



Report: 03.280
Date: 30 May 2003
File: E/06/21/03

Committee Ara Tahī
Author Jason Kerehi Policy Advisor

Progress Report – Maori Policy Advisor

1. Purpose

To provide Ara Tahī with an update for the months of April and May 2003.

2. Training Initiatives

2.1 Staff Training

The Te Reo course in the Wellington office commenced in mid May. Twenty one staff are attending this training.

The first of the introductory courses for Te Reo has started in the Masterton office. Thirteen staff have elected to do this 10 week course.

2.2 Councillor Training

A training session on the Treaty of Waitangi and Local Government was held on 28 May. Wira Gardiner from Gardiner Parata Limited facilitated the session.

The next Councillor training session is scheduled for 13 August.

2.3 Iwi Technical Workshops

The 14 May workshop was replaced by the joint Iwi/Councillor workshop at Pipitea Marae on 21 May. This is the subject of a separate report in this order paper.

The next technical workshop is scheduled for Wednesday 16 July.

3. Iwi Projects

3.1 Wellington Tenths Trust

- 3.1.1 Inventory of Māori Heritage sites and values
Oral Report

3.2 Ngati Kahungunu

3.2.1 Okautete Marae

The mulching and edging has been completed and this fulfils the last contractual obligation for this project. The project has come in within budget and an on-site inspection has shown that the job was well done.

3.2.2 Okautete Bush Reserve

With the completion of the marae project, the Ngai Tumapuhia a Rangi hapu has turned its attention to the long awaited bush restoration project. The unveiling of the pou/entrance sign was held on May 2 with members of the public, hapu and organisations involved in the overall project attending.

This project involves two separate but important aspects.

Firstly, the hapu wish to establish a series of walking tracks through and around the reserve. In some areas, raised wooden walkways will be installed to help keep foot traffic off the roots of the 700 year old Kahikatea. The remainder of the tracks will be gravel based.

The second part of this project looks at establishing a management plan to eradicate pest plants in the reserve. Greater Wellington and the Department of Conservation staff will be working with the hapu to develop a plan to tackle two species of plant pests, Wandering Jew (*Tradescantia fluminensis*) and Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*). If left unchecked, both species could potentially smother the reserve within seven years.

3.2.3 Ngawi Wetland

Good progress has been made on this project with initial spraying of weeds and fencing completed. Plants have been ordered and planting will begin in June.

Graham Bensemman - from Greater Wellington, who is managing the contracts has advised that the spraying of the floating weeds in the lagoon has resulted in an increase of open water and that there is now some depth to the water.

3.3 Rangitaane O Wairarapa

3.3.1 Haamua Sites of Significance

The protocol for use of Rangitaane's database has been agreed and signed. The protocol sets out what processes both parties will follow when using the information for consent and other purposes.

3.3.2 New Haamua Projects

Rangitaane have revised their proposal for the second GIS project. This project extends beyond the first proposal in several areas:

- Investigation of sites will now include Carterton and South Wairarapa districts;

- Iwi staff will receive further training in the use of GIS software;
- Rangitaane will develop a *History of Haamua* report;
- Rangitaane also intend to develop and publish a series of *Haamua Environmental Principles* – education sheets on Atua, Fauna, Flora, Coast, Waterways, Land, Maunga and Tangata. These resources will provide a simple explanation of what these views mean to Haamua and will be available for general use.

4. Powhiri for Maori Policy Advisor

Rawiri Faulkner has been appointed as the Maori Policy Advisor for the Wellington office. Rawiri is currently working for the Wellington City Council as a Road Safety Co-ordinator.

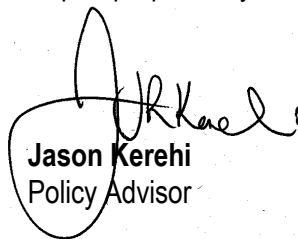
There will be a powhiri for Rawiri and his whanau at the end of today's meeting. Although Rawiri does not officially start work at Greater Wellington until Monday 16 June, we thought it best to welcome him today, as the next Ara Tahi meeting is not until Wednesday 3 September.

5. Recommendations

It is recommended that Ara Tahi:

1. *receive the report; and*
2. *note its contents.*

Report prepared by:



Jason Kerehi
Policy Advisor

Report approved by:

Steve Blakemore
Manager,
Planning and Resources

Report approved by:

Nicola Shorten
Manager, Resource Policy

Report approved by:

Jane Bradbury
Divisional Manager,
Environment