



15<sup>th</sup> January 2020

### **E ngā Iwi ō te Motu tēnei te karanga...**

Kia hui ai ngā Iwi o te motu. Kei runga Waitangi ngā Kawenata i hainatia, he Whakaputanga ki te Tōu Rangatira, Te Tiriti ki runga i te kara ō Ingarangi. Tiakina, kia mau roa ki tō mana Māori Motuhake hei oranga whānau, hei tātai hapū.

Nā reira e ngā mana, e ngā reo tēnā rā tātou katoa. Ko te kaupapa ō tēnei whakatakoto mānuka he mea nō mai rā anō. Whiria te kawa o Rāhiri, kia pūpuri te puna ō Hōkianga, ō Taumārere, tae noā ki Whangārei Terenga Paraoa, ā kō Muriwhenua ki rūnga.

Kō Ngāpuhi nui tonu te tuanui, kei Waitangi anō te rere ō te kōrero.

At our most recent Te Kahu o Taonui hui, the prospect of meeting with Crown representatives was discussed, and the status of the relationship between Iwi and the Crown partnership was raised as a key question for the National Iwi Chairs Forum (NICF). The NICF komiti have since held one meeting with the Prime Minister to clarify their position with NICF (being democratically elected leaders of their iwi). Another meeting is planned around Ratana Pa, and a report will be given at Waitangi.

The NICF at Waikawa requested that this hui at Waitangi refocus on the purpose of NICF itself, and spend time on Strategic Planning especially as regards Te Tiriti in the key question above. We have heard you. It is reflected in the programming and facilitated by our Rangatira Pahia Turia, Chair of ngā Rangatahi ō NICF.

The purpose of this correspondence is to remind you that, in the north, we each have our own specified provenance with **He Whakaputanga ō Te Rangatiratanga ō Nui Tīreni, me Te Tiriti O Waitangi**.

The one thing that we all share in Ngāpuhi Nui Tonu (Tai Tokerau), is our Kai-tiakitanga of these two Covenants. Independent of and regardless of the views of Iwi nationally, we in Ngāpuhi have had our Sovereignty recognised internationally and Te Tiriti is but one expression of that.

Whilst NICF grapple with their relationship with the Crown, **Te Kahu o Taonui are united in that we cannot NOT meet with the Crown - Ngāpuhi did not cede our Sovereignty to the Crown in 1835. Our Tūpuna agreed to a Tiriti relationship with the Crown who then became, and are still now, our Te Tiriti Partner! A relationship affirmed by the visit in November 2019 by Prince Charles with his wife Camilla here at Waitangi - sealed with a Hongi!**

Ngāpuhi share this kōrero with you all, that you may have a better understanding of why we will never agree to a 'settlement' with the Crown. We are not a member of the Trade Union movement being an employee at the bargaining table with the Boss seeking a 'settlement', we are a Sovereign Nation negotiating rapprochement - resuming harmonious relations as they were in 1835, and still can be in 2020.

The imperatives for Ngāpuhi alone with its size and position in the negotiation ranks demands any opportunity to advance, and it is my view, supported by Te Kahu O Taonui and other Chairs that we will proceed with our planned engagement with the Crown from the Cultural to the Political arenas.

The how and the when this occurs is yet to be determined and this correspondence seeks your co-operation to join with us at Waitangi to discuss our potential options, outcomes and prerequisites.

Haere Mai! We can discuss how the dialogue will occur and the respective objectives of Ngāpuhi Nui Tonu and the national collective of Iwi, representing Hapū and Whānau throughout the motu.

**Hē Tīmatanga anō tēnei mō te katoa!**

Naku noa  
Na, Mere Mangu  
**Board Chair**

**Te Rūnanga-Ā-Iwi-Ō-Ngāpuhi**

