

He Pānui – Whakarewarewa Valley Lands

On 9 April 2008, the Crown agreed to vest Whakarewarewa Valley Reserve Land in Ngāti Whakaue and Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao. Whakarewarewa Valley Reserve Land includes Whakarewarewa Thermal Springs Reserve, Roto-a-Tamaheke Reserve, and the southern part of Arikikapakapa Reserve on which the New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts Institute (Te Puia) stands.

Ngāti Whakaue, and Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao have agreed to establish a joint trust to receive and hold the Whakarewarewa Valley Reserve Land.

This is a pānui to all descendants of Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao to attend a hui and vote on two resolutions (which will be put together):

- Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao endorses the 'Deed to Introduce Vesting Legislation in relation to Whakarewarewa Valley Land and Roto-a-Tamaheke Reserve' signed between the Crown, Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao, and Ngāti Whakaue; and
- Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao endorses the joint trust of Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao and Ngāti Whakaue to hold the Whakarewarewa Valley Reserve Land until the land is vested in hapū or iwi.

The hui will be held at Wahiao Whareniui, Whakarewarewa on Sunday, 27 July 2008 at 10am. Registrations for attendees and receipt of voting forms will take place 2 hours before the hui.

All members of Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao who are over the age of 18 will be eligible to vote. In addition, Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao beneficiaries of Te Pūmautanga o Te Arawa will receive a postal vote form and can cast a postal vote. Postal votes close at 12pm on Saturday, 26 July 2008. Postal votes can be brought to the hui on Sunday, 27 July 2008 and cast there instead. A Tūhourangi Ngāti Wahiao member can only vote once on these resolutions.

An independent chair, scrutineer, and Crown observer will be present.

Final versions of both the Deed of Agreement and the Deed of Trust will be available from Te Puni Kōkiri House, 1218-1224 Haupapa Street, Rotorua from Wednesday, 23 July 2008, and on the Te Puni Kōkiri website www.tpk.govt.nz.

For further information, please contact:

- Te Pūmautanga o Te Arawa Trust, PO Box 6084, Rotorua.
Ph 0800 542 428 Website: www.tpota.org.nz
- Te Puni Kōkiri, PO Box 3943, Wellington.
Ph (04) 819 6127 Website: www.tpk.govt.nz