



Office of the
**Minister in Charge of Treaty of Waitangi
Negotiations**

Te Tari o Te
**Minita Nōna te Mana Whakarite Take e pā ana ki
Te Tiriti o Waitangi**

DESPATCHED

- 6 APR 2000

Minister's Office

Hon Dover Samuels
Minister of Māori Affairs
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Minister

In 15 March 2000, I approved the mandate recognition paper for Ngā Rauru Iwi Authority and sent it to you for your consideration. I understand you have also approved the paper, but have provided the paper to members of the Māori Caucus for their comment.

While I agree it is appropriate to communicate with our Māori colleagues on issues such as the mandate recognition, the paper has been with you for three weeks. During this time the Ngā Rauru Iwi Authority, whose mandate is clearly robust and who wish to enter direct negotiations, has had no formal indication of the Government's decision.

Today representatives of the Iwi Authority sought a meeting with me, presumably to discuss their mandate. There have also been media inquiries as to the position of the mandate recognition.

I would appreciate your prompt response.

Yours sincerely

(Sgd) Hon Margaret Wilson

Hon Margaret Wilson
Minister in Charge of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations



OFFICE OF TREATY SETTLEMENTS

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Te Tari Whakatau Take e pa ana ki te Tiriti o Waitangi

13 April 2000

Martin Davis
Chairperson
Ngā Rauru Iwi Authority Society Inc.
65 Gonville Avenue
WANGANUI

Dear Mr Davis

In October 1999 the Ngā Rauru Iwi Authority submitted to the Government a Deed of Mandate to represent Ngā Rauru Iwi in its Treaty settlement negotiations.

As you are aware, the Office of Treaty Settlements publicised its receipt of the Iwi Authority's Deed of Mandate in mid October and invited submissions from interested parties. The Office of Treaty Settlements and Te Puni Kōkiri undertook separate assessments of the mandate, which included an analysis of the submissions received and of the supporting material provided by the Iwi Authority. Consideration was given to the findings of the Waitangi Tribunal in its *Taranaki Report*, other historical research and to the additional submission made by the legal counsel for Pakakohi submitters. A report was then prepared for the consideration of the Minister in Charge of Treaty of Waitangi Settlements and the Minister of Māori Affairs.

I wish to advise you that the Ministers have considered the report and agreed to recognise the Iwi Authority's mandate for the purpose of Treaty settlement negotiations with the Government. This recognition is subject to the Iwi Authority continuing to maintain the support of the marae and hapu that currently support it.

Pakakohi interests

The only submissions objecting to the Iwi Authority's mandate were from groups or individuals that identified as Pakakohi. In general these submitters claimed to be tangata whenua of part of the rohe that Ngā Rauru claim and have strong associations with Wai-O-Turi Marae in particular. The Government, like the Waitangi Tribunal, recognises that Pakakohi submitters assert a distinct interest with regard to the overlapping land. However, the Government also is aware that some Ngā Rauru members identify as Pakakohi and that the Pakakohi dissenters have the opportunity to be represented on the Iwi Authority through Wai-O-Turi Marae and any other marae that they may affiliate to. The Government therefore

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does not require the Iwi Authority to make any additional provision for the representation of Pakakohi interests. Nor does the Government intend to negotiate with the Pakakohi dissenters separately.

I have written to the principal Pakakohi objectors advising them of the Ministers' decision and encouraging them to work with the Iwi Authority.

Other matters

I invite the Iwi Authority to now submit a claimant funding budget to the Crown for the purpose of negotiations, which may include the reimbursement of certain costs incurred as part of the mandating process. Included for your information are several copies of the Office of Treaty Settlements' guide to the negotiation process, including the Crown's claimant funding policy.

Officials are keen to meet with the Iwi Authority's representatives when the representatives wish to discuss the next steps in the negotiation process.

Finally, I wish to congratulate the Iwi Authority on all the work that has gone into the achievement of this very important milestone. I look forward to working with the Iwi Authority in the coming months towards the settlement of the historical grievances of Ngā Rauru.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ross Philipson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ross Philipson
Director

CC David Tapsell, Bell Gully.