



MŌKAI PĀTEA
WAITANGI CLAIMS TRUST

Ka Rere ki te Ao!

Newsletter - March 2022

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Upcoming Events

- AGM - Friday 25 March 5.30pm-6.30pm: Zoom webinar, refer to the Events page on our website.
- Hui a Rohe - Sunday 27 March 10.00am-12.00pm: venue to be confirmed, watch website for updates.

Our People



Utiku Potaka
Chair
Ngāti Hauiti



Barbara Ball
Deputy Chair
Ngāti Whitikaupeka



Moira Raukawa-Haskell
Trustee
Ngāti Tamakōpiri



Maraea Bellamy
Trustee
Ngāti Te Ohuake



Thomas Haenga Curtis
Trustee
Ngāti Hauiti



Robert Martin
Trustee
Ngāti Te Ohuake



Hari Benevides
Trustee
Ngāti Tamakōpiri



Te Rina Warren
Trustee
Ngāti Whitikaupeka



Richard Steedman
Hapu/Iwi facilitator
and Strategic Advisor



Lavinia Jacobsen
Programme Manager



Ariana Barrett
Iwi Administrator



Chairs Report

Utiku Potaka

E ngā whānau, e ngā hapū, e ngā iwi o Mōkai Pātea-nui-tonu, tēnā koutou i runga i te ahuatanga o te tau hou. Tēnā koutou hoki ki te hunga mate o wā, o te marama, o te tau. Haere ki tua o te arai, moemai rā i raro i te parirau o te Kaihanga. Ā kāti, tēnā tātou katoa.

Looking back at 2021, I reflect on an eventful year of real achievement for Mōkai Pātea-nui-tonu and the Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust.

In the last newsletter I reported that after four years of hard mahi we had finally reached the Mandate to negotiate the settlement of Mōkai Pātea claims, the first of several milestones achieved during last year.

It certainly hasn't been easy paddling the waka and keeping on track, with disruptions caused by COVID-19 restrictions, poor weather and sometimes just plain exhaustion. It has been a frustrating time trying to manage our work programmes in this environment, but one standout trait I see is the stoicism of our people.

It reminds me of the whakataukī of Hauiti... E kore e mau i a koe te hape a paratuae - you shall not catch the club-footed son of Hauiti, meaning that his descendants are strong and resilient enough to withstand whatever might come.

Terms of Negotiation Signed

The Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust and Iwi Rūnanga leadership signed the 'Crown Expectations and Matters for Agreement' at a small ceremony at Parliament in September.

Otherwise known as the 'Terms of Negotiation', this non-binding agreement sets out the ground rules for negotiation between the Crown and the four iwi of Ngāi Te Ohuake, Ngāti Hauiti, Ngāti Whitikaupeka and Ngāti Tamakōpiri.

The Trust spent a number of months drafting the terms and engaging with our iwi Rūnanga to gain their input and support for them.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions only a small Mōkai Pātea delegation attended the signing, which was sad and frustrating as we very much wanted whānau to be present, however health and well-being had to be our main priority.

Inking this agreement is another significant step taken with the express aim of reaching settlement and ultimately contributing to the ongoing development of our whānau, hapū, iwi and marae.

Waitangi Tribunal Taihape Inquiry Hearings Wind Up

The last hearing of the Waitangi Tribunal's Taihape Inquiry was held in September in Wellington, the final act of a huge and historic procession of 18 hearings held over six years.

It was disappointing that Covid-19 restrictions on attendee numbers meant we weren't able to fully take part in that final session, but otherwise we feel a lot of relief to see the back of the hearing process.

The Tribunal will now deliberate and eventually report its recommendations - this can take ages but they intend to fast track the Landlocked Lands report.

We went through the Tribunal process to tell our story and to place our grievances and the Crown's injustices on the record, while gaining concessions from the Crown that will inform the Tribunal's report, all of which will be helpful in the negotiations.

The support we have received from our whānau, hapū, iwi, marae and advisors has been remarkable, especially given the ongoing and parallel process of iwi development.

