

Website to launch

In order to provide another means of disseminating information to you all, the Trust has commissioned a website to provide you with information about the Trust, the claim and as a means of advertising important upcoming hui and mahi. The website address for this site is:

www.mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz

The website should be up and running shortly and we encourage you and your tamariki to check it out.

We will keep the website updated and welcome any feedback you have on it and how we might be able to improve it in terms of accessibility and content. If you have any suggestions contact the Claims Manager.

Social Media feeds

As well as the website, the Trust has a Twitter feed @MPWCT. We envisage using this to inform people of important events—you will see that the feed also shows on the Trust's homepage. The Trust also has a Facebook page, just search the Trust's name and you will find it. We hope to keep these updated regularly and welcome any suggestions as to how these might be made more interesting for members.

Next Newsletter

We envisage having another *Ka Rere ki te Ao* published again before the end of the year and welcome questions or comments from you for discussion in the next newsletter.

Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust

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Pānui/notices

If you have any pānui for our next newsletter please email the Claims Manager so he can include it in the next edition of *Ka Rere ki te Ao*.

A series of important hui to discuss research pertaining to each of the four iwi of Mōkai Pātea are about to take place:

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hauiti Hui

8 July 2012 Rātā Marae 11am

Important hui a iwi to discuss research pertaining to Ngāti Hauiti.

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Tamakopiri Hui

Contact your rūnanga reps for details

Moira Raukawa-Haskell/Hari Benevides
moira.raukawa-haskell@otmk.org.nz
hari@ruralinzone.net

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whitikaupeka Hui

Contact your rūnanga reps for details

Barbara Ball/Richard Steedman
ballwhanau@xtra.co.nz
richard.steedman@xtra.co.nz

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Te Ohuake Hui

Contact your rūnanga reps for details

Te-Rangi Hawira/Kelly Thompson
raukowhai@slingshot.co.nz
hauiti.kelly@xtra.co.nz



@MPWCT



Edition 2, July 2012

Ka Rere ki te Ao!

The official Newsletter of the Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust

Kia mau ki te oha o koutou tupuna

Te Tiriti o Waitangi, te ture atua, te ture tangata

I puta ai tana ki te whai ao ki te ao marama

Heed the revelations of your ancestors

The Treaty of Waitangi, the law of man and the law of God

From whom this saying comes, seek the world of light and understanding.

From the Chair:

The past year has been a challenging period for the Trust.

The focus of the Trust over this time has been progressing the research work approved by the Waitangi Tribunal and commissioned by the Crown Forestry Rental Trust (CFRT). The volume of material and high number of reports being generated through this process has certainly added pressure to what is essentially a voluntary role on the part of the Trustees. While we haven't been happy with some of the decisions made by CFRT, we have by and large been able to help shape much of the research work.

Another milestone was achieved when the Trust gained client status from CFRT and entered into a funding agreement. The funding has enabled the Trust to carry out the operational aspects of the claims.

Our Claims Manager, Grant Huwiler resigned after providing a significant contribution in establishing and managing the Trust. After a formal selection process, he was replaced by Simon Karipa, while administration support is being provided by the Ōtaihape Māori Komiti.

Very shortly, each iwi will be holding hui to discuss our Waitangi claim and therefore I encourage you to attend and learn about our claim. In the meantime, I trust you will be satisfied with the progress of the Trust after reading this edition of *Ka Rere ki te Ao* and I look forward to your continued support.

Utiku K Potaka

Register with your iwi and the Trust now!

The Trust has developed a registration form that will allow you to register yourself and your children with the Trust. A secondary but useful purpose is for members to be able to register with the individual iwi of Mōkai Pātea at the same time. The form does not replace any forms used by the iwi presently (e.g. Ngāti Hauiti and Ngāti Whitikaupeka) but should make it easy for members to register with all those iwi that they affiliate to quickly and efficiently.

It is extremely important to register to allow us to keep you informed of progress of the claims. As we go further down the claims path, it is imperative to register so the number of persons who are descendants of those of our tupuna wronged by the Crown are well known.

The registration forms will be available on our website and from your rūnanga.

If you need any assistance in filling out your form please contract your rūnanga Trustee.

For copies of forms to be sent or emailed to you please email the Claims Manager:

simon@mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz

This section of the pānui looks at the essence of the Mōkai Pātea claims which are being advanced by those claimants who are part of the Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust. We also provide a brief overview of the Waitangi Tribunal hearings process, and profile our legal counsel, Leo Watson.

