

Ngai Tauria Komiti Whakahaere Hui- 8/11/2011

Present: Tanja Schutz, Victor Manawatu, Tessa Bercic, Dave Kohai, Maraea Teepa, Jacqui Poutu, Chris Renwick

Minutes taken by: Tessa Bercic

Hui Chaired by: Victor Manawatu

Opening Karakia: Victor Manawatu

Acknowledgement of Robbie Downs (former Tumuaki of Ngai Tauria) and Ati Awatoa radio te reo Maori presenter. Moe mai ra, e hoa.

Meeting commenced: 6:30pm

Agenda

1. Matters arising from previous minutes
2. External review of Ngai Tauria for 2011

1. Matters arising from previous minutes

No major amendments needed to be made to the minutes from the 2nd November Hui.

Motion one: That Te Komiti Whakahaere pass minutes from the previous hui.

Moved by: Tessa Bercic Seconded by: Dave Kohai

For: Unanimous

Against: N/A

Abstentions: N/A

Discussion regarding whether motions passed at previous meeting have been followed up.

- Most have been actioned, with quotes still needing to be collected for security, auditors and legal representation.

- Also noted that the external reviewer has approached the former Kaitiaki Putea for the years 2006-2008, who is willing to assist the external reviewer with audit liaison.

- Noted that the planned Student Hui for 9/11/2011 has been cancelled due to a tangihanga being held at Te Herenga Waka Marae. No notification of an alternative date has been received as of yet, but will present the idea of a constitutional sub-committee when a new time and date is announced for the student hui.

- Letter from ITS tabled in regards to the disengagement of Ngai Taurira Staff accounts. ITS has indicated disabling of accounts has been done by VUWSA management. Please see attached email.

Motion two: That Te Komiti Whakahaere send formal correspondence to VUWSA President Seamus Brady regarding the recommendations made by the university ITS to Ngai Taurira.

Moved by: Tumuaki (Victor Manawatu)

For: Unanimous

Against: N/A

Abstentions: N/A

2. External Review of Ngai Taurira for the year 2011

Terms of Reference tabled. Noted that it is an initial draft. Discussion around the benefits of these Terms of Reference which use restorative justice practices (reference: Moana Jackson, honorary life member and lifesaver of Ngai Taurira and Nga Rangahautira), can be used as a template or base for future reviews of Ngai Taurira as matter of annual organisational 'checks and balances'. With general amendment, the outline of the document could also stand as policy.

Restorative practices were commonplace, as to how most internal raru was dealt with by previous Ngai Taurira executives. Restorative practice utilises tikanga as its foundation, however in Ngai Taurira it is largely unwritten and centred upon communal understanding of tikanga. Open and transparent forums and process were conducted at Te Herenga Waka marae.

This 'Terms of Reference' does not prescribe tikanga, nor should it. The aim of the review process is to be restorative according to tikanga Maori. The scope of the initial review is determine whether these concerns are substantiated or not. A final report will provide a brief assessment of its findings and recommendations.

The final outcome of the review process will be determined through consensus amongst the wider Taurira Maori. The desired outcome is for the reconciliation and settlement acceptable to all parties.

The process does not seek to apportion blame but to examine the wider reasons of wrong doing, if any.

The outcome must ensure the restoration of harmony and mana to Ngai Taurira and the wider maori student body, notwithstanding its reputation within the wider institution. More importantly, rectification

or restoration of mana to individual taurira, whether directly or indirectly involved in these issues.

Also discussed that the external review will take place within the Ngai Taurira office and the TMA office, with a record being kept of any documentation being removed from the Ngai Taurira office. Indicated that this review needs to be completed by early December

The reviewer noted that a determination would normally be conducted in complete confidence. However due to the level of awareness, sections of the process will be open.

The reviewer will develop a communications plan as part of the terms of reference, so that the wider Maori student body is aware of what and how the process will be conducted.

It is noted that the reviewer will treat all information as confidential and will not share information or discuss the matter with persons involved or not involved in the matter (This includes the Ngai Taurira executive).

The Ngai Taurira executive will be informed when the review is complete. A final report will be provided with a brief assessment of its findings, and recommendations for the Ngai Taurira komiti whakahaere. Ngai Taurira komiti whakahaere will be responsible for sharing the outcome with the wider maori student body.

Suggested that those who have showed interest in future participation with Ngai Taurira executive activities may be able to partake in compilation of accounts and other. This would provide a very good learning opportunity, particularly for audit preparation. However due to the complexity and volume of what needs to be completed, it is probably more expedient due to the short timeframe, for either qualified or well experienced people in either accounting or auditing to prepare for the audit process. The external reviewer believes that the volume is too much for a single Kaitiaki putea, who has academic work to complete.

The reviewer stated that any maori students who feel that the situation is either impacting on their well-being or academic study should actively seek assistance from the counselling service at Victoria, as it is provided free of charge. There is no need to feel shame or perceived loss of standing to access such services, as counselling is provided at most workplaces, as part of the employee assistance programmes (EAP).

Maori students' well-being, maintaining academic progress and achievement is paramount, before any voluntary roopu commitments.

Closing Karakia: Victor Manawatu

Meeting concluded: 8:55pm.