Negotiations Team Appointed

In November the Trust announced the appointment of our Negotiating Team, following a rigorous and robust process involving all four Iwi Rūnanga.

If you haven't heard yet, they are Tracey Piki Te Ora Hiroa, Tama Potaka, Richard Steedman and Che Wilson - see profiles later this issue.

The negotiators are all affiliated to Mōkai Pātea iwi and collectively bring a formidable range of experience to the table, including previous Treaty Settlement Negotiations, Iwi leadership and Pou Ārahi roles, Trustee and directorships, and political and managerial positions with local and central government bodies.

Importantly, their collective expertise and skills include Mōkai Pātea historical and contemporary mātauranga-knowledge, commercial negotiation, investment fund management, legal and governance frameworks, Iwi development and legal issues.

Suffice to say, the Trustees were unanimous in confirming the appointment of the negotiators and extend a warm welcome and thank you to them for their availability and taking on this significant task.

The team has commenced their mahi and are engaged with the Chief Crown negotiator, with the aim of achieving an 'Agreement in Principle' (AIP) within 18 months.

The negotiators are responsible for delivering the best redress and comprehensive settlement for Mōkai Pātea historical Treaty of Waitangi claims.

Meet our Negotiators

Introducing the team that will be negotiating the Mōkai Pātea Waitangi claim with the Crown, on behalf of all Mōkai Pātea nui tonu.

Tracey Piki Te Ora Hiroa



He uri o Ngā Iwi o Mōkai Pātea - Ngāti Whitikaupēka, Ngāti Hauiti, Ngāti Tamakōpiri and Ngāi Te Ohuake. Ko Moawhango te kainga tuturu.

Tracey Piki Te Ora Hiroa was born in bred in Moawhango and has spent all her 56 years in the rohe, where whanau, hapu and Iwi have played a major part in her life.

She says the concepts of whanaungatanga, kaitiakitanga and manaaki are attributes and values that her father instilled in all of his eight kids, with the premise that life is about what you can do for others and learning how to give back, as opposed to the world 'revolving around you'!

With that kaupapa at heart, Piki Te Ora has been on the Moawhango marae committee since she was a teenager, a role she has embraced, discovering one of her strengths is being able to communicate with whanau scattered all around the world.

Having a strong work ethic has seen her take on many kinds of mahi, ranging from 10 years working in the Taihape Telephone Exchange, as a cook and 'rousie' in shearing sheds, and in hospitality as a bar tender and then manager of her late sister's hotel in Waiouru. In this space, she says that regardless of rank everyone was treated the same, from Privates to Officers.

That touch has served Piki Te Ora well in governance roles. From 2000 to 2013 she was on the Otaihape Māori Komiti, playing a role in its subsequent transformation into Mōkai Pātea Services in 2014.

Another milestone in her working career came in 2019, when she was elected as a Northern Ward Councillor for the Rangitikei District Council.

She acknowledges that her biggest achievement in life is being a mother to her only child, Johnson Tiopira I Roto I Te Hau Hiroa, and being now a grandmother to her four-month-old grandson Harvey Taonui Hiroa.

Piki Te Ora also acknowledges all of the people who have influenced and nurtured her in life, with her whanau, hapu and Iwi sitting right up the front of this group.

She says she feels lucky to have been nominated to be a Mōkai Pātea negotiator, and that she certainly doesn't 'know everything', but she reckons the things she does know may be of use to her people.

Tama Potaka



Tama Potaka is from all the Mōkai Pātea Iwi and has whakapapa through Whanganui, Ngāti Rangī, Taranaki, Ngāruahine, and Ngāti Raukawa/Toarangatira.

He is married to Ariana and they have three innovative children – Tiaria Te Ikaroa, Te Awarua Tamarereka and Aorangi Te Āionuku.

Tama was raised in Ruapehu and Rangitikei, with his parents', Tauaiti (Paddy) and Johanna Potaka, providing an absolute focus on extended whānau, education, and a Māori rural community life based around farming and marae.

