



Report 04.708
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Committee Council
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Ara Tahi Meeting - 24 November 2004

1. Purpose

To report to the Council the proceedings of the meeting of Ara Tahi held on 24 November 2004.

2. Background and Comment

2.1 Inventory of Maori Heritage sites and values

Ara Tahi was advised that the inventory of heritage sites was now at the point where a CD containing details of approximately 400 sites has been produced.

2.2 Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui ki te Upoko o te Ika Maui

Taranaki Whanui has prepared a draft Environmental Management Plan. The Plan is now being reviewed. Morgan Williams, the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, has been engaged as an external reviewer

2.3 Project proposals for 2004/05

Iwi representatives were advised that Greater Wellington has received two project proposals for the 2004/05 year, and that the Council will work through these proposals with the respective iwi.

2.4 Technical workshop

Ara Tahi was updated on the outcome of a technical workshop held on 20 October 2004 and advised that the planned launch date for the Council's website is 1 February 2005.

Links to external websites such as www.maaori.com will be provided so that visitors to the Council's website are able to access other sites that deal with aspects of Maori culture not addressed on the Council website.

2.5 Councillor induction powhiri

Rawiri Faulkner thanked iwi representatives, Kaumatua and Kuia who took time to attend the powhiri for the new Councillors 28 October 2004. Cr Chris Turver also expressed his personal thanks to those Ara Tahī representatives that attended the powhiri.

2.6 Policy Advisor - Maori

Jack Rikihana noted that it was Rawiri Faulkner's last meeting before leaving Greater Wellington to take up a position at the Foundation for Research, Science & Technology. Jack thanked Rawiri for his contribution to Ara Tahī and wished him well for the future.

2.7 Nomination of Ara Tahī representative to the Regional Land Transport Committee

Thomas Paku was nominated as Ara Tahī's representative on the Regional Land Transport Committee. Jack Rikihana was nominated as Mr Paku's alternate on the Regional Land Transport Committee.

2.8 Parks Draft Resource Information: Heritage

Ara Tahī was asked to provide feedback on the heritage components of draft resource information, and in particular about:

- the accuracy of the heritage information included in the draft document
- whether the historical accounts given in the heritage information was balanced
- whether there was additional information that should be included.

Historian Tony Walzl – who was commissioned to write the heritage information - said that his goal had been to bring the Tangata Whenua component to the fore.

The current interpretation and commemorations at Battle Hill and the process for incorporating new heritage information at Battle Hill Farm Forest Park were then outlined.

2.9 Maori Participation in Managing Risks Associated with Hazardous Substances and New Organisms

The Environmental Risk Management Authority of New Zealand (ERMA) briefed Ara Tahī on the roles of:

1. Nga Kaihautu Tikanga Taiao - the Maori advisory group established by the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act (HASNO) to provide advice on policy, process and on applications received by ERMA; and
2. Kaupapa Kura Taiao the Maori Unit within ERMA. Kaupapa Kura Taiao is responsible for ensuring that the Maori Sections of HASNO are

implemented appropriately, and manages a range of programmes for improving Maori involvement.

2.10 Package to Improve the Resource Management Act 1991

The Ministry for the Environment briefed Ara Tahi on the package of reforms intended to improve the Resource Management Act (RMA). The proposed reforms are the result of the review of the RMA announced by the Associate Minister for the Environment on 12 May 2004.

3. Recommendation

That the Council receive the report and note its contents.

Report prepared by:

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