



Office of Hon Christopher Finlayson

13 JUL 2016

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Tēnā koe

I want to thank you, the other papakāinga trustees, and the Parihaka community for hosting me and the Crown party at the recent ceremony to sign the Compact of Trust. It was a very moving occasion; one that we will remember for a long time.

Signing the Compact is a first step towards the Crown reconciling its relationship with Parihaka. It lays the foundation for the other initiatives recommended by Kawe Tutaki. I have set out below my thinking on the next steps in this reconciliation process.

The Crown support package and reconciliation event

Over the next three to four months officials from the Office of Treaty Settlements, with input from other government agencies and councils, will continue their work with Kawe Whakamua to develop a Crown support package for Parihaka. The support package will be a contribution from the Crown towards Parihaka's development aspirations. It should be based around the recommendations in Kawe Tutaki's report, including those in *Parihaka Whakamua*, *Parihaka Pūmou: Future-proofing Parihaka*, both of which have been endorsed by the Parihaka community. The focus will be on how the Crown can recognise the unique history and circumstances of Parihaka and work with you to promote its legacy and value to New Zealand today. The package will also need to assist you with building the capacity of the community and with improvements to infrastructure.

I expect officials and Kawe Whakamua will explore what can be provided by way of:

- a) assistance from government agencies with Parihaka development projects, including assistance with applications for contestable funding;
- b) improvements to the delivery of services to the Parihaka community; and
- c) funding for high priority projects where funding cannot be found from existing sources.

When a package has been developed that Kawe Whakamua believes will be acceptable to the community I will seek Cabinet's approval to it. I would like to do this in October this year if possible but this will require a concerted effort on both sides over the next few months. Once the package is approved by Cabinet the Trust will need time to discuss it with the rest

of the community. I am available to meet with the community over this period if that would be helpful.

When the support package is agreed I would like to proceed with the reconciliation event at Parihaka that Kawe Tutaki recommended. The event will be an opportunity for the Crown to apologise to the community, in person, for its historical actions at Parihaka and to celebrate the new relationship we have entered into. Officials and Kawe Whakamua will need to work closely together to develop the Crown apology. I understand that the reconciliation event is tentatively scheduled to take place in December this year.

Kawe Tutaki also recommended that a Crown–Parihaka relationship forum be established and special Parihaka legislation be developed. These are things I am giving serious consideration to and we can discuss further at a later date.

The reconciliation process and key milestones are set out in the diagram attached to this letter. I am conscious of the heavy workload the reconciliation process is placing on the Trust. While it is important to maintain momentum please let me know if you think current timeframes need to be extended.

Crown funding

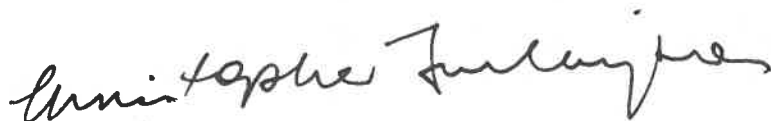
I understand that you have asked for clarification around the \$450,000 Cabinet recently approved for Parihaka. This money is a contribution towards the costs Parihaka incurs, up until 30 June 2017, as part of its engagement with the Crown in the reconciliation process. If you are unsure exactly how it can be used the Office of Treaty Settlements can provide advice.

Please let me know if the Trust has any concerns, or points it would like to make, about the matters I have raised. I am taking a very close interest in the reconciliation process and will be happy to answer any questions you have.

I look forward to visiting Parihaka again soon.

Finally I was saddened to hear about the recent fire at Parihaka and the death of Mr Len Robinson. Please pass on my condolences.

Nāku noa, nā



Hon Christopher Finlayson
Attorney-General

