

NETWORK



OTAUTAHİ

Report to the 2013 AGM for the period 1 April 2012 to 29 April 2013

Network Waitangi Otautahi's particular emphasis is on encouraging those who do not have Maori ancestry to understand the Treaty of Waitangi. We promote Strong Sustainability <www.phase2.org> and are committed to taking a Community Development approach, so our workshops and other activities are designed to start where people are at and are non-confrontational.

We are a voluntary group, an educational incorporated society with charitable status. We are part of a wider national network of groups and individuals who are working towards a Treaty-based Aotearoa New Zealand.

NWO accepts koha in recognition of our work, on the basis of what individuals and groups can afford while taking into account the need to ensure that any amounts