



Expressions of Interest

Te Mana Pira Tūranga Rerenga

Chief Judge of the Māori Land Court

The Minister of Māori Affairs, through Te Puni Kōkiri, wishes to hear from suitably qualified persons who would like to be considered for the position of Chief Judge of the Māori Land Court. This position is based in Wellington.

The Māori Land Court's primary objective under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993 is to promote the retention of Māori land in the hands of its owners and to facilitate the occupation, development and utilisation of that land by its owners, their whānau and hapū.

The Māori Land Court also has jurisdiction to determine applications for customary rights orders in respect of the foreshore and seabed and plays a specific role in disputes resolution matters arising under the Māori Fisheries Act 2004 and the Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004.

The Chief Judge of the Māori Land Court will perform a multi-faceted role in managing the Court as it deals with proposals and disputes involving Māori people, Māori assets and Māori aspirations in respect of them. Key roles for the Chief Judge under Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993 include presiding over the Maori Appellate Court and exercising the special powers of correction under section 44.

The Chief Judge of the Māori Land Court is also eligible to be Chairperson of the Waitangi Tribunal and to preside in inquiries undertaken by the Tribunal. If appointed to this position, the Chief Judge will also be likely to have a leading role in that jurisdiction.

The successful candidate for Chief Judge should demonstrate legal excellence and outstanding leadership qualities. A full Position Description, incorporating the relevant appointment criteria and an Expression of Interest form can be accessed via Te Puni Kōkiri website at www.tpk.govt.nz

Please forward the completed Expression of Interest form and a current curriculum vitae to the Chief Executive of Te Puni Kōkiri, PO Box 3943, Wellington or fax (04) 819 6297 by 5pm Friday, 1 May 2009.

For further information or for a copy of the Position Description or Expression of Interest Form contact Nick Jeffs at Te Puni Kōkiri on telephone (04) 819 6055 or email jeffn@tpk.govt.nz