

RONGOWHAKAATA CLAIMS COMMITTEE / NEGOTIATORS

Claims PANUI and Update – July 2011

JULY 2011 CLAIMS UPDATE

The Initialling of a Rongowhakaata Deed of Settlement

is set down for **Wednesday July 20th**. The venue and timing to be confirmed but likely to be at Parliament.

The significance for whanau, hapu Rongowhakaata of this event is that it sets in motion the **Ratification Process** whereby all registered members, 18 years and over are given an opportunity to deliberate on and decide on the finality of that action.

This will involve:

- Receiving **summarized details** of the proposals put together within the **Deed of Settlement**,
- The summary of proposals for the **PSGE** – the post settlement entity to receive and manage the assets deriving from the settlement,
- Details of voting, information relating to members and registration,
- Information Hui in selected areas to allow kanohi - ki te – kanohi and direct opportunity to question and raise issues relating to the settlement,
- A time to deliberate and then vote on the proposals for the **Deed of Settlement** and the **PSGE** – close of voting will likely move into late August or early September.

The Outcome of Ratification

Your votes will decide

- a) Whether the Settlement is accepted or not,
- b) Whether the PSGE as proposed is accepted or not.

Ratification Hui – a draft schedule has been put together to facilitate informing and consulting with whanau:

- Wellington
- Auckland
- Hamilton
- Heretaunga
- Rotorua
- Sydney and
- Brisbane (Australia)

These will be confirmed and then advertised nationally in The NZ Herald and Dominion Post and local papers and again on this website. They will possibly be held mid – August 2011.

The **Ratification Booklet** is being put together at present for distribution to all those registered with Rongowhakaata on the Trust Data Base/Register.

PANUI were sent out using the existing register. If you did not receive one and if you are not registered then please contact us here at

RCT Office CMB 24 Manutuke 4053 or
Fax/Ph: 06 86 28086

You can still register to vote on this matter.

The Signing of the Rongowhakaata Deed of Settlement

If this event is to take place then it requires a positive affirmation and confirmation from the voting process arising from the ratification.

The intent is to have this event at **Whakato Marae** in **Manutuke** and it was planned for **August**. This will now be deferred to early September as a result of the need to resolve those issues still existing between ourselves and the Crown.

It is envisaged that the signing itself will be reason for whanau, hapu Rongowhakaata to gather together to witness the signing and to celebrate the completion of what has been a very long, drawn out process.

All arrangements in the present circumstances are subject to change. However, we will try to provide sufficient notice to whanau where this occurs.

WEDNESDAY JULY 20TH 2011 – **Rongowhakaata Initial their Deed of Settlement**

The first significant step towards a Rongowhakaata Deed of Settlement was taken today at Te Papa Tongarewa Museum

- A formal ceremony mihi whakatau was held between representatives of Rongowhakaata and staff and friends of Te Papa as a precursor main events
- At 11.00 am Minister Findlayson and Crown Officials were formally welcomed on to the marae by Rongowhakaata.
- Karakia led by Kaumatua Paora Whaanga were followed by whaikorero from Lewis Moeau and Wille Whaitiri for Rongowhakaata and response from John Clarke for the Crown.
- Events moved into the poho o Te Hau Ki Turanga where Tutekawa Wyllie spoke briefly for Rongowhakaata before Minister Findlayson read out the Crown Apology,

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- The initialing by Negotiators – Stan Pardoe, Meka Whaitiri and Jody Wyllie for Rongowhakaata with the Crown was held on the mahau and witnessed by a large gathering of whanau, hapu Rongowhakaata, whanau whanaunga and whanau whanui and interested passersby. Nga Uri O Te Kooti representatives also initialed their section.

This ceremony concluded the first step towards our Deed of Settlement.

It is opportune to acknowledge here all those who have worked over the past 22 years towards this action –

- those individuals who took the first steps on our behalf,
- the group of pakeke and other volunteers who then gave of their time and mahi to contribute to the requirements processed to and before the Waitangi Tribunal hearings
- the collective of representatives who fronted and became the Claims Committee **and** their various advisors,
- The Negotiators who were faces and voices before OTS,
- And whanau, hapu who came to listen, to korero, to deliberate and general to support the Claims Initiative.

“Ka tere raao, ka tere Pipiwahakao”

HUI A IWI – Saturday 23rd July 2011 at Whakato Marae

The hui at Whakato was well attended and presented the first opportunity for RCC and whanau to convene to have updates on the claims and to define more clearly the significance of the **Initialing** and the next steps for **Ratification**

Willie Te Aho as he has done since May outline the processes before us – which are available on line, and outlined some of the issues still to be resolved and finalized.

Pareaute Panapa-Solomon presented important detail on the PSGE which is one of the issues to be resolved

Ratification hui are tentatively placed to begin in August 14th in Gisborne and to conclude in Sydney and Brisbane on the 18th and 10th of August. However these are not yet confirmed.

Ratification Packs will be forwarded to registered members when the PSGE and any other issues are resolved.

No reira whanau if you require further info especially about registration please contact us at RCT Office

**RCT Office CMB 24 Manutuke 4053 or
Fax/Ph: 06 86 28086**

Naku noa
Na
Manawa-Ote-Rangi (Buff) WAIPARA, Claims Coordinator

