Ngātiwai Trust Board mandate hui observer report

lwi	Ngātiwai		
Location	Mounties RSA 101 Meadows Road, Mount Pritchard Sydney		
Date	Tuesday, 10 September 2013		
Start time	~1:00pm	Finish time	~2:45pm
Chair	Haydn Edmonds		
Observer(s)	Michael Hollis (Te Puni Kōkiri, policy)		
Presenter(s)	Haydn Edmonds (Ngātiwai Trust Board Chair), Merepeka Henley Ngātiwai Trust Board Deputy Chair and Kris MacDonald (Ngātiwai Trust Board Trustee)		
Attendance	Total of ~26 people*, including 5 Ngātiwai Trust Board members, 2 Ngātiwai Kaumātua, 1 TPK observer, and 1 independent election company official (Dale Ofsoske) *people were arriving and leaving throughout the hui, so this is an approximate number.		
Purpose	 The purpose of the hui is to: provide information about Crown settlement policy, the Ngātiwai Trust Board and mandate process; and mandate the Ngātiwai Trust Board to represent Te lwi o Ngātiwai in direct negotiations with the Crown for the comprehensive settlement of all the historical Treaty claims of Ngātiwai. 		
Agenda	 Himene / Karakia Mihimihi Presentation / Question & Answers Karakia whakamutunga Hākari whakanoa 		
Presentation	Haydn Edmonds, Kris MacDonald and Merepeka Henley provided a PowerPoint presentation to hui attendees which was closely followed. Additional comments to the slides are recorded under the corresponding slide title:		

Slide 1: Introductions

Slide 2: Independent Election Services

The Independent Returning Officer (IRO) explained that if people had not received a voting and information pack they were either not registered, or their registered address details were wrong. The IRO encouraged the hui to check the register for correct details, and encouraged the hui to register and encourage whānau to register if they had not already.

Slide 3: Independent Election Services

The IRO noted that approximately 2,600 voting packs had been sent to Ngātiwai iwi members and to date approximately 481 (19.3%) votes had been cast. The IRO encouraged hui attendees to vote and encourage their whānau to vote.

Slide 4: Agenda

Slide 5: Purpose of Mandate Hui

Slide 6: Overview of the Direct Negotiations Pathway

Mr Edmonds noted that the Ngātiwai Trust Board (Trust Board) is seeking a mandate from the Ngātiwai claimant community to represent Ngātiwai in direct negotiations with the Crown. Mr Edmond's encouraged hui attendees to vote in favour of the proposal.

Mr Edmonds explained that the Trust Board are currently in pre-negotiations and that if mandated they will negotiate an initialled Deed of Settlement before going back to Ngātiwai to ratify what has been negotiated.

Mr Edmonds explained that a new structure (Post-Settlement Governance Entity) will be developed to manage any settlement Ngātiwai receive and will also be ratified by Ngātiwai.

Slide 7: Who is Te lwi o Ngātiwai? Claimant Definition

Mr MacDonald explained that before seeking a mandate the Trust Board had to set out who Ngātiwai is and who will be represented should the Trust Board be mandated.

Mr MacDonald noted that he would explain the different aspects of the claimant definition in the following slides.

Slide 8: Our Founding Tūpuna

Mr MacDonald explained that some other iwi whakapapa to the same Tūpuna as Ngātiwai and explained that to vote and be a beneficiary of any Ngātiwai settlement, Ngātiwai iwi members would need to whakapapa to

Ngātiwai Tūpuna, Marae and hapū.

Slide 9: Our Marae Slide 10: Our Hapū

Mr MacDonald noted that there had been questions around the inclusion of some hapū of Ngātiwai. However, Mr MacDonald explained that shared hapū have whakapapa links to at least one Ngātiwai Marae.

Slide 11: Our Rohe / Area of Interest

Mr MacDonald noted that the Area of Interest (Ngātiwai rohe) outlined in the presentations diagram is not exclusively Ngātiwai's rohe and the Trust Board acknowledge there are several other iwi with overlapping interests in the rohe.

