



Ngāti Koata, Ngāti Rārua, Wakatu, Ngāti Tama, Te Ātiawa

Panui No 5 - December 2005

Nga mihinui ki a tatou katoa i te iwi whanui a Te Tau Ihu o te Waka a Maui.

Mandate Hui (throughout Aotearoa)

October and November 2005 were very busy months for the Directors and Management of Tainui Taranaki ki te Tonga. Information Hui were held in 5 locations during October and Mandate Hui were held in 14 locations during November 2005. A total number of 146 Iwi members attended the Information Hui whereas a total of 231 Iwi members attended the Mandate Hui. The resolution put at each Mandate Hui was:

“The iwi of Tainui Taranaki ki Tonga (Ngāti Koata, Ngāti Rārua, Ngāti Tama and Te Ātiawa) mandate Tainui Taranaki ki Tonga Limited to enter into negotiations with the Crown regarding the comprehensive settlement of all Ngāti Koata, Ngāti Rārua, Wakatu Incorporation (Wai 56), Ngāti Tama and Te Ātiawa historical Treaty claims in Te Tau Ihu o te waka a Maui (Northern South Island) and Te Tai Poutini (West Coast of the South Island) and south of Te Parinui o Whiti (East Coast of the South Island)”.

This resolution was to allow Tainui Taranaki ki te Tonga Limited to enter into negotiations with the Crown regarding the comprehensive settlement of our historic treaty claims. The support to the resolution across all 14 Mandate Hui was a resounding 100% in favour. In addition as at 7 December 2005 we had also received back in the post from Iwi members 1,272 voting forms supporting the Resolution.

Following the Mandate Hui, came the preparation of a document called the Deed of Mandate. This document contains the following components:

- A definition of who we are, such as the names of our Iwi and hapu, our Marae and who our Tupuna were.
- Defining our historical claims such as listing the WAI numbers and details of the claims that we will be representing in negotiations.
- Defining our area of claim which is substantially Te Tau Ihu but also includes Te Tai Poutini (the West coast of the South Island)
- Providing details of our Mandated organisation (Tainui Taranaki ki te Tonga Limited) such as our company constitution as well as our Iwi Trust shareholders constitutions.
- And finally a report on how we have achieved getting the Mandate from Iwi members such as; where and when the Mandate meetings were held, how they were advertised, a record of the Minutes, who attended the meetings, what the outcome of voting was on the resolution and what material was presented to Iwi members.

All of this material was then bound together into a large document in preparation for presentation to the Crown. For any of you interested, the Deed is available to view at our offices in Nelson but only if you are a registered Iwi member. Unfortunately we cannot release the document out of the office.

Handover of our Deed of Mandate

Delegates from Tainui Taranaki ki te Tonga traveled to Wellington on 14 December 2005 to hand over our Deed of Mandate to Officials from both the Office of Treaty Settlements and Te Puni Kokiri. The formal proceedings involved Mihi mihi and Karakia to start and finish our meeting as well as a blessing of the Deed of Mandate documents that were passed over to Crown officials. This was done to commemorate and observe the importance of this kaupapa for our Tupuna who have passed on and for ourselves and descendants yet to come.

The occasion marked the culmination of more than 18 months of hard work which had started in 2004 with a number of Hui in Blenheim amongst all 8 Iwi from the top of the South Island. These meetings led to the creation of the three large natural groups in Te Tau Ihu, from which our one is called Tainui Taranaki ki te Tonga Limited, representing the Treaty claims of Ngāti Koata, Ngāti Rārua, Wakatu Incorporation, Ngāti Tama and Te Ātiawa.

Now that we have handed over our Deed of Mandate to Crown officials they will assess it as well as publicly notify the Mandate in the newspapers. They will then provide a report to Government. Our hope is that we will receive formal recognition of our Mandate from the Crown by March or April 2006.

Website

Don't forget to keep checking our website as we are continually updating it. A latest amendment has been the addition of the Iwi membership enrolment forms so print them off if you need them.

Membership Enrolment

Even though whanau cannot vote until they are 18 years of age it is important that everyone enrolls, including children so please check out your whanau enrolments over the holiday period.

The applications forms are available on either our Website, the Information Booklet “Te Ara Tapu” or by calling our toll free number.

In closing, we wish all of our whanau a very safe and happy Christmas and beyond the holiday period, a very prosperous new year in 2006! No reira....

***Meri Kirihimete me nga mihinui
mo te tau hou!***

Tainui Taranaki ki te Tonga Ltd

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