

Summary and Proceedings Raa Maumahara - National Commemoration Day Hui

Mangatoatoa Marae, Kihikihi. Saturday 24th September 2016.

Preliminaries

Poowhiri took place at 10.30am. Kaumaatua Brian Newton (Maniapoto) issued opening mihi to manuhiri. Hoani Eriwata (Taranaki / Te Ati Awa) responded as did Peeni Henare (Ngaati Hine / Ngapuhi). Kaawhia from Mangatoatoa concluded the mihi and invited manuhiri to meet the tangata whenua.

Peeni was invited by Kaawhia to chair the hui. Morning tea followed a short break.

Hui participants gathered the whareniui Te Maru O Ihowa at 11:00am. at which time Peeni took the chair and called the meeting to order.

Karakia was conducted by the Chairman and a short whakawhanaungatanga session followed. The chair was notified of the need to reorganise the agenda in light of the Cabinet paper concerning the funding and parameters already set for the national day puutea. The hui agenda was changed accordingly.

The Chair gave a short backgrounder to set the context of the hui. Kaawhia supported and provided the history of how the idea of a national day actually came about and its origins with the O-Rakau Heritage Society back in 2010/2011, how the concept grew and took on a life of its own in latter years culminating in the 150th commemoration, support from Te Arikiniui Tuheitia, the petition to Parliament and subsequent support for the kaupapa from the Crown. Kaawhia also acknowledged the tremendous support provided by Minister Flavell for the kaupapa.

The Chair invited the hui to put forward a date for the commemoration as a starting point for the deliberations. From this point several positions were put and much koorero followed. There was unanimous support for all resolutions put to the hui and everyone felt their points of view were heard and satisfied.

Resolutions

Resolution 1. "That the commemoration day be a national kaupapa with a major commemoration event rotating around the motu from rohe to rohe". Moved by Te Aitanga A Mahaki - Tuurangnui A Kiwa / Seconded by Taranaki - Te Ati Awa. Carried unanimously.

Commentary:

The hui welcomed the idea of the national day being held or hosted on all of our commemoration sites over the lifetime of the kaupapa itself. It was seen as being inclusive and also of major educational value to those travelling to support the national day. This approach will ensure that small and out of the way sites will host the national day, raising their importance and profile to the nation while creating "place based" educational opportunity for those visiting.

Resolution 2. "That the 28th day of October of each year be set aside as the Raa Maumahara National Day of Commemoration". Moved by Te Aitanga A Mahaki - Tuuranganui A Kiwa. Seconded by O-Raakau Tainui -Te Kohera. Carried Unanimously.

Commentary:

The hui supported the idea of aligning the national day with Te Whakaputanga / Declaration of Independence. There was a natural connection that being the underpinning theme - the promotion and preservation of "Te Mana O Te Maaori Motuhake / Tino Rangatiratanga".

Resolution 3. "That the first Raa Maumahara National Commemoration is to be held in 2017". Moved by O-Raakau Tainui - Te Kohera. Seconded by Ngaati Hine / Ngaapuhi. Carried unanimously.

Commentary:

The hui agreed that there would need to be sufficient time and spacing in order for the organisers of the national day to plan, prepare and deliver the kaupapa. A starting day in 2017 was considered a prudent and responsible approach.

Resolution 4. "That Te Tai Tokerau will be the first hosts for the national commemoration day and event. Moved by Te Aitanga A Mahaki Tuuranganui A Kiwa". Seconded by Taranaki / Te Ati Awa Carried unanimously.

Commentary:

The hui felt it appropriate to commence the hui in the north. As advised by Te Aitanga A Mahaki - Tuuranganui A Kiwa the first conflicts between the Crown and our people took place in the north.

Resolution 5. "That the hui congratulate and thank the Minister Flavell for creating the national puutea and respectfully request that on his return to Wellington he work industriously to significantly increase the fund". Moved O-Raakau Tainui - Te Kohera. Seconded Taranaki - Te Ati Awa. Carried unanimously.

Commentary:

The hui understood that the fund was a great start and agreed there are moral obligations and a practical need for the Crown to move toward matching the level of support and importance of Te Raa Maumahara with other national commemorations and events.

Resolution 6. "That the government resourcing be provided upfront to an entity to be established by this grouping, with the "principle" funding being untouched and the annual income being used to support the commemorations kaupapa, that is the national event and commemorations held in the regions. If the government ties on this funding are overly restrictive, we continue our kaupapa and not take the government funding". Moved Te Aitanga A Mahaki - Tuuranganui A Kiwa. Seconded Ngaati Hine - Ngaapuhi. Carried unanimously.


Commentary:

The hui felt that in previous years the Crown has not supported the regional commemorations and that if the funding regime was overly restrictive it was in our own interests to continue our mahi independent of the Crown.

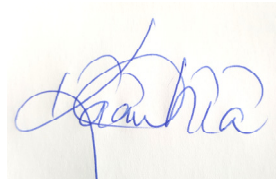
Next Steps

Proceedings report generated and circulated. Minister, Te Arikunui and Raahui for Iwi Leaders forum briefed on hui outcomes. Follow on hui to be considered.

The Chairman summarised the hui and the outcomes and thanked everyone for giving of their time to support the kaupapa. The hui was closed with a karakia by kuia Rovina Maniapoto' Anderson at 2.30pm.



Peeni Henare
Chairman



Kaawhia Te Muraahi
Convenor

