



Te Haonga Mai

Whanganui River Maori Trust Board Newsletter ISSUE SEVEN,
September/October 2004



TRUST BOARD

The Trust Board has been busy assisting a number of organizations and events in and around Whanganui over these past months.

The Trust Board has filed the following submissions

- ◆ Horizons Regional Council Long Term Council Community Plan
- ◆ Foreshore and Seabed Bill
- ◆ Ministry for the Environment's review on the Resource Management Act

HORIZONS REGIONAL COUNCIL LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN

The new Local Government Act (LGA) 2002 sets out a new purpose for local government. That purpose is the same for every council – city, district, regional or unitary – and is:

- ◆ To enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities: and
- ◆ To promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities, in the present and for the future

Under the LGA, councils must produce an LTCCP every three years. This is the first LTCCP for Horizons Regional Council and will begin operation in 2006. The LTCCP is the best opportunity you have to influence what the Council does.¹

The essence of our submission to Horizons Regional Council focused on the following activities. These can be found in the LTCCP:

1. Maori Engagement Activity
2. Land Activity
3. Water Quality Activity
4. Water Quantity Activity
5. Rivers and Drainage

It is very important that Iwi have a say on the plans being drafted by District and Regional Councils, however the process is not that widely known or communicated to our people.

FORESHORE AND SEABED BILL

The Whanganui River Maori Trust Board submission was heard in front of the select committee on the 1st September 2004. Brendon Puketapu and Archie Taiaroa reiterated that:

We (Whanganui Iwi):

- ◆ Focus on the mana, rangatiratanga, health and well being of the Awa Tupua o Whanganui
- ◆ Treat the river as a single - indivisible entity
- ◆ Seek to further restore and strengthen our connections with Te Awa Tupua o Whanganui
- ◆ Believe our tupuna responsibilities and customary rights are protected under Te Tiriti o Waitangi

The Bill:

- ◆ Treats the river as a divisible entity – extending to the first bridge in Whanganui
- ◆ Creates immediate and adverse implications for the nature and extent of possible redress for the Whanganui River Claims Negotiations
- ◆ Further disrupts and marginalizes our relationship with Te Awa Tupua o Whanganui
- ◆ Minimizes and adversely controls the recognition of Whanganui Iwi customary rights and interests
- ◆ Deliberately reduces options for Whanganui Iwi to test, confirm and protect the nature and extent of customary title and rights in relation to Te Awa Tupua o Whanganui
- ◆ Breaches the Terms of Negotiation for the Whanganui River Claims
- ◆ Further erodes Whanganui Iwi involvement in development and use management decisions that effect the mana, rangatiratanga, health and well being of Te Awa Tupua o Whanganui

We (Whanganui Iwi) say the Bill should:

- ◆ Affirm Whanganui Iwi involvement in all matters and decisions that impact on the mana, rangatiratanga, health and well being of Te Awa Tupua o Whanganui.
- ◆ Not erode our tupuna relationships with; and responsibilities for Te Awa Tupua o Whanganui
- ◆ Not prevent Whanganui Iwi access to the judicial system - to test, confirm and protect the nature and extent of title and rights
- ◆ Not limit the scope of interests and redress for the Whanganui River Claims Negotiations

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT REVIEW

This submission reports that the Trust Board supports the intent of the Resource Management Act, which is sustainable management of land, sea, air and water. However the Trust Board does not support how the RMA is interpreted and implemented in a practical sense.

The RMA review sought people's opinion on five areas;

- ◆ Balancing national and local interests
- ◆ Local resource management planning
- ◆ Resource consent processing
- ◆ Allocation of natural resources
- ◆ Capacity and practice in local government

The Trust Board's submission focused on;

- ◆ Managing people's interests rather than managing the environment – most resource consents are based on meeting the needs & wants of people. It is people that need to be educated on managing their own practices so that they don't require excessive use of the environments physical and natural resources
- ◆ Improving peoples understanding of the resource management planning process in order to increase participation
- ◆ The processing authorities and applicants failure to understand the intent of the RMA particularly in relation to 6(e), 7(a) and 8.

