

# TĀWHARAUTIA

AUGUST 2024

## *Te Whakatōhea*



## OPENING FROM

*Arihia Tuoro, Chair*

In our July update I mentioned both the Short Term Plan (STP) that the Trustees' are finalising now, and the Long term Plan (LTP) that is due in mid 2025.

The purpose of the STP is to identify the objectives and priorities for Te Tāwharau to work towards in the next six to twelve months. The STP will also be used to inform the search and appointment of Trustees to Te Pou Oranga o Te Whakatōhea (charitable arm) and Directors for Te Pou Tāhua o Te Whakatōhea (commercial arm). The Director search is about to begin with appointments confirmed by the end of October.

The LTP will be informed, amongst other things, by the STP, and include a statement by Te Tāwharau of the commercial, management and distribution policies Trustees intend to follow in respect of the Trust's Assets.

Another key focus for the Trust over the next month or two is to determine the allocation of both WMTB and Settlement assets across the new Te Tāwharau structure. There are important considerations in deciding where the assets fit, particularly relating to tax, legal implications and most importantly our cultural imperatives

In this early stage of establishment and pending transfer of assets, the Trust is working on a business continuity principle which includes existing directors and staff to maintain their current focus until key strategic decisions are made.

*Continued .....*

## RECENT EVENTS

Late July brought an invitation to meet with Prime Minister, Right Hon. Christopher Luxon, along with Hon Nicola Willis, Minister of Finance, Hon Tama Potaka, Minister of Māori Development and Hon Phil Goldsmith, Minister of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations. The meeting covered a range of kaupapa from short term immediate issues to long term aspirations. Whakawhānaungatanga was important on the day as we appreciate the value of the opportunity to meet directly. Our final request was “we do this again”.

On 1 August, we achieved another milestone with the receipt of the cash portion of the full settlement totaling \$107, 741, 849. Still to come are the titles to the land blocks and properties that will return to Whakatōhea.

## TAUMATA KAUMĀTUA

I had the pleasure of sitting in on the monthly Taumata Kaumātua hui, which is the first Thursday of every month.

The August hui was a full lively house, including whānau who drove an hour to be there. We also had whānau joining by Zoom from Wellington.

Jocelyn Te Maipi spoke about her mahi in the prisons helping Whakatōhea whanaunga re-connect through their whakapapa, and Georgia McLellan, a masters student presenting her thesis findings on Whakatōhea Kuku Economies. As Irene Moore explained to the newest member at the hui “our hui and kōrero are very cerebral”.

This pānui is one of many ways you can connect and keep up to date with Whakatōhea kaupapa. Ring into our reception desk to get yourself on the distribution data base so you get reminders of the hui dates and the Zoom link to join. There is no age limit.

Also check out Whakatōhea iwi on both tik tok and Instagram for great interviews and kōrero from Ōpōtiki, the capital of Whakatōhea.

Nāku noa, nā

**Arihia**

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