He went to Te Aute College, Victoria University, and Columbia University, along the way receiving a BA in Māori Studies and Politics, an LLB (First Class Honours) and an LLM.

Tama feels fortunate to have been involved in various kaupapa such as Whakatupuranga Rua Mano, Te Tira Hoe o Whanganui, Te Kāpunipuni Reo and Te Wānanga o Aotearoa. He has practised as a lawyer in New York City and Aotearoa New Zealand, and has governance experience across agribusiness, property, education and Anglican/Mihinare governance entities.

Having been a senior executive at Tainui Group Holdings and an adviser at the NZ Super Fund, Tama now works as Tumu Kaimahi - CEO - at Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Trust in Auckland. In that role he is leading significant organisational change and property developments, and driving nimble start-ups such as a marine experience business, restoration on Motutapu Island, and aquaculture and water investments.

Tama and his whānau maintain holistic health and wellbeing and he occasionally goes pescatarian or vegetarian.



Richard Steedman



Ngā Iwi o Mōkai Pātea - Ngāi Te Ohuake, Ngāti Whitikaupeka, Ngāti Hauiti, Ngāti Tamakōpiri; also Ngāti Kahungunu; Ngāti Raukawa; Ngāti Pukenga.

Richard Steedman, of the Winiata whanau, has been researching Mōkai Pātea oral and written history, including Māori Land Court land cases in the rohe (Aotea and Takitimu districts), for 45 years and is the Strategic Advisor for the

Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust.

The 61-year-old lives in Moawhango with his wife Ruiha, Ngā Iwi o Mōkai Pātea - Ngāti Whitikaupeka, Ngāti Tamakōpiri, Ngāi Te Ohuake, Ngāti Hauiti; also Ngāti Tuwharetoa, Ngāti Kahungunu and Ngāti Porou, and belongs to the Pikirangi and Wereta whanau. They have six tamariki and 17 mokopuna.

Richard has held many local, regional and national governance positions, including his current roles as Chair of Te Runanga O Ngāti Whitikaupeka and as a delegate to both Te Runanga O Ngāti Tamakōpiri and Te Runanga O Ngāi Te Ohuake.

He is Chair of the Owahaoko B&D Land Trust and past Deputy Chair of the Aorangi-Awarua Land Trust. Richard is also Chair of Oha Owahaoko Honey LP, a joint venture providing beekeeping services to land trusts in Mōkai Pātea and adjoining rohe, as well as Chair of local contractor Rangitikei Environmental Operations Ltd.

Che Wilson



Che Wilson was raised as part of a large extended whānau at the foothills of Mount Ruapehu and has been involved in tribal activities and leadership from a young age. He was granted access from the age of 11 and entrusted with knowledge from his tribal Whare Wānanga.

Che is the Managing Director of Intugen Limited and President of the Māori Party.

Through Intugen, Che focuses principally in the tūpuna wisdom space as a guest speaker, consciousness coach, resource developer and a podcaster on a range of social media platforms as well strategy and facilitation.

