



Office of Hon Christopher Finlayson

Attorney-General
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations
Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

20 MAY 2011

Josie Peita
Chair
Ngāti Te Ata Claims Support Whānau Trust
PO Box 436
WAIUKU 2341

Tēnā koe

It was with great sadness we learnt of the passing of Waatara Black and offer our condolences to you and her whānau.

On 30 November 2010 we wrote to you advising we had concluded the Ngāti Te Ata Claims Support Whānau Trust had the support of the Ngāti Te Ata claimant community and was an appropriate body to represent Ngāti Te Ata in negotiations for the settlement of your historical Treaty of Waitangi claims with the Crown.

In that letter we conditionally recognised your mandate subject to the resolution with Waikato-Tainui of the issue as to who should settle Ngāti Te Ata's claims to the raupatu blocks and the Manukau Harbour. We also noted there may be issues regarding the legal and political inter-relationship between Ngāti Te Ata and Waikato-Tainui relevant to the settlement process.

In light of Te Kauhanganui's resolution of 20 March 2011, and the letters of 21 March 2011 and 29 April 2011 from Tania Martin, Chair of Te Kauhanganui, and of 24 March from Tukoroirangi Morgan, Chair of Te Arataura, we are pleased to advise you that the Crown now fully recognises the mandate of the Ngāti Te Ata Claims Support Whānau Trust to negotiate the settlement of all of Ngāti Te Ata's historical Treaty claims. We note that this does not preclude separate negotiations with Waikato-Tainui in respect of any interests they may identify in Tāmaki Makaurau, for example, to the North and South Waiuku Blocks and the Manukau Harbour.

We invite you to engage with Michael Dreaver, Chief Crown Negotiator for Tāmaki Makaurau, to finalise your Terms of Negotiation and look forward to signing those with you along with an appending agreement to the Tāmaki Collective Framework Agreement in the near future.

Na māua noa

nā Hon Dr Pita R Sharples
Minister of Māori Affairs

nā Hon Christopher Finlayson
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations