

Rangitāne Settlement Negotiations Trust

December 2015

Issue 19

Update on Settlement Negotiations

You may recall from the last AGM and earlier Trust communications that the most recent date for initialling the Rangitāne Deed of Settlement was December 2015. Given how negotiations progressed at the end of last year, that December date was not achieved and the Trust is still negotiating with the Crown towards a Deed of Settlement as soon as possible.

We have previously provided overviews on the types of redress covered by a deed of settlement and thought it timely to remind ourselves of the overall settlement process and where we currently are at.

*Tini whētū ki te rangi,
ko Rangitāne ki te
whenua.*

*In this edition of the
Trust's newsletter:*

- Update on Settlement Negotiations
- Update on Elections for Tū Mai Rā and upcoming Hui-ā-Iwi
- Whanganui Land Report Released



With the next step, of course, being the initialling of the Deed of Settlement, the Trust is involved in detailed and fast paced negotiations with the Crown to resolve the few outstanding matters.

Once those final matters are resolved, the Trust can initial the deed of settlement for presentation to the iwi. As we have noted previously, the initialled Deed of Settlement must be ratified by the iwi through a formal voting process. That voting process will involve a number of information hui throughout the motu, as well as voting by post, online and in person at the hui.

To ensure that you are kept informed when it comes time to ratify a settlement for Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Tamaki Nui-ā-Rua, you must ensure that your contact details are up to date with either iwi Rūnanga, or with the Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust.

If the iwi support the settlement, the Deed will be signed with the Crown in a formal signing ceremony with the Minister. The timing of this will depend on when negotiations are completed.



Whanganui Land Report Released

In October last year, *He Whiritaunoka: The Whanganui Land Report* was presented to Whanganui Māori at Putiki Marae. The Waitangi Tribunal reported its findings to the Crown on 83 historical claims made by hapū and iwi of the Whanganui district.

The Report will form part of Treaty settlement negotiations between the Crown and Whanganui Iwi. As part of our updates on other iwi progress towards settlement, we thought it appropriate to outline some of the key findings from that Inquiry.

The Tribunal found that the claims were largely well-founded. It said that, since 1840, the Crown had caused substantial harm to Whanganui Māori through a multitude of policies, laws, decisions, acts and omissions.

It was found that Whanganui Māori had suffered, not only from their lack of input into the politics of the area, but from the lack of control over their own affairs. Notably, the Tribunal found that the Crown had deliberately deceived iwi in a number of land purchases in the region, such as the Whanganui Block purchase, with other

land purchases falling short of Treaty principles and British law of the time.

The Tribunal noted that Whanganui Māori continue to live in a state of social and cultural deprivation - with little control over measures that affected them, especially from local government, and with too little input into the management of Whanganui National Park.

It also found that the spelling 'Wanganui' is incorrect and recommendation was made that the name be formally corrected to "Whanganui not Wanganui".

Among other things, the Tribunal urged the Government to:

- give Whanganui Māori greater involvement in local government and more control over matters that affect them;
- enter into a settlement that would support the aspirations of the hapū and iwi of Whanganui for economic and cultural revitalisation; and
- work with iwi to solve numerous longstanding problems.



**Rangitāne
Settlement
Negotiations Trust**

c/- McCaw Lewis
1 London St
Hamilton 3210

Project Manager
c/- Renika Siciliano
Phone: (07) 958 7429

E-mail: renika.siciliano@mccawlewis.co.nz

www.rsnt.org.nz

For more information on
the iwi visit the Rūnanga
websites -

Rangitāne o Wairarapa
www.rangitane.iwi.nz

**Rangitāne o Tamaki
Nui-ā-Rua**
www.rangitane.co.nz

Tū Mai Rā Trustee Elections

Nominations for the initial Election of Trustees for Tū Mai Rā Trust are now closed. Following the close of nominations for the Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust, only five nominations were received and therefore no elections will be required in 2016. The five confirmed nominations are:

- Warwick Gernhoefer;
- Yvette Grace;
- Jason Kerehi;
- Mavis Mullins; and
- Edward Pearse.

Ahead of these new Trustees taking office in late March 2016, Tū Mai Rā will be holding a hui-ā-iwi for all Rangitāne members to introduce the new trustees, as required by the Trust Deed.

This Hui-ā Iwi will be held at **11am, Saturday 19 March 2016** at **Pukaha Mount Bruce Wildlife Centre**.



**RANGITĀNE
TŪ MAI RĀ TRUST**