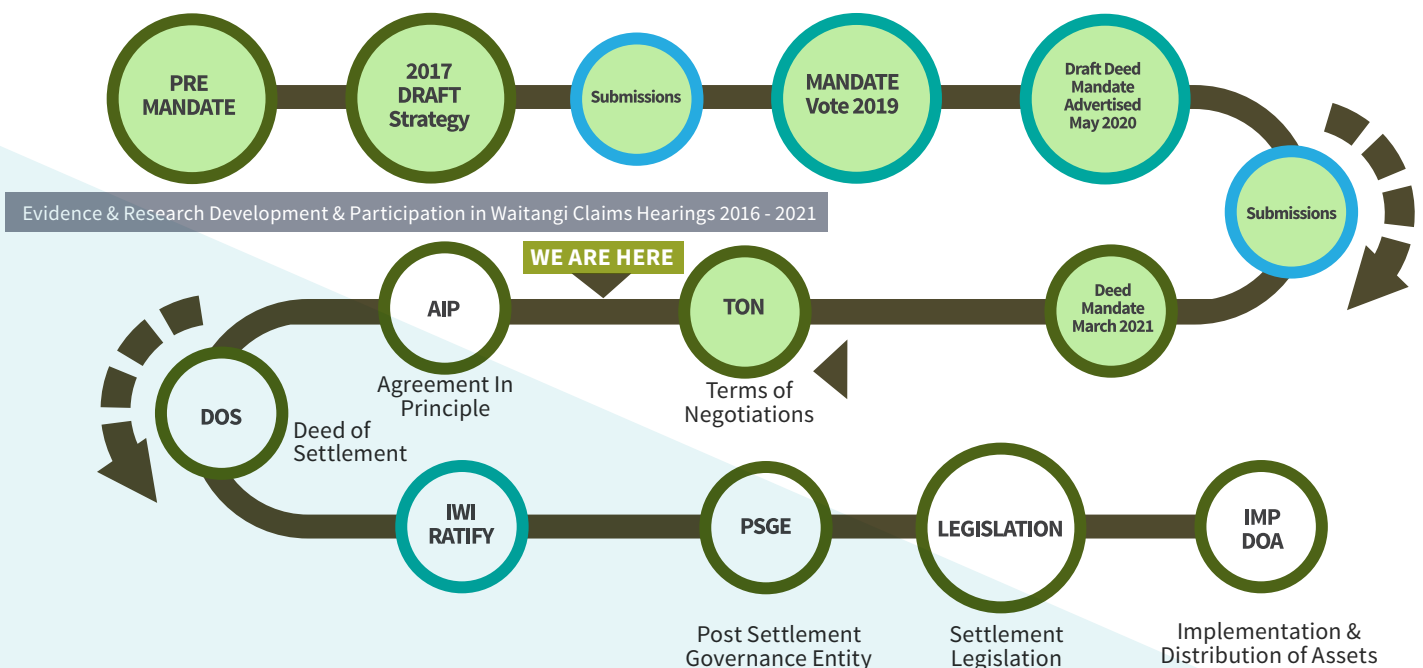
Over various spaces of time, Che was the Chair, CE and Chief Negotiator for his iwi Ngāti Rangī to settle historic grievances.

Che is a director on Āti Hau-Whanganui Incorporation (brand name 'AWHI') which supplies red meat, dairy, fibre and manuka honey to the local and export markets.

He is the chair of Te Reo o Whanganui, a board focused on the revitalisation of the Whanganui dialect and a trustee on Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o te Awa o Whanganui (which governs the tribal interests and represents the voice of the Legal Personality for the Whanganui River). He is also on the Māori Advisory for Southern Cross Health and a trustee of Te Kāhui Raraunga Trust.

Che was part of the first Māori delegation of Te Hono Movement in 2013 to Stanford University and again in 2014 and was Deputy CE of the Ministry for the Environment.

Direct Negotiation Roadmap - 'He Tuna'





Trustee Profile

Moira Raukawa-Haskell

Moira Raukawa-Haskell is one of two Ngāti Tamakōpiri representatives on the Board of the Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust.

Aorangi te Maunga
Hautapu te Awa
Opaea/Kaiewe ngā Marae
Hinetai/Tuope/Tama Tuturu ngā Hapū
Ngāti Tamakōpiri te Iwi
Mōkai Pātea Te Rohe Potae
Ko Moira Raukawa-Haskell toku ingoa

“My father is Johnny Moetatua Raukawa, the youngest son of Charlie Raukawa and Amokura Te Moke. My mother is Betty Manu Bradley (Whale), oldest daughter of Kuia McTaggart (Akatawera) and Horace Whale.”



TE URUMANAO APERAHAMA & JOHN
McTAGGART WITH PITA, KUIA & PUNA

Moira has been a Ngāti Tamakōpiri delegate since the conception of the Claims Trust.

“It has been a very long journey and not one I would want anybody else to have to go through, because it causes a lot of loss and sadness,” she acknowledges.

“Why do I stay here you ask? Because I want to see some justice done for Ngāti Tamakōpiri, who are the mana whenua of Taihape town, and for all Mōkai Pātea nui tonu.

