A message from the Chairman

Tena koe, e nga uri o Ngāti Kuri. Nga mihi nui ki a koutou.

The Ngāti Kuri Trust Board AGM was held at Waiora Marae on the 23rd of March 2013. Attended by 80 plus of our people it was productive time in updating everyone on the previous year’s work of the Board including the work around the Treaty Settlement process. The Board wishes to thank those who attended and the Waiora Marae committee in looking after us. The Board wishes to congratulate Sheridan Waitai’s election to the Board. Her passion and connectedness to Ngāti Kuri will provide invaluable in our shared journey.

Since the announcement at the AGM, the purchase of Wharekapua Estate has been completed. Capital stock has been purchased also with Gary Christensen appointed as Stock Manager. We provide an overview of the farm in a sidebar in the newsletter.

Waimarama Orchards has completed the upgrade of the irrigation system and is preparing for a very busy season of harvesting Hass and Avocado’s for the New Zealand and Australian markets. The quality, quantity and the sizing of the fruit look exceptional.

Ngāti Kuri Treaty Negotiators are finalising the last components of the Treaty Settlement Offer from the Crown. Once that is done, we will be bringing that out for discussion.

The Ngāti Kuri Education and Te Reo Strategy being currently led out by The Board’s Education Subcommittee and presented by Karena Neho and Hailey Tobin has been very busy over the last 3 weeks. Their report is also here.

Whakataukī

Mē hē rākau māmore āu nei, tū tonu. Standing straight up like a tree without branches.

This whakataukī was provided to the Board by Ngāti Kuri kaumatua, Charlie Petera. It is a metaphor for standing strong around identity and with integrity.
Update from the Kaunihera

Pineaha Murray

The roof of the temple in Te Hapua was replaced thanks to Wiremu Brown and his donations from the Batons up in Auckland. We are awaiting a price for the electrician to fix the lights and add the power to the Reo Tautoko building. Old iron was won by Laurence Raharuhi with the highest bid of $200. The community had a meeting at the Marae to negotiate a fire fighting vehicle. The Community is all behind this move – watch this space.

The Tsunami warning sounds are up and going and I am told they can activate them from Wellington. We had our share of people passing on; 4 within the past 2 months. Haere e nga whaea. Haere Haere Haere. We also had 3 baptisms.

Permits for seafood for Hui at the Marae must be taken up, we must look after our Taonga.

Various cycling groups who leave on trips from Te Rerenga Wairua have asked a Kaumatua to bless their journey. We have done this about four times this year.

Percy Erceg, our Kaumatua of Kaitaia and the President of the Rotary club has donated some dictionaries to present to our kura at Ngataki, Te Kao and Te Hapua. I went to each school to deliver them. They were well received and will help our tamariki to achieve well. Thanks to Percy.

Wharekapua Estate

Wharekapua Estate is a 540 hectare drystock farm that is situated on both sides of Rarawa Road which heads down to Rarawa Beach. It is also opposite Te Manawa o Ngāti Kuri, the administration offices for the Board and close proximity to Waiora Marae. The marae provides an important role for those Ngāti Kuri whanau who have reaffirmed our cultural responsibilities to the Ngātaki area through our tupuna Mokohoria.

Farmed for the last 15 years by the Lynn family, this is the latest purchase by Te Urungi o Ngāti Kuri Ltd, the commercial arm of the Ngāti Kuri Trust Board. The purchase has been done outside the Treaty Settlement process and provides not only an economic opportunity but also enhances the strategic and cultural footprint for Ngāti Kuri. The farm transaction was completed on the 1st of May with 513 capital stock staying with the farm and providing a base for developing the farm’s stock profile.

Gary Christensen has been appointed to manage Wharekapua. Gary has had a lengthy career in farming. He has been the Manager at Te Paki since 1982 until his recent resignation from the role in 2013. He has worked for a number of entities in that period; Lands and Survey, Land Corp for 10 years, Parengarenga Inc for 15 years and then with Crawford farms for the last 5 years.

Gary’s connection to the north and his wealth of experience made him the standout applicant. Having someone of that caliber looking after an Iwi asset provides a high level of comfort. His immediate availability was important in ensuring that the transition of the farm and livestock from the vendor to the purchaser was smooth.

Gary, supported by the Board will be leading the commercial optimisation of the farm. We look forward to those contributions going forward.
Marae Updates

Waionae Marae, Ngataki
The AGM for Waionae Marae will be held on Saturday 29th June. There will be elections for both Trustees for the Marae Committee and for the Urupa Committee. Nominations and elections will be held on the night.

Te Hiku o Te Ika Marae, Te Hapua
It is with sadness and much deliberation that we have decided we must say good bye to our marae. The tipping maker of this decision was forced by the insurance company cancelling the premium for a number of reasons. It was possible to rectify some of the problems that arose from the building inspection but what we couldn’t rectify was the low level of our marae to the sea level. Our aroha and much history are in that marae, but they are also in our hearts which we carry with us wherever we go.

At this point I would like to thank the Muriwhenua Incorporation for releasing land for the new marae up by Mareitu Urupa. Our committee is excited in planning forward towards this project. I would like to thank those who attended the strategic planning day held at the marae on the 27 April 2013. There were great ideas brought forward to help us plan the next 20 years for our new marae. Thanks also go out to NKTB Education for their collaboration with the strategic plan.

Ngāti Kuri Education Strategy

Project Update:

Nga mihi maioha ki a koutou katoa i tae tinana mai ki te wānanga matauranga tuatahi i Te Hapua i tera marama me nga hui i Kaitaia, i Tamaki Makaurau, i Otautahi hoki. He rawe katoa nga whakaaro, nga wheako, nga korero me nga kaupapa i puta mai...

A big mihi to everyone who has attended our consultation hui in Kaitaia, Auckland and Christchurch over the last few months. We would also like to acknowledge those who came to share in our first ‘Tohu Matauranga, Tohu Reo’ education wānanga for Ngati Kuri during the last school holidays... The fantastic korero and visionary thinking was inspiring and reaffirming and we look forward to developing the ideas and kaupapa further as we construct the beginnings of our mahere for implementation of the education and reo strategies... We also look forward to future wānanga to grow the kaupapa even further...

The next part of the process will involve an analysis of the collation of all the feedback responses, wānanga input, the output 1 report, documentation, korero captured and engagement opportunities as received throughout the first and second phase of consultation. This will seek to highlight the main outcomes, priorities and opportunities to construct an initial framework that will be developed with further consultation and engagement.

We trust the overview of the framework will present our findings in a way which supports future decision making and is an empowering model for ngā uri o Ngāti Kuri that reflects our aspirations, interests and needs.

The entire process will continue to be overseen by our kaumatua/kuia, governance roopu and education experts as we design the framework of both the education and te reo strategies and consequent implementation plans.

Please contact us via email education@ngatikuri.iwi.nz or visit our website for more information

Karena Neho & Hailey Tobin
Tohu Matauranga, Tohu Reo

The contact details for any of the Ngāti Kuri subcommittees or for either of the Ngāti Kuri Marae are available from the office.

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