to be resolved with the Office of Treaty Settlements. At the last freshwater hui held here at the Runanga, I offered to assist Poroti Springs with settling their claim. This offer is yet to be taken up.

There has been speculation and innuendo about the growth rate of our assets and level of income generated from investments made by our Asset Holding Company. I have to say that these rates have been very modest indeed. I want to also qualify that by saying that with iwi funds there is a different regime of management to ordinary situations where you have investors or shareholders whose Governance Boards are in place just to generate money at high risk and high debt levels. With our suite of companies, Te Runanga-a-iwi o Ngapuhi has no debt at all and invests at very low levels of risk. In the last twelve months I have been talking about incurring debt by borrowing against our Assets to lift investment and income prospects. The Ngapuhi Asset Holding Company is currently going through an exercise to see how this might be achieved. I will keep this Board informed as we develop a Policy on this.

With the sheer number of matters in front of iwi katoa at this time and is why the iwi Chairs Forum have been very successful in driving towards an outcomes with the Crown on many important matters. The iwi Chairs do not make binding decisions on any matter with the Crown but come to a point where a report back to the iwi Chairs Forum is made and iwi/Hapu make up their own minds from there. Te Runanga-a-iwi o Ngapuhi is no different and will make decisions that are conducive to promoting great outcomes in this righteous journey to bring to pass the perpetual moemoea o Ngapuhi-nui-tonu, ara, *“kia tu tika ai te whare tapu o Ngapuhi.”*

Mauri Ora



Raniera T (Sonny) Tau  
**CHAIRMAN**