



Toitū Te Tiriti!

We tautoko the kaupapa of the hikoi to Parliament to honour the Treaty.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the kawenata between the Crown and hapū/iwi. Te Kawerau a Maki are a party to Te Tiriti o Waitangi – we have a direct and bilateral relationship with the Crown as it relates to our rohe of Hikurangi/West Auckland and Te Whenua Roa o Kahu/North Shore where we are the tangata whenua. The Crown includes but is not limited to whatever the government of the day is – governments change but the relationship between us is enduring. This relationship was reaffirmed by the Crown in our 2014 Treaty Settlement which bound the Crown to us and we to it in the spirit of mutual trust, cooperation, and respect for Te Tiriti and its principles.

The current Government are bound by the 1840 Treaty and our 2014 Settlement. Recent government-driven ‘debate’ about not only the role but even the definition of Te Tiriti, alongside changes to legislation that impacts our rights without involving us, risk undermining these binding promises, repeating the mistakes of history, and sowing discord in our communities. The Treaty Principles Bill, as well as other policy and legislative changes that seek to remove indigenous rights from the legal framework of this great country, are a breach of both Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the promises made to us in 2014. The Government cannot unilaterally make decisions that alter the application of Te Tiriti or our rights protected under it without our agreement. We believe the Crown can and should do better, and we remain committed to help it do so through dialogue.

Our manuhiri Tangata Tiritiri can support a respectful and positive future for all our peoples by peacefully holding power to account, by understanding each other, and by helping each other. Calm and principled support is needed.

Our position on the Toitū Te Tiriti movement is:

- We have a direct and enduring relationship with the Crown and expect our Treaty Partner to honour its promises and duties
- We support the main kaupapa of the movement
- We support manuhiri in our rohe to advocate for protecting the integrity of the Treaty
- We may participate in community advocacy directly to support or to act as kaitiaki
- We expect to be involved in major discussions and events in our homeland about Te Tiriti