The Waitangi claims which have been lodged with the Tribunal, and which are currently part of the Trust are:

- ◆ Wai 1705 (a comprehensive Mōkai Pātea claim, on behalf of Ngāti Hauiti, Ngāi Te Ohuake, Ngāti Whitikaupeka, and Ngāti Tamakopiri)
- ◆ Wai 385 (focused on the Utiku Township and related concerns)
- ◆ Wai 581 (Ngāti Hauiti claims)
- ◆ Wai 588 (issues relating to Oruamatua-Kaimanawa)
- ◆ Wai 647 (Awarua claim and related concerns)
- ◆ Wai 1888 (Ngāti Whitikaupeka claim)
- ◆ Wai 2091 (mana wahine claim on behalf of whānau and hapū of Ngāti Hauiti)
- ◆ MRI (source of the Ngaruroro River and related issues)

Other claimants are always welcome to bring any claims which are in the Mōkai Pātea rohe into the Trust. Please make contact with the Claims Manager. The Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust is maintaining a close watch on the freshwater claim filed by the New Zealand Māori Council, because of the significant interests in freshwater in this rohe.

Each of these Mōkai Pātea claims has its own statement of claim. These claims are able to be amended as the historical research is undertaken, and to update the claims since they were first filed with the Tribunal.

The claims focus on the fact that the whānau, hapū and iwi that comprise Mōkai Pātea exercised tino rangatiratanga over the rohe, in accordance with their tikanga. These include ancestral lands, and the awa and other resources within the rohe. The claims against the Crown include the introduction of Native Land Court processes which failed to provide for Mōkai Pātea customary rights, and

failed to provide sufficient lands, the environmental destruction of waahi tapu and mahinga kai.

The Waitangi Tribunal process itself falls into three broad phases:

1. Interlocutory and preliminary stage: Judicial conferences are called to determine a research programme for the Inquiry, to identify claimants and any jurisdictional and boundary issues, and to set timeframes for the hearings. The Taihape Inquiry is in this stage at present, and we are awaiting a date to be set for the next Waitangi Tribunal judicial conference, which will confirm the research programme for Phase II. Research will then be undertaken.
2. Hearings stage: Claimants present their oral and traditional research in the hearing stage. Also, historians commissioned by CFRT or the Tribunal present their evidence, and are questioned by the parties. The Crown also presents its evidence.
3. Submissions and Report writing stage: Legal submissions are filed, and the Tribunal writes the report.

Leo Watson – Legal Counsel

Leo is a barrister and solicitor based on the Kapiti Coast, with extensive experience in Māori land and Treaty of Waitangi law. Leo graduated from the University of Otago with a Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours) and a Bachelor of Arts (Māori Language and Customs). He has worked as a lawyer since 1997 representing whānau, hapū and iwi in matters relating to land rights, Public Works, natural resources, oil and gas, radio spectrum, fisheries, foreshore and seabed, and constitutional change.

Contact: leowatson@paradise.net.nz or mobile 027 274 9068.

For further information on the Tribunal process see <http://www.waitangi-tribunal.govt.nz> and <http://www.cftr.org.nz>.

To keep up to date with the progress of the Mōkai Pātea claims, keep an eye on the Trust's website at <http://www.mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz> and the Trust's twitter feed @MPWCT.

The Research Program

Before Waitangi Tribunal hearings, there is a large focus on completing historical research reports using professional researchers. This research is then made available to claimants and the Tribunal. This large corpus of research in itself is an excellent result for our iwi. The subject areas that are being researched at the moment include:

- ◆ Tribal landscapes—the history of our tūpuna, hapū and iwi, and their relationship with the whenua and awa of Mōkai Pātea
- ◆ Block histories—the history of each individual land block including the likes of Awarua, Owahaoko, Otamakapua, Rangipo Waiu, Motukawa and many more covering all of the rohe
- ◆ Overview reports—covering the 1800s and 1900s which talk about all the ways that settlers and the Crown managed to obtain lands from our ancestors including all public works takings, seizures to settle debts etc.

About the Trust's new logo

This logo was designed by Shane Bennett, of Mōkai Pātea, following a design brief developed by the Trust. The Trust expresses its gratitude and appreciation to Shane for this excellent mahi. It will be used on our website and on all Trust communications. The kōrero pertaining to the logo is shown below:

These reports also touch on social impacts on our tūpuna linked to the taking of land

- ◆ Environmental reports—looking at the history of our rivers and our forests, how these resources have been exploited and destroyed, and how the management of these resources was taken away from our ancestors leading to the situation today, where we have little say over the management and use of our ancestral rivers and forests
- ◆ Social and cultural impact reports—looking at the way that Mōkai Pātea whānau, hapū and iwi have been affected by colonisation, including loss of te reo and traditions, and loss of identity, but also the specific impacts of land loss and poverty.

Many of the initial drafts of these reports have now been completed and the Trust has had the ability to provide comment and guidance to the researchers. The Trust looks forward to discussing these drafts with members shortly.