Mr MacDonald also explained that the Trust Board would seek to negotiate the ocean space around the Ngātiwai rohe, just as Waikato and Whanganui have done with the river settlements.

Slide 12: Crown Settlement Policy on Wai Claims to be included

Mr MacDonald explained that the Ngātiwai Wai claims will only be settled insofar as they relate to Ngātiwai, as the Crown want a comprehensive settlement which would cover all Ngātiwai claims and interests.

Slide 13: Wai Claims Included

Mr MacDonald explained that all claims that relate to Ngātiwai have been included in the Ngātiwai Trust Board mandate strategy as it is a Crown requirement to settle comprehensively with iwi. Mr MacDonald noted that if the Ngātiwai Trust Board receives a mandate from the Ngātiwai claimant community, they will negotiate all Ngātiwai claims insofar as they relate to Ngātiwai. Mr MacDonald explained that the mamae and loss felt by Ngātiwai whānau, hapū and te iwi o Ngātiwai was collectively felt and it is the Trust Boards view that a Ngātiwai settlement would be an inclusive settlement, for the benefit of all Ngātiwai. Mr MacDonald also explained that the Trust Board do not want Ngātiwai to be pulled apart by individuals seeking to take their claims through the Waitangi Tribunal process.

Slide 14: Wai Claims Included

Slide 15: Wai Claims Included

Slide 16: Supplementary Claims

Slide 17: Supplementary Claims (table diagram)

Mr MacDonald noted that the supplementary claims were included because of Crown policy to settle comprehensively, all claims in relation to an iwi. In this case Mr MacDonald explained that the additional claims all had whakapapa links to one or more Ngātiwai hapū and marae and the Trust Board would only seek to settle the claims insofar as they relate to Ngātiwai.

Slide 18: Crown Settlement Policy and Ngātiwai Trust Board Accountability Measures

Mr MacDonald explained that the accountability measures in place are to ensure the Trust Board are doing their job properly and are appropriately accountable back to the Ngātiwai claimant community.

Slide 19: Ngātiwai Trust Board Structure and Accountability

Mrs Henley explained that the next elections for Trust Board members would be held between February and March 2014.

Slide 20: Marae Trustees and Alternatives

Mrs Henley noted that it was up to individual marae to appoint an alternative to the Trust Board marae positions.

Slide 21: Structure and Accountability

Mrs Henley explained that over the last year, the Trust Board have worked hard to develop their communications strategy to ensure the Ngātiwai claimant community is well informed. For example, the Trust Board have developed a smartphone application, upgraded their website, have met kanohi ki te kanohi with the Ngātiwai claimant community and will be releasing an 'e pānui' in the near future.

Mrs Henley explained that to remove a mandate from the Trusty Board, should they be mandated, a group would have to undertake a process similar to that of what the Trust Board has undertaken to date. For example, the Trust Board held three information hui prior to mandating hui and are scheduled to hold nine mandating hui. Miss Henley explained that to remove the mandate the same process would need to be followed.

Slide 22: Te lwi o Ngātiwai "Claimant Community" (diagram)

Mrs Henley explained that the Trust Board are currently constituted by the 14 marae of Ngātiwai, and that the Trust Board will develop supporting structures which will include two additional branches to the Trust Board's

governance structure, including a kaumātua branch and hapū branch. The kaumātua branch will allow the Trust Board to seek advice and guidance and will also allow Ngātiwai kaumātua to have a say. The hapū branch will allow hapū to have a stronger presence in governance.

Mrs Henley explained that at the operational level, the Trust Board will develop a research committee which will provide an opportunity for Ngātiwai Wai claimants to have an input, and to engage in an airing of grievances type forum. Mrs Henley also explained that the final arm is the negotiators, of which the Trust Board will nominate one person from the Trust Board, and will advertise the final two positions with job descriptions relevant to the needs of Ngātiwai.

Slide 23: An Open and Transparent Mandate Process

Mrs Henley explained that voting opened on 17 August 2013 and was scheduled to close on 15 September 2013. However, the voting period has since been extended to 13 October to allow more people to consider the proposal, get registered and vote. She explained that there are nine mandating hui scheduled for around the country.

