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Committee Ara Tahi
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Progress Report from Maori Policy Advisor's, Wellington and Wairarapa

1. Purpose

To provide Ara Tahi with an update for the months of December 2002 and January 2003.

2. Training Initiatives

2.1 Staff Training (Wellington)

A training programme for staff at Greater Wellington has recently been put together for 2003. While some training will be specific for certain positions at the Council, the broader programme will cater for all staff and will focus on some key areas such as:

- A presentation on Iwi relationships at the staff induction;
- Pronunciation classes;
- Te Reo short courses; and
- Treaty of Waitangi training.

We will also continue to hold the popular lunchtime kaupapa Māori korero sessions that occurred last year.

2.2 Staff Training (Wairarapa)

An introduction to Te Reo course will start at the end of February. Twelve staff have signed up for the first class. Michael Kawana of Rangitaane o Wairarapa will be taking these classes.

Six staff have registered to begin the Te Whare Wananga o Aotearoa run Te Ara Reo classes for 2003. Classes begin at the end of February and will run until November.

2.3 Councillor Training

A survey was sent out to Councillors late last year asking them about specific training requirements for 2003. Two areas that featured in the survey were:

- Treaty Principles as they apply to the new Local Government Act 2002; and
- Treaty Claims.

These two issues are going to be very important this year given the new Local Government Act 2002 and impending Treaty of Waitangi claims in the greater Wellington Region.

We are currently organising the first Councillor workshop on Treaty Principles for Wednesday 19 March. Further details will follow shortly and it is encouraged for all Regional Councillors to attend.

2.4 Iwi Technical Workshops

The first Iwi technical workshop for the year is scheduled for Wednesday 12 March. A kaupapa for this workshop has not yet been decided but some suggested kaupapa include:

- Local Government Act 2002 – Review
- Kai moana monitoring kits – NIWA
- Aquaculture Marine Areas

If you have any suggestions for the workshop kaupapa please let us know. This will enable us put together a programme for this year.

It is important to note that these workshops are in place to enable Iwi representatives of Ara Tahī to become more informed about current resource management issues of significance both nationally and regionally.

The workshops also provide an opportunity for Greater Wellington staff, and staff from outside organisations, to hear first hand the concerns that Iwi groups may have about a particular environmental issue.

3. Iwi Projects

3.1 Wellington Tenths Trust – Inventory of Māori Heritage sites and values

At this stage the project team has mapped 24 sites of significance onto the GIS database with another 180 to go. Each site has information about its name, geographic location and where you can source information about it. This information is commonly referred to as metadata.

Precinct areas have also been developed and show large groupings of single sites. Each precinct has detailed information over a wider area and gives a general overview of what significant activities may have occurred in that place historically.

At this stage the project team is obtaining more repository information and hope to map all the sites by the end of the year.

3.2 **Ngati Kahungunu**

3.2.1 Okautete Marae

Owen Perry has advised that the second phase of the marae project is nearly complete. A whanau group has constructed the edging and laid the mulch. Recent high winds caused havoc with the plants but most have survived.

Owen also advised that progress has been made at the marae site with the installation of the water tank being completed. Discussions have been with Masterton District Council about the gifting and relocation of Homewood Hall to the site.

3.2.2 Homewood Wetland

The fencing of this wetland has now been completed. Michael Hewison (Greater Wellington Investigations and Design Engineer) has advised that the earthworks will commence shortly.

3.2.3 Ngawi Wetland

A final evaluation of this site was done in December and a number of options drafted. These have been passed on to Melanie Dixon our wetland advisor and Steve Blakemore for comment. Gary Foster (DOC) has been commissioned to identify any rare plants in the wetland area. The Kawakawa 1D2 trustees were presented with the options and have agreed on the following:

- Reinforced fencing of the site
- Extension of fence to include exit area for water
- Addition of 3m wide strip to the west to provide for planted buffer zone
- Spraying regime over 24 months
- Planting scheme over three years

3.3 **Rangitaane O Wairarapa**

3.3.1 Hamua Sites of Significance

Rangitaane have completed the terms of this contract and the final report was received well within the allotted time. A final review of the project will have been carried out before this Ara Tahi meeting.

Rangitaane have already submitted an Iwi Project proposal for an extension to their investigation, which will take in the Carterton and South Wairarapa Districts. The proposal also allows for further training in GIS to utilise the tools available.

4. Treaty of Waitangi Framework

The progress report from the Māori Policy Advisors at November's Ara Tahi meeting outlined that we are looking to develop a Treaty of Waitangi analysis framework.

This process was one of the recommendations that resulted from a review of the Charter in 2000. It is timely to undertake this exercise as the new Local Government Act 2002 states among other things that Councils need to consider how they will involve Māori in decision making processes.

The purpose of the process is to help staff take the appropriate account of the principles of the Treaty in their work. The result may, for example, be the development of criteria for staff to consider as part of any committee report, policy and planning document.

We intend to develop a project brief for this as soon as possible and will keep you updated with all developments as they occur.

5. Recommendations

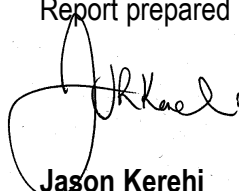
It is recommended that Ara Tahi;

- 1. receives the report; and*
- 2. notes the contents.*

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