



PĀNUI WHĀNUI — CROWN RECOGNITION OF DEED OF MANDATE

Tēnā tātou katoa,

We begin by acknowledging the many hands, hearts and minds who have contributed to this kaupapa over many years – those still with us, and those who have passed on. We mihi to all hapū, whānau and individuals who have engaged with this journey in their own way.

Te Whakaaetanga Trust is humbled to share that the Crown has now formally recognised our Deed of Mandate to negotiate a Treaty settlement on behalf of our affiliated hapū and whānau.

We acknowledge that there are a range of views among our people about this kaupapa. Some have supported this process from the outset, others have raised concerns, and many continue to seek clarity and assurance. We respect these perspectives and commit to ongoing kōrero and engagement with all who hold an interest in our shared future.

Recognition of the Deed of Mandate does not signal the end of dialogue – it opens the door to negotiate redress that acknowledges the mamae of the past and creates meaningful opportunities for our hapū and mokopuna.

This milestone strengthens our collective voice and enables us to enter negotiations that reflect the aspirations of our people. It provides a foundation for enduring redress, cultural and economic revitalisation, and the restoration of hapū mana across our rohe.

Our work is only beginning. We invite all whānau, hapū, and neighbouring groups to remain part of this journey. Whether you supported this mandate or not, your voices are valued. We will continue to hold hui, share information transparently, and work to ensure every hapū is heard and respected.

The next stage will be preparation for formal negotiations with the Crown. We will provide regular updates and opportunities for engagement, and we welcome input from all those with whakapapa, whenua and wairua ties to this rohe.

Ehara tēnei i te mahi māmā, engari he mahi nui mō ngā uri whakatupu. Mā tātou katoa tēnei e kawē – mā te rangimārie, mā te kotahitanga, mā te aroha hoki.

This is not easy work, but it is important work for the generations to come. Together, through unity, peace and aroha, we carry it forward.

**Ngā manaakitanga,
Te Whakaaetanga Trust**