“I do this mahi because I want my whanau and my hapū to be strong and moving into the future without the burden of worrying and thinking about Waitangi claims.

“Of course it is frustrating and unjust that the Crown gets to define a ‘natural grouping’ of iwi when it comes to its negotiating program, but we need to get our Tiriti claims recognised and settled. We need to put He Tuna behind us.

“Then it will be up to our people alone to define and build a robust and forceful Ngāti Tamakōpiri.”

The 64-year-old says the challenges and rewards of the role and the mission are often two sides of the same coin. Four iwi working together can be tricky, but the foundation of whakapapa ensures and deepens the successful collaboration results.

Likewise insufficient funding is a constant headache, but there is pride to be had from finding a way through anyway, because the cause is just and whanau are the ultimate benefactors.

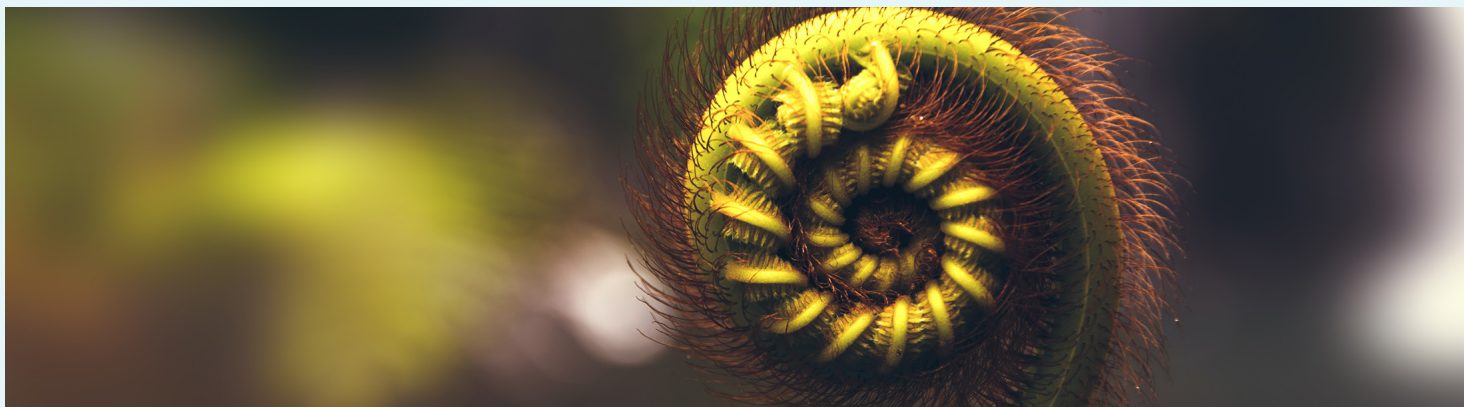
“It does take a lot of time, we all have our other mahi to do for whanau, hapū and iwi, and none of us are getting any younger. But the progress is there to be seen,” says Moira.

“The iwi membership databases are growing, the mandate is in place, the Negotiators are appointed and soon we will be talking to the Crown about our Tiriti settlements.”

Moira says the Board is good to work with and a forum for solid and heartfelt debate.

“There are trustees who are a bit disruptive at times, they do get told to watch their language when they fire up, but it is usually with good reason,” she says with a laugh.

Moira has managed BP Connect Café Taihape for eight years. She says doing whānau, hapū and iwi mahi while employed full time has been challenging, but is “very lucky to have great bosses who understand my commitment and let me have time off for hui”.



Where Tamakōpiri and Tamatea Pōkai Whenua parted ways

Richard Steedman, from Ihaka Te Hau Paimarire

We have all heard of the famous journey of Tamatea Pōkai Whenua, travelling to and through the Mōkai Pātea rohe and placing his manas Pohokura, Te Koura and the Patiki upon the whenua here.

Our Ngāti Tamakōpiri tupuna Ihaka Te Hau Paimarire tells us Tamatea was from Hawaiki and of the Honoiwairua people. The party on his traverse included his son Tamakōpiri and his wife of the time Mahakiroa.

