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14 FEBRUARY 2025 PĀNUI NGĀTI RUAPANI MAI WAIKAREMOANA

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Lake
Whakamarino

TUAI

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Ko Hineraumati te kōmarutanga e
whiwhita i te ahi kōmau. E wana
kānapanapa ai ngā taipeti o te moana
tipua ki ngā tutukitanga i huaki mai ai
te tatau o āpōpō. E aku nui, e aku rahi
mauri ora ki a koutou katoa.

Let us look into the glistening past, a
journey of togetherness and oneness
for Ngāti Ruapani. Let us ignite a fiery
future, duty-bound to our mokopuna
awaiting on our success for unity.

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In this panui, we will explore the components of the Deed of Settlement so when it comes time to cast your vote, you are well informed. We'll also share this information on our website and provide a summarised version on our social media, so you will always have access.

We'll continue to remind you why you need to register again. You must be 18 years old, whakapapa to Ruapani, and one or more descendants of Pukehore, Tūwai, and Ngati Hinekura.

But before you can vote the negotiation group and the Crown must first agree on the 'best and final' version of the Deed of Settlement and Post Settlement Governance Entity. Once this is done, both parties will initial the Deed of Settlement (IDOS), showing the Crown's commitment to honouring their promises.

Now, lets look at the Deed of Settlement!



Cash Settlement.

The cash settlement began at \$17 million and was successfully negotiated up to \$24 million! Compared to other settlement groups with the same number of members, this final offer of \$24 million is significantly better. This is the Crown's final offer and will likely remain the same.

Cash Settlement, Patunamu Forestry Block and Commercial Properties.

The cash settlement will be used to purchase the Patunamu Forestry Block and some commercial properties. The 50% share in the Forestry Block will cost \$2.466 million, while the price of the commercial properties is still being finalised.

When the Forestry Block transfers to the Post Settlement Governance Entity (PSGE), carbon credits and rentals will be paid out, allowing us to recover the \$2.466 million and possibly more.

Due diligence on Patunamu Forestry Block.

To demonstrate how we decide whether Patunamu Forestry Block is a safe investment, we commissioned an independent report on the forestry block and sought advice from CNI Forestry financial advisors. Next we plan to meet with the Director to get his feedback on the block.

Furthermore, we need to consider the risks, which include changes in forestry management since Cyclone Gabrielle, the block's remote location, and the implications of the rate increases, although not directly impacting us, these could influence the license holder's decision on lease renewal.

Historical Account.

The core of the settlement centers on the Historical Account. This document serves as the official reference for understanding the history of Ruapani and his people, a legacy that our mokopuna will inherit. It must remain accurate.

Essentially, the historical account is divided into two parts. The first part, known as the background section, focuses on Ruapani and his people. This is followed by twelve chapters detailing the Crown's treaty violations against the Ruapani people. Additionally, oral history research was conducted to show how the Crown's treaty breaches affected the development of the Ruapani people. Interestingly, the whanau interviewed admitted that they didn't understand what racism was back then; they thought that when their teacher told them to leave their Māoriness at the gate, it was normal.

Once both parties agree on the final document, we can share it with you. In the meantime, our ability to share the document remains limited.

Post Settlement Governance Entity.

When designing the PSGE, you informed us that it cannot operate independently and that the mana resides with the hapū. You also supported the election of representatives to advocate for your hapū interests at the table. We are now tasked with designing the PSGE based on your feedback and what is legally feasible.

Cultural Redress.

We are acquiring commercial properties that align with your ambitions for farming, food sovereignty, and housing. We recently valued Camp Kaitawa, the former Tuai School, and Te Kura o Waikaremoana whenua. Properties in and around Western Extension have also been carved out for consideration.

Re-appointment of Kara Puketapu-Dentice

In line with our mandate and the tikanga of Te Whānau Pani, Kara Puketapu-Dentice has been reappointed to the negotiations board after Rapata Wiri withdrew his nomination during the elections conducted on 9 February 2025 at Waimako Marae.

Not in the settlement but of significance.

At a meeting held with Tūhoe on the 11th of October 2021, the Tūhoe Tiamana declared the following.

On behalf of Tūhoe, we will work towards the whakahaere of Waikaremoana being with Waikaremoana; that is our goal. This isn't a process that will take 100 years—it's something we can advance through the settlement. The objective of this settlement is to enable the complete management of Waikaremoana to return to Waikaremoana. It's simply the right thing to do; we are addressing all the injustices done to Ruapani. Thus, the destination of the whakahaere of Waikaremoana is to originate from Waikaremoana, and it has implications for the PSGE, tribal, and unification.

Hui Schedule

- PSGE discussions with Tūhoe and lawyers, 20 February 2025.

Connect with us online, or come and see us at the office

Office hours Monday to Thursday 8.00 am to 4.00 pm at Whakamarino Lodge.



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Ngāti Ruapani mai Waikaremoana