These three submissions respond to some of the biggest issues faced by Hapu and Iwi in order to exercise rangatiratanga. The rules are being formed and manipulated around us every day and we need to continually respond and reinforce our position here as Tangata Whenua.

¹ Volume 1, pages 1 & 2 of Horizons Regional Council Draft Long-Term Council Community Plan



Lanyards are now
Selling at \$15 for two

GENESIS UPDATE

Genesis has filed an appeal to the High Court against the Environment Court's TPD decision. The appeal is limited to questions of law (eg, Genesis alleges that the Court applied the wrong legal tests and had regard to irrelevant matters), and is not a re-hearing. However, Genesis has raised every possible issue in its appeal and it is anticipated that the appeal will require a hearing of 3-4 days in the High Court. This will involve the presentation of legal submissions only and no further evidence (beyond that recorded before the Environment Court) will be presented. Due to the limited availability of hearing time in the High Court, it is unlikely that the appeal will be heard before November this year. The Board's solicitors are presently waiting to hear from the High Court regarding possible hearing dates following which a timetable of steps prior to hearing will be agreed. If the appeal is successful, the matter will be referred back to the Environment Court to reconsider those parts of the case on which the High Court considers the Environment Court made errors. In that event, there would not be a full re-hearing in the Environment Court."

The Trust Board will advertise the High Court hearing dates once they have been received.

GATHERING DATA ON NATIVE FISH

Did you know that there are 35 native fish species and that whitebait are the juveniles of five native species, including some that are threatened?

TE AMA TAUNAKI Half of these fish spend some of their time at sea and they need unimpeded passage to get back to their freshwater habitats. Some of these habitats are disappearing or shrinking through the draining of wetlands, removal of streamside vegetation and barriers being placed in waterways.

Our native fish populations are declining. Are we doing something to encourage appropriate habitats for our fish to grow in????

Take a look throughout your hapu waterways is there sufficient vegetation for the fish to live in? Do you have any barriers along your waterways that could avoid the passage of the fish?

During the Genesis Hearings we heard scientific evidence about the limited numbers of native fish species found within the river and streams flowing from Nga Kāhui Maunga.

This raised a number of challenges for whānau about their claims to native fisheries. In listening to this scientific evidence it was apparent that we could be gathering our own data in order to provide evidence when required, for example at any future resource consent hearings.

We need to encourage our whānau and in particular our fishermen to collect information on what they catch, where they catch it and when they catch it. Keeping in mind the declining native fish populations you might just sight the fish and note when and where this happened.

The Department of Conservation has a publication called Native Fish are Neat. Please telephone or email the office if you would like a copy. The publication discusses and displays a number of Native Fish.

AWA TUPUA CLAIMS REPORT

As everyone should know, it has been a very difficult political climate due to the behaviour of the Crown, concerning issues that clearly will impact on our Awa Tupua claim. Some examples of this:

1. Seabed and Foreshore Bill (we have rejected this Bill)
2. Placing tuna in a Quota Management System (we don't accept this proposal)
3. Refusing to resource our claim (we will continue to fight for the health and wellbeing of our Awa Tupua with or without money)
4. Genesis appealing in the High Court (we will continue to fight Genesis)

However, apart from making it clear to the government, what our position is on the above issues, we have continued to meet and presently our jurisdiction team are preparing and collating information that they have received from various hui within our Tupuna rohe.

This information will then be utilised to ensure that our negotiating team is on the right track. We are also attempting to organise a two day hui with Crown officials and this information will be very important and helpful for this hui.

What we need to stress is that the most important priority is **"to empower and consolidate ourselves as Hapu!"** The claim should not be the driver of our future as Hapu and Iwi. The claim should only be one part of our future development of us as Hapu. The Crown will never ever be able to do this for us, totally and nor should they.

Also we have met with Tuwharetoa, Tainui, Raukawa and Maniapoto Iwi for the purpose of developing an Awa Accord so that we are able to develop a relationship of ensuring the health and wellbeing of all our waterways.

