



## Office of Hon Christopher Finlayson

14 DEC 2016

R. Tiwaha Bell  
Chairman  
Maniapoto Māori Trust Board  
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Tēnā koe

### **Crown recognition of mandate**

Thank you for submitting the Maniapoto Māori Trust Board's Deed of Mandate to negotiate a comprehensive settlement of all Maniapoto historical Treaty claims.

We consider that Maniapoto Māori Trust Board has the support of Maniapoto and has processes and systems in place to ensure it is appropriately accountable to its claimant community.

We are, therefore, pleased to recognise the mandate of the Maniapoto Māori Trust Board to represent Maniapoto in Treaty settlement negotiations with the Crown.

We understand that there are some differing views in the claimant community in regards to your mandate. We are aware you have been working hard to engage with those in opposition and we expect that you will continue this engagement.

We look forward to working with you during negotiations.

Nā māua noa, nā

Hon Christopher Finlayson  
**Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations**

Hon Te Uruoa Flavell  
**Te Minita Whanaketanga Māori**