



Iwi comments on the

Inaugural

Kaitiaki Hui

30-31 March, 2006

Hopuhopu, Waikato

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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1. Background

Maruwhenua, the Māori Unit of the Ministry for the Environment, planned and facilitated the first Kaitiaki Hui along with Tainui at Hopuhopu, Waikato in March this year. The Hui was the first opportunity for kaitiaki/iwi resource management practitioners to network and workshop their profession.

Over 80 people from around the motu attended this event with Greater Wellington sponsoring an iwi representative from each iwi authority of this region. Those to attend from here were Te Waari Carkeek, Jack Rikihana, Te Akapikirangi Arthur, Mark Te One, Alma Mihaere and Charles Morunga. Ngāti Kahungunu also sent Tom Paku along.

At the Ara Tahi meeting held on 19 April 2006, the iwi representatives provided feedback on the hui and requested a summary of the hui from MfE.

2. Comments on the hui

The following are comments from our iwi representatives. Names have been withheld but comments grouped to indicate or summarise the response from each iwi rep:

- All [iwi] are at different stages of development
- So is engagement between iwi and TA's
- Ara Tahi is a long way ahead of in terms of relationship with Council and inter-iwi
- We are developing strategies on regional economic development
- What is Maruwhenua doing with our information?
- Can we expect a report on the hui from Maruwhenua?

- Disappointment with presenters
- Too much talking Day 1
- Workshops were very useful especially interacting with other iwi
- Sharing policy and procedures from other iwi was useful
- Networking was good
- Good to compare with other iwi/regions and gauge where we are at

- Proud to represent Ara Tahi
- Explained to the conference the [type of] issues passed through Ara Tahi
- Platform forum
- Korero how hapū conducted themselves at home
- Interesting case study by Gina Laws – took them 40 years to get compensation
- Proud of this committee (Ara Tahi) and what we have achieved
- Especially the fellowship

- Hui confirmed that iwi and Council have a way to go to get an even playing field
- Intention of hui was for RMA practitioners
- However, disappointed with the focus on Mighty River and whether this took the emphasis away from iwi networking
- Disgusted at the way members of Mighty River exposed personal incomes of key managers. Embarrassed that they were being given confidential information

- Felt that this discussion on Mighty River added little to the kaupapa
 - MfE have not engaged with iwi for a long time
 - Proud of Ara Tahī [achievements]. It has moved slowly but meaningfully
 - Disappointed with the management of the hui and the performance of Maruwhenua. The programme was disjointed and it was obvious that Maru staff were playing catch up throughout the hui.
 - We CAN help others
 - Hopes that the next hui is more exciting and informative
 - Needs to focus on the needs of the iwi practitioners and have more case studies from them not some huge corporation
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- Day one was tedious
 - More value found in informal talks (over a cuppa) where iwi were able to really talk the issues.
 - Next hui needs to allow this sharing to occur
 - Found that other iwi were aware of Ara Tahī, that iwi in this region had forged a relationship [with GW] and recognised that it was OK but not perfect
 - Appreciated the opportunity to whakawhanaungatanga
 - Thanked GW for providing opportunity to attend
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- Second experience of this kind. The other was attending the Local Government New Zealand conference
 - Too many speakers
 - Suggested breaking the sessions up having a speaker followed by a workshop enabling participation throughout the day rather than being passive observers for a large block of time. It is also harder to maintain attention of audience
 - Suggested that the proposed Strategic Planning Committee for next years Kaitiaki Hui needed more women on it
 - Noted that the next proposed hui is in Taitokerau
 - A committee of iwi reps from around the motu and MfE is important
 - Ara Tahī is a role model
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- Some of the conference was tedious
 - Workshops were good
 - Acknowledged that Waikato and the river iwi from Tūwharetoa to Port Waikato is to be modelled on Ara Tahī
 - Hijacking peoples agenda???
 - Noted that some iwi did not talk to each other
 - Need to provide a forum for iwi to share/debate differences and similarities
 - Strategic committee is to meet in Taitokerau

3. General Discussion

- Pleased that iwi were able to attend and as a group.
- Enabled further networking amongst Ara Tahī iwi carrying on from Hui a Ara Tahī in Nov last year
- Briefly discussed the iwi liaison hui ‘Te Maataapuna’ and the initiative to further professional development. It was evident at that hui that professional development for iwi liaison officers would emulate quite closely the needs of iwi practitioners and that this was something that both bodies could work together to lobby central government and tertiary institutions.
- There was some support for professional development for iwi practitioners
- Noted that there should be more consideration and input into future hui by iwi to define what the hui should cover
- Suggested that Ara Tahī look at hosting a future Kaitiaki Hui here in Whanganui a Tara
- Overall feeling that the hui meets a definite need and that it has great potential

4. Action Points

- Send comments out to iwi for comment
- Send comments to Maruwhenua
- Request feedback from Kaitiaki Hui