



TANGI TE KOUKOU

Te Paatu ki Kauhanga Trust Newsletter

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Tēnā koutou e ngā uri morehu o Te Paatu!

E ngā hapū, e ngā whānau maha o te rohe o Muriwhenua, nei ra te mihi aroha, mihi māhana ki a koutou katoa. Ka tangihia tonu ngā aitua kei waenganui i a tātou. Koutou te hunga kua mene ki te pō – moe mai, moe mai, e moe mai rā.

E mihi ana hoki ki ngā ringa raupā kei te tōhe tonu mō te oranga tonutanga o ō tātou whenua, wai, reo, me ngā tikanga tuku iho. Kia ū tātou ki te pae tawhiti - kia manawanui, kia pono, kia kotahi te hoe. Mā te mahi tahi ka tutuki ai ngā wawata mō āpōpō.

Rau rangatira mā huri noa, tenā koutou katoa.

KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU

As winter settles over Muriwhenua, we reflect on the mahi achieved despite the cold and rain. We also acknowledge those who supported our kaupapa and shared their time and energy, particularly our trustees and claimants. Our commitment remains strong: caring for our people, protecting our taonga and creating a future our tamariki can be proud of.

BENEFICIARIES SPECIAL MEETING

A reminder that a special meeting for registered beneficiaries of Te Paatu ki Kauhanga Trust is being held Saturday 30 August at 10:00am online. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the St Barnabas Church Lands. **The meeting link and presentation has been emailed to all registered beneficiaries. Please email admin@kauhanga.nz if you have not received these and need to update your email address.**



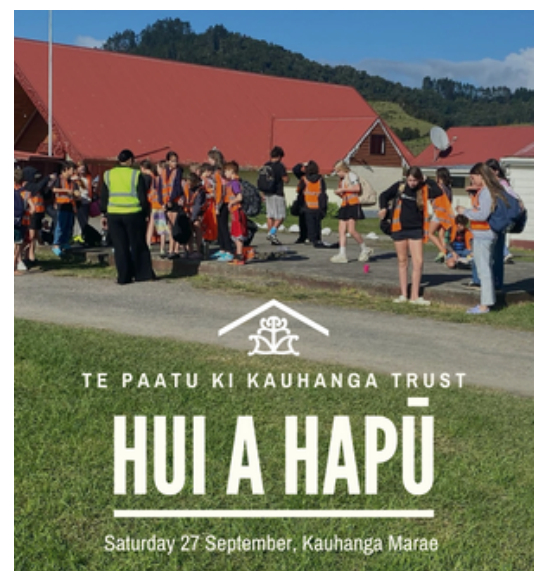
TE PAATU CFRT UPDATE

Our Land and Takutai Subcommittee monthly hui held on 20 August 2025 focused on operational updates, planning, and coordination for upcoming activities. Key discussions included clarifying oral interview guidelines, reviewing progress on the Dropbox research archive, and updating tupuna connections for land blocks and petitions. The subcommittee agreed on including evidence from earlier tribunal claims in the Customary Interest report and scheduled the next Hui a hapū for Saturday 27 September 2025 at Kauhanga Marae.

SEPTEMBER HUI A HAPU

Nau mai haere mai - our final hui a hapū for the year will be held at Kauhanga Marae on Saturday 27 September following the church and marae committee meetings.

9:00am	St Barnabas Church Committee meeting
10:00am	Kauhanga Marae Committee meeting
11.30am	Lunch
12noon	Te Paatu ki Kauhanga Hui a hapū
1:00pm	Karakia whakamutunga



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“These amendments do not restore the original intention of Parliament. They undermine them. Let there be no doubt about that at all.” ”

- Chris Finlayson, Former Attorney-General



PROPOSED MACA ACT CHANGES

The Government plans to pass the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Amendment Bill by October. This bill raises the threshold for recognising Māori customary rights and applies retrospectively, overturning court decisions since July 2024.

Key Concerns:

- Breach of Te Tiriti o Waitangi: The Waitangi Tribunal calls the bill a “gross breach” that will damage the Māori–Crown relationship.
- Retrospective & unfair: Past MACA court decisions will be invalidated, forcing costly rehearings.
- Constitutional risk: Undermines the rule of law, separation of powers, and judicial independence.
- Misleading public narrative: Government claims it is protecting public beach access, but the current MACA Act already guarantees this.
- Expert opposition: Former Attorney-General Chris Finlayson, the Supreme Court, the Law Society, and Māori legal leaders all say the changes contradict the Act’s original intent.

Why it matters:

- Māori have engaged in MACA processes in good faith for over a decade.
- This bill will make it far harder for whānau, hapū and iwi to have rights recognised.
- It sets a dangerous precedent for rewriting laws to fit political agendas.

This is about more than customary marine title — it is a test of how the Crown honours Te Tiriti and protects the constitutional principles that safeguard democracy.





WAI 1842

Wai 1842 is a claim by the late Reverend Pereniki Tauhara, Ngaire Tauhara-White and Waha Tauhara on behalf of the descendants of Matiu Tauhara, Te Rina Kingi Waiaua, Pene Te Kaitoa and Te Paatu ki Kauhanga hapū.

Ngaire has extensive experience in governance and management within the education sector and is passionate about te reo Māori, tikanga, and technology. Ngaire is currently a Deputy Principal at Kaitaia College and actively involved in various committees, including Kauhanga Marae trustees and the Peria School Board of Trustees. Waha Tauhara is a teacher at Kaitaia College and supports various hapū and iwi projects in the space of te reo and tikanga. Waha is also Kaihautū for the waka taua Rangimārie.

The claim argues that the Crown's actions violated Treaty principles and harmed rights. The claim covers lands, rivers, and coastal areas in the Oruru Valley, including key historic sites. Crown actions led to land and water loss for the claimants and imposed a "large natural grouping" policy. Early Crown land acquisitions disrupted the territories of claimants, causing displacement and economic harm. Missionary influence, with Crown support, also diminished Maori spirituality, te reo and cultural practices.

The Crown's actions also breached Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles by failing to protect the claimants as kaitiaki.

NGAIRE TAUHARA-WHITE



TE PAATU, NGĀTI KAHU, NGĀTI HINE,
TE RARAWA

WAHA TAUHARA



TE PAATU, NGĀTI KAHU, NGĀTI HINE,
TE RARAWA