Te Ama Taunaki is the Health and Homes service of Te Oranganui Iwi Health Authority. The service which also has a fundamental health and education focus, in support of other healthcare services of the organisation, presently offers two very successful programmes under which whanau are able to address housing needs. Such positive programmes allow the health and wellbeing of whanau to also benefit.

Te Ama Taunaki Health and Homes Service presently comprises two programmes, namely *Te Whare Mauri Tu* and *Nga Whare Oranga*, each of which aim to make positive differences in the health and wellbeing of participating client whanau.

Te Whare Mauri Tu: focuses on home ownership as an affordable housing option for whanau within the Whanganui Region, who are low to moderate income earners.

Nga Whare Oranga: focuses on household health and energy efficiency in the home. This programme is also intended for low to moderate income whanau. The programme offers a very affordable home retro-fit insulation service to whanau within the Whanganui region. Insulation measures include approved ceiling insulation, under floor insulation, hot water cylinder wraps and draught stopping of doors and windows.

Whanau must apply and also be nominated by recognised organisations such as Doctors or WINZ etc to be eligible. Whanau must contribute to overall costs but could be minimal depending on various criteria or health concerns. If you are interested and fit the criteria so far please make contact to the following numbers.

Te Oranganui Health and Homes Service
Te Ama Taunaki
69 Heads Road
Whanganui

Ph: (06)348 0282 Fax: (06) 3480284

www.teoranganui.co.nz

IWI ACHIEVEMENTS

MAORI IDOL

Congratulations to Melody Potaka-Osborne, Ngahua Kawanui and Ngaputiputi Akapita for making it into the NZ Maori Idol Competition.

During the month of September the three girls joined 12 other talented Maori youth in their quest for the title of 'Best Young Maori Entertainer 2004'.

They were tested in speeches, singing, dancing, kapahaka, poi and moteatea.

Melody is currently a student at Turakina Maori Girls College and had done a lot of work to prepare for the competition. She had help from whanau and friends. Her uncle Charlie Peina took time out to help her with the singing and ballads everyday. Stacey Goff was contacted to help with the dancing side of things incorporating Hip Hop with Maori flavours to an upbeat Maori song provided by the organisers. Terry Tapa helped compose two long poi routines and Terry's parents Ned and Tina Tapa helped Melody write a three minute speech about a "legend from her rohe". Ken Mair also helped do her manu korero on "why her Iwi is the best".

Ngahua who practised several times a day is a confident Te Reo speaker and is confident she will do well in the speaking and singing sections but was unsure about the dancing component. Her knowledge and skills in Maori Language and culture were developed while at her current school as well as Te Kohinga Aroha, Te Kura Kaupapa O Te Atihaunui a Paparangi and Te Kura Kaupapa Maori O Tupoho while she last year sat level one Maori language papers at Waikato University. Her Kapahaka performances have been groomed with the help of tutors Morvin and Lynaire Simon.

Ngaputiputi, a 7th former at Hawera High School was convinced by her cousin Kawerau Ngaia to enter. Kawerau filled out the application form, sent it in and then told Ngaputiputi to start practising. Puti hummed and haa'd but decided she had nothing to lose, so her and her sister put a video tape together and sent it off to the team. Puti heard back that she had made the reserves list and that if anyone pulled out she would be next in. Fortunately someone did pull out and she was notified that she was into the first round. So far Puti is enjoying her experience making new friends, meeting exciting people and doing what she has a passion for "Maori Entertainment".

MAORI FISHING

It is with great pleasure that we congratulate our very own Ben Potaka for completing his National Certificate in Seafood Maori (Customary Fishing).

Assessments were made over the last 12 months and he developed the unit standards that made up the National Certificate. He was then cross credited by the developers and identified people within the Industry to complete this certificate.

The National Certificate is an acknowledgement of our traditional skills within the fishing industry that is still relevant today and will continue into the future.

There were many units that Ben had to complete, below is a list of just a few that may encourage you to do the same.

- Describe the Biology of an abalone (Paua)
- Construct and repair hinaki
- Describe the roles and responsibilities of Maori women in fisheries



- Make and use fish hooks and lures using Maori customary methods
- Explain customary fishing rights and the impact of legislation
- Management tools and practises used for sustainable fishing
- Trap and preserve indigenous freshwater species

For more information please contact The Whanganui River Maori Trust Board on (06) 345 8160.

VIRTUE JEWELLERY & BEAD SUPPLY



Ko Keita Rasell toku ingoa (nee Henare)

Ko Nga Wairiki me Ngati Porou oku Iwi

Business: Jewellery Designer/Retailer

VIRTUE JEWELLERY & BEAD SUPPLY

Keita and her whanau have just moved back to Whanganui from Palmerston North bringing a booming business of Jewellery and beads. Fascinated by some of her work we decided to ask her some questions regarding her business and her move here to Whanganui.

What type of Business do you run?

A jewellery and bead store where you can purchase and make your own jewellery.

What types of things do you sell/make and what types of materials do you use?

We stock all types of jewellery like any other jeweller which includes rings, necklaces, earrings, bead belts and bracelets and the materials used are usually natural shell, buttons, and beads. Most of

our beads we get from overseas. We are currently looking for Taonga to sell in our shop and at the moment we are just waiting for the right person to come along.

How did you get into this type of business?

Well, while living in Gisborne I decided to move to Palmerston North to study to be a Psychologist. In the end I hated it so I whipped up a twenty piece collection, got a space in Palmy and that's how it all started.

How has business been since you've had your store in Whanganui?

It was probably the best decision we made moving back home for my family and my business. It seemed like perfect timing and our turn over since we've come home has quadrupled. It has also turned into a family thing with my husband giving up his profession to make jewellery too.

The difference between other jewellers and our shop is that you can come in at any time and make your own pieces. As we have a large selection of shells and beads, that can be purchased off the shelf, you can make almost anything that interests you and with the help of our staff if needed. And if your interested in this type of hobby or business Keita reckons "*just do it if you're into it and if it's something your good at then go hard*".

VIRTUE JEWELLERY & BEAD SUPPLY is located at 82 Guyton Street, Whanganui and can be contacted on (06) 347 1781, Open Monday–Friday, 10am–5pm and Saturdays 10am–5pm-2.30pm.





ICT EXPO

Nga Kura

Maori ki Aotea

And what a way to celebrate!

Our Kura Māori throughout the region took part in a 2-day ICT Expo (Information & Communication Technology) during late August at the War Memorial Hall, Whanganui.

The nine kura have been involved in a 3-year contract offered through the Ministry of Education to develop strategies for enhancing curriculum delivery using ICT tools. The ICT Programme has been facilitated by Ngareta Patea since 2002 and she was joined by Robin Ohia in 2004 who also brought technical support services for our much needy kura.

Those kura who participated included Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Atihaunui-ā-

Pāpārangī, Te Kura o Kokohuia, Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Tūpoho including Te Wharekura o Tūpoho, Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Parikino, Te Kura o Ranana, Te Kura o Pipiriki, Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangī, Te Kura o Ratana and Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Ruanui.

The celebrations were shared with many of our Māori community from Kohanga Reo through to our Kaumatua Kaunihera, and with the continued support of Awa FM, we were able to share our learning experiences with many who could not attend live on Te Reo Irirangi o Whanganui.

The tamariki and Kaiako works on display included digital talking books, movie and music productions,

audio compilations with the assistance of Awa FM in some cases, digital documentaries of local iwi events, numerous resource material relevant to our rohe and written in te mita o Whanganui, interactive learning objects, stories retold by the tamariki in animated form and much more.

As this is the final year of the ICT contract, we will be spending the last term discussing strategies for the cluster to ensure continued support is made available.

In closing, it has been a great pleasure working with our many Māori organisations who have shown support over the years. As a cluster, the kura look forward to your continued support.

