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BDO TARANAKI
10 Young Street, New Plymouth 4310
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1 June 2021

The Trustees
Ngāti Te Whiti Whenua Tōpu Trust

Tēnā koutou Trustees

Thank you for your appointment as Returning Officer for the 2021 Trustee Elections. I have summarised below the Trustee nomination and appointment process:

APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER

As a result of three trustee nominations being withdrawn since the 2020 Election, another Trustee election process needed to take place.

It was agreed by the Trust that BDO would undertake the entire election process from seeking nominations through to the election process.

TRUSTEE NOMINATION PROCESS & RESULT

I worked with Pauline Lockett (Advisory Trustee) in the planning phase and together we updated and documented a timeline and action plan to meet the requirements of the Trust order. Again, this year the focus was on communicating with as many members as possible via Panui and advertisements, and all nomination and election forms were updated and published on the website.

The Trustee nomination phase opened for the three trustee positions available with applications to be received by BDO no later than 5pm on 3 May 2021.

There were two eligible Trustee nominations for three positions which meant that no election was required.

The two successful trustees being Shelton Healey and Allan Tito, were advised of their successful nominations pending Court appointment on 7 May 2021. Application to the Maori Land Court for formal trustee appointment will be made by Leo Watson.

Under the Second schedule of the Trust order, para 10 (b), the Trust is now required to make application to the Maori Land Court for formal appointment of the two new Trustees.

It should be noted that Clause 5(c) of the Third Schedule of the Trust Order provides that the Trustees can continue to operate with a vacancy as long as they do not drop below the quorum of three (3). Because there will be one vacancy, clause 3(b) of the Second Schedule provides that the vacancy must be filled by way of an election. The Trust is in the process of taking court direction on this.



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The Trustees for the new term commencing May 2021 (pending Court appointment) are:

1. Linda McCulloch
2. Haydn Te Ruki
3. Shelton Healey
4. Allan Tito

Advisory trustees: Pauline Lockett, Perry Cassidy

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE:

1. The trust order should be reviewed and amended to cover best practice for electronic communications and voting;
2. Research and consider options of Beneficial Owner registers that will help to provide the future needs of the trust;
3. Social media and other forms of communication including utilising the Trust website should be encouraged to ensure as wide a reach as possible to connect and communicate with members.

Thank you again for providing me the opportunity to work with you and I wish you every success for the future.

Nāku, nā

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