

Hon Nanaia Mahuta



MP for Hauraki-Waikato

Minister for Māori Development

Minister of Local Government

Associate Minister for the Environment

24 September 2018

Michael Heron QC
Chambers of Michael Heron QC
Level 7
2 Commerce Street
AUCKLAND 1010

By email: michael@mhqc.co.nz

Tēnā koe Michael

Hau karioi ki Raukawa Moana, hau ai noa ki Te Whanganui ā Tara. Whātoro whakararo atu, whakaneinei atu, whakatetonga. Nei rā aku mihi; tēnei ka hāro atu, tēnā ka hāro mai.

Taiope noa te au o aituā, te aupounamu ki te Honoiwairua. Taiea noa ko tātau i muri nei, hāpai ake ai, i te pūkainga kaupapa i waihotia mai.

Thank you for providing me with your final report on the Ministerial investigation you recently conducted into the Whakatōhea Māori Trust Board under Section 33 of the Māori Trust Boards Act 1955.

I have accepted all the recommendations in your report and have directed the Trust Board, under section 33(7)(c) of the Act, to take the necessary steps to implement these recommendations. I have directed the Trust Board to report to me, by 14 December 2018, the progress it has made in respect of these recommendations.

I have also decided to recommend the promulgation of an Order in Council, under section 55 of the Act, validating the elections and appointing the newly elected members.

In terms of special voting, I have asked my officials to work with the Trust Board, should the Trust Board wish to allow special voting to occur in future elections.

I am optimistic that the Trust Board's implementation of the recommendations, the validation of the Trust Board elections and the appointment of the newly elected members, will provide certainty and stability for the Trust Board moving forward. Thank you once again for your assistance with this matter. Ngā mihi nui ki a koe.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nanaia Mahuta'.

Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Te Minita Whanaketanga Māori