At a special place just north of the current Waiouru Camp, Tamatea parted ways with Tamakōpiri.

From there, Tamatea headed south to what was to become 'Putiki Wharanui a Tamatea Pōkai Whenua' at the mouth of the Whanganui River, where the well-known story of Tamatea's topknot unravelling took place, giving that locality its identity.

Ihaka Te Hau identifies the special place where the father and son parted as a low range known to us today as 'Te Hiwi a Tamakōpiri', which he describes as running from Makiokio to Waiouru.

He goes on to relate that Tamakōpiri cried for his father as he departed and that his tears gave the Waitangi Stream its name.

Today it is easy to recognise Te Hiwi a Tamakōpiri as it stands out as a headland to the left as you descend into the Waitangi Stream valley just north of Waiouru Camp.



The purple line marks Te Hiwi a Tamakōpiri, the ridge where Ngāti Tamakōpiri and Tamatea Pōkai Whenua parted ways.



Te Hiwi a Tamakōpiri looking east from the Desert Road just north of Waiouru.

Iwi notices

Ngāti Tamakōpiri

Chairperson's AGM Report, Moira Raukawa-Haskell, Dec 2021

The Waitangi Claims process has been our number one priority for the last few years. We have been through the Tribunal process' 17 hearings, and the mandating process, which we achieved so now have the Mandate to begin the settlement negotiation process with the Crown.

Rangitikei Environmental Operations Ltd (REO)

The four Iwi of Mōkai Pātea are shareholders in this company. Ngāti Tamakōpiri hold 25% shares. A lot of work has been achieved through this project and I would like to mihi to those of our whanau who have been involved.

Ngā Puna Rau o Rangitikei

We have put an Expression of Interest (EOI) into Te Mana o te Wai. If it is successful, it will assist our Te Roopu Taiao (EWP) with capacity issues.

RDC Wastewater Treatment Scheme

We are in the process of writing up a Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) document for the Rangitikei Wastewater Treatment Scheme on the Hautapu Awa.

New Zealand Defence Land

Our work is ongoing with Defence.

We are currently working with Defence re: Resource consent for re-siting of Transmitter Stations.

Ongoing work with Defence re: Relationship building/Mana whenua.

National Iwi Chairs/Te Ranga Tupua

Very involved with Covid 19 and putting strategies in place.

Opaea Marae/Ablution Block

The Runanga through Kaiao Rangi Trust purchased the Ablution block for Opaea Marae. This was given as a distribution.

I have only touched on a few things we have been working on to uphold the mana of Ngāti Tamakōpiri.

To those whanau at home and away, thank you for all the work you have done on behalf of Ngāti Tamakōpiri hapū/iwi, it is very much appreciated.

Ngāti Whitikaupeka Update

Te Riu o Puanga Marae report

In the last quarter, a cultural impact assessment was undertaken that was favourable for the marae to continue progressing activities to access an underground spring for water.

Next steps are to install a 2-3000L tank below our local spring to be able to pump water over to the marae, and, place and secure 2x 30,000L tanks by Oruamātua wharenui to be able to receive the spring water.

Restoration work is also on the cards for 2022, with investigations underway to seek advice and funding to restore the pataka, and the front floorboards of Oruamātua.

Iwi Tribal Database

The Mōkai Pātea Iwi Register is managed by the Mōkai Pātea Waitangi Claims Trust on behalf of Mōkai Pātea Nui Tonu, the Iwi of Ngāi Te Ohuake, Ngāti Hauiti, Ngāti Tamakōpiri, Ngāti Whitikaupeka.

As a Mōkai Pātea Member you can check and update your own contact details on the Mōkai Pātea Iwi Register. This will give us your most up-to-date contact details and ensure you won't miss out on information.

To register online go to - members.mokaipateaclaims.maori.nz

You will need to submit your first and last name, date of birth, and an email address

Or download and print a pdf registration form, scan and send to iwi.admin@mokaipateaservices.org.nz or post.

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