Slide 24: Mandate Hui Schedule (table diagram)

Slide 25: Where can I get more Information

Slide 26: Questions and Answers

Slide 27: Voting Mandate Resolution

Mr Edmonds read the resolution aloud and encouraged hui attendees to register and vote and encourage whānau to register and vote. Mr Edmonds also encouraged hui attendees to check the register for correct details of themselves and whānau who were not present.

Questions and comments

Q1: An attendee questioned what the threshold for receiving a mandate was.

A1: Ms McPherson explained that there are a number of factors that Ministers will take into consideration which include: an analysis of the process undertaken, whether it has been open and transparent, whether submitters concerns have been dealt with, and what the voting return rate and vote results are. Ms McPherson also noted that it is important for the Trust Board to encourage Ngātiwai iwi members to register and vote, and encourage whānau to register and vote.

Q2: An attendee asked if Ngātiwai have rights at Hauturu.

A2: Mr MacDonald explained that Ngāti Manuhiri have settled their claims at Hauturu. Mr MacDonald explained that the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations has written to the Trust Board and noted that the rights of Ngātiwai have not been extinguished, and Ngātiwai will have the right to settle the balance of claims at Hauturu.

Mr MacDonald noted that Ngāti Manuhiri settled a two hectare block at Hauturu and will build two marae, which will be for all of Ngātiwai to enjoy.

Q3: An attendee asked what would happen if the Trust Board does not get a mandate.

A3: Mr MacDonald explained that the default, should the Trust Board not be mandated, would be the Waitangi Tribunal inquiry process. Mr MacDonald explained that once the Waitangi Tribunal inquiry process was complete, a mandate would need to be sought, the question is who would pick that mahi up.

Comment: Mr MacDonald also explained that Ngātiwai went through stage one Waitangi Tribunal hearings in 2010, and no report from those hearings has been received yet. Mr MacDonald noted that through direct negotiations, the Trust Board will fight to keep Ngātiwai together, through an inclusive process, for all Ngātiwai iwi members to participate in, and resist being picked apart, and split by fractions who are claiming to represent Ngātiwai in some manner.

Q4: An attendee questioned how a settlement could benefit Ngātiwai iwi members living in Australia.

A4: Mr MacDonald explained that Ngātiwai will continue to have scholarships available, and encouraged rangatahi to apply for those scholarships. Mr MacDonald explained that now there is dialogue with whānau in Australia, it will become easier to continue to develop the communications strategy, which will inform people in Australia, and across the world, of scholarships, and other opportunities.

Mrs Henley reiterated that more effective communication will be key to ensuring whānau living across the globe are informed of such opportunities.

Comment: An attendee expressed their gratitude on behalf of hui attendees for the Trust Board's mahi, and bringing the kaupapa to Australia, to share and inform Ngātiwai iwi members living in Australia. The attendee commented that the Ngātiwai website and Facebook page have been great for communication, and being kept informed. The attendee also gave support to the Trust

	Board.		
Resolution(s)	The Ngātiwai Trust Board are asking all Ngātiwa members 18 years and over to vote on the follor resolution:		
	"That the Ngātiwai Trust Board is mandated to represent Te iwi o Ngātiwai in direct negotiations with the Crown for the comprehensive settlement of all the remaining historical Treaty claims of Ngātiwai including registered and un-registered claims."		
Voting process	It was explained that voting could be done in a number of ways:		
	in person at the various ratification hui;postal ballot; oronline.		
	Voting opened 17 August 2013 and closes 13 October 2013.		
Voting result	The result will be announced approximately two weeks after the voting closing date.		
Other comments	 The observer's role at the hui was explained accurately. The hui was conducted in an open and transparent manner. The following documents were available to attendees: Mandate strategy and supplement; Notification letter; Waitangi Tribunal claims settlement process document (photocopy); CFRT Treaty Settlements pamphlet; and Ngāti Wai presentation. At the registration table: Attendance register; Registration application form; Special Votes register; Ngāti Wai register; and Ballot box. Hui attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and questions were answered sufficiently. An attendance register was circulated at the hui. 		