



RUAPUHA UEKAHA HAPŪ TRUST

ISSUE 8 – OCTOBER 2016

E ngā mana e ngā uri ō rātou mā e mihi atu ki a tātou katoa i tui tuia kia kotahi i roto i te hapū o Ruapuha me Uekaha ki Waitomo. Haere hoki atu koutou ko te hungā kua riro, kei ōna ringāringā hei tiaki i a koutou, Ko Carlo Taane rātou ko Lily Joseph, ko Hayley Carnachan, Ko Christina Tapara, ko Phil Green. Moe mai ra koutou i roto i ngā ringāringā a to tātou Matua nui i te Rangi. Pai Mārire.

THIS ISSUE OF TOMOKIA

October has certainly been a busy month for Ngāti Maniapoto. Tamariki from Te Wharekura o Maniapoto competed in the Tainui Primary School Kapa Haka Competition, marae participated in Te Kawau Mārō o Maniapoto Festival and there were the mandate hui and voting held by Maniapoto Māori Trust Board seeking the support of iwi members to negotiate Maniapoto's outstanding historical Treaty of Waitangi claims.

Back in Waitomo our whānau working at the Caves also had a busy month (and winter) and as they prepare for the upcoming high season visitor numbers are expected to be 20% up on last year. So, it has been a month of culture, sports, politics and hard work for our whānau, hapu and iwi.

In this issue, there is a summary of the annual general meeting, an update on the new trust order, an article about the RUHT's Train Me programme and, a panui for the intermediate and secondary education grants. Hopefully you will be able to take five minutes out of your busy day and catch up with what is happening with the RUHT. Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa.

RUHT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On May 21, hapū trust members gathered at Te Kauae Marae, Hangatiki for the Annual General Meeting 2016. For those who were unable to attend here is a summary of the agenda items.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairperson, Peter Douglas gave his report outlining the decision of Judge Milroy which had been in favour of the RUHT. In 2015 a hui had been held at Tokikapu Marae to explain the decision and this was followed by a workshop at Te Korapatu Marae to capture people's ideas on what they felt was important for the RUHT to be and achieve. The Trustees had incorporated that information into the draft trust order which would be presented at the meeting.

Peter finished his report by saying the RUHT would be reporting to the Māori Land Court and a hearing would be held with Judge Milroy to explain the new trust order and if people have alternative views hopefully she will listen to those and decide whether the new trust deed is appropriate or not.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Greg McCarthy gave the Financial Report on behalf of Steve Keung who was overseas.

The following points are a summary of the Statement of Financial Performance Report;

- Income increased from \$1,260,272 to \$1,978,248 in 2015 which is a significant increase. This was driven by an increase in Caves revenue with visitor numbers increasing by 24% in 2015 and that growth looks likely to continue into 2016.
- The investment income received from dividends and interest increased from \$211,548 to \$343,349 in 2015.
- From a financial point of view everything that the RUHT was involved in 2015 performed very well in comparison to 2014.
- Expenses increased by \$344,126 to \$485,443 in 2015.
- The profit or net income has increased from \$744,303 to \$1,266,351 which is approximately a \$500k increase on 2014. That has provided the money for the assets to grow.

In total the RUHT has approximately \$6.5m worth of assets. Greg explained that the value of two significant assets the forestry right and the Caves is not recorded on the balance sheet. The Caves is a significant financial asset and if recorded would have a significant value.

EDUCATION REPORT

In education, Peter reported that the RUHT is in its third year of distributing grants and year on year has seen an increase in applications. He recapped that a \$1m Education Endowment Fund had been established and would fund future education initiatives.

An Education Sub-Committee was in place to give some practice around distributing money and guidance on the types of programmes to run. Maths Buddy had been offered again in 2015 and memorial scholarships would be established in honour of Working Party members, Sam Haumia Green, Walter Anderson, Te Aue Davis and Rua Anderson who along with Josephine Anderson had negotiated the Wai 51 settlement. Peter concluded by encouraging all eligible hapū trust members to apply for the education grants.

REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

EY Tahi consultant Tamarapa Lloyd gave a presentation on the review of the strategic plan which was undertaken as part of developing the new trust order. An important focus of developing the strategic plan was to incorporate the feedback of hapū trust members who had attended the work shop at Te Korapatu Marae. The feedback included the future aspirations whanau had for the RUHT, strategies to retain our culture and heritage, a focus on improving the economic and social well-being of hapū trust members and protecting the environment. There was also very specific feedback on having a strong communications strategy, kaumatua and beneficiary engagement and assessment around the skills capability of the trustees and management staff. (The strategic plan is quite detailed but for this article we have provided just an outline).

RUHT Strategic Plan Outline

Our Vision - To connect and to reconnect our people to their whanau and their whenua.

Our Mission - To manage and enhance Trust assets within a long-term vision to support our people.

Our Values

- Manaakitanga
- Kaitiakitanga
- Whanaungatanga
- Whakapapa
- Whakahi

Our Four Focus Areas

- Operational excellence
- Commercial well-being
- Social well-being
- Cultural well-being

Tamarapa outlined the specific pathways to achieve the goals of the strategic plan. He finished his presentation advising that the work would be undertaken in a sustainable way with timelines to ensure that the goals were being achieved and reported to the beneficiaries of the RUHT.

Draft Trust Order

John Koning gave a presentation on the draft trust order which is based on a template developed by the RUHT's solicitors, Koning Webster Lawyers, but also includes key clauses from the standard trust order developed by the Maori Land Court. The draft trust order was also peer reviewed by an external law firm. The key areas of the draft trust order are summarised below;

- The trustees have full powers to administer Hauturu East 8 on behalf of the beneficiaries and a wide

mortgage the land for investment purposes.

- The beneficiaries of the RUHT remain all the descendants of the 22 owners of Hauturu East 1A6 and Hauturu East 3B1 at the time these blocks were taken by the Crown in early 1900.
- There are some broader objects in the trust order, including the recognition of the Wai 51 settlement as the foundation principle of the RUHT, the advancement of the economic, social and cultural interests of the beneficiaries, and the promotion of Maori community purposes.
- There are also new objects for the RUHT to promote Matauranga Maori relevant to Ruapuha and Uekaha, scientific research that benefits the Waitomo Caves, and an object to allow RUHT to contribute to catchment protection for the Waitomo stream and associated waterways.
- The draft trust order contains specific powers which allow the trustees to achieve the purposes of the RUHT, such as environmental protection and commercial development at Waitomo, and there are broader powers to make a wider range of education, health and sporting grants to beneficiaries.
- It also contains new procedural provisions which are designed to protect the interests of the beneficiaries including new sections on financial reporting, general meetings and trust meetings. There are also specific clauses requiring trustees to manage any conflicts of interest and to develop code of conduct and strict controls on trustee remuneration.

At the completion of John's report a resolution that the beneficiaries adopt the new trust order presented at the AGM of the RUHT on 21 May 2016 in substitution of the existing trust order at 113 Otorohanga MB 128 and dated 22 June 1998 was passed by a majority vote with three recorded objections. Shortly afterwards the Annual General Meeting closed. (The Annual Report and draft Minutes can be downloaded on www.ruht.co.nz).

NEW TRUST ORDER APPROVED



Following on from the AGM the new trust order was forwarded to the Maori Land Court in accordance with the previous directions of Judge Milroy. The Court convened a hearing on 20 July 2016 in Hamilton to hear directly from the three objectors and to finalise the RUHT's application for review. After hearing all submissions Judge Milroy made an order approving the new trust order and formally recorded that the review of the RUHT was now complete.

There were no appeals against Judge Milroy's orders and the RUHT's solicitor is currently waiting for the sealed trust order to be released by the Registrar. We are pleased to report to the beneficiaries that the litigation in the Maori Land Court involving the RUHT, which began in 2006, is now complete. The new trust order is a significant milestone for the RUHT and will provide a secure platform for the growth of the cultural, social and economic capital of the RUHT as envisioned by the Wai 51 settlement.

EDUCATION GRANTS ROUND FOR 2017



Applications for intermediate and secondary grants open on **Monday, 2 November 2016** and close on **Tuesday, 20 December 2016**. To be eligible for a grant applicants must be registered with the RUHT.

Grant applications forms and registration forms can be downloaded from the RUHT website www.ruht.co.nz.

If you have any queries, please contact the Trust Administrator on 0800 525 626 or email

ruapuhauekaha@gmail.com. Intermediate and secondary grants will be paid out in mid-January 2017.

Please be advised whānau that late applications will not be accepted so make sure you get them in on time.

The 2017 tertiary and work related grant round opens on **Monday, 13 March 2017** and close on **Friday 21 April 2017**. Grants will be paid out by the end of May 2017. Notices will be posted on facebook.



July was a busy month for a group of hapū trust rangatahi as they kicked off their school holidays on the Train Me Programme held in Waitomo. The programme, designed to help our rangatahi become 'work ready' for summer holiday jobs at the Caves started with a three-day work shop introducing them to tourism, visitor experience and customer service. They went off to Origin Coffee in Otorohanga to do barista training and then down to the Caves to be inducted so they could do their work place training. Over the following weeks the trainees came in during the weekend to get more on the job training in retail, food and beverage, guiding, reservations and in Magic Memories.

Miria Davis, coordinator for Train Me reported that the rangatahi did very well on the programme completing all the course components to a high standard. Miria also received very positive feedback from THL staff members at the Caves. With the recruitment about to start at the Caves, the trainees are gearing up to apply for jobs. We wish them well with their applications.

Train Me is run by the RUHT in conjunction with THL and it is anticipated that the programme will run again next year so if you are interested get in contact with the Trust Administrator on 0800 525 626 or email on ruapuhauekaha@gmail.com.

ONLINE DATABASE



In July, the RUHT Online Database went live and now gives hapū trust members the ability to register and manage their details online. It's great to see people using the new system which can be accessed on the RUHT website www.ruht.co.nz. Just click on Register Here and follow the three-step process. You can still register using hard copy forms which can be downloaded from the website as well.

We finish this issue with a few photos of Te Kawau Mārō o Maniapoto Festival. Congratulations to everyone who represented their marae last weekend and to the organisers and their team of helpers. Ka mau te wehi!

Until our next issue noho ora mai.

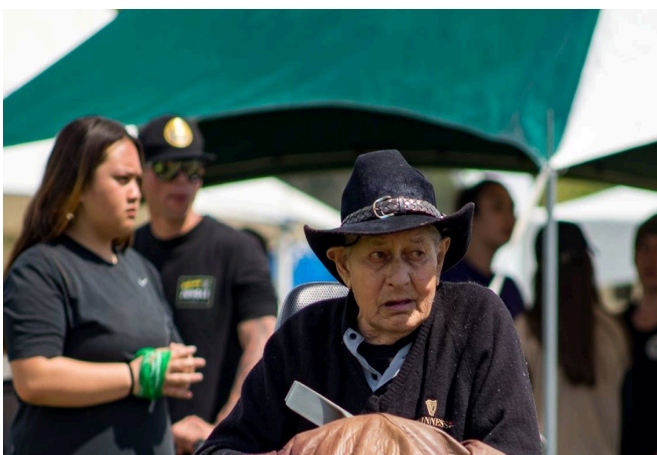


Photo credit: Kyle Barnes - Te Kawau Mārō o Maniapoto Festival October 2016

CONTACT – RUAPUHA UEKAHA HAPŪ TRUST

phone: 0800 525 626

email: ruapuhauekaha@gmail.com

web: www.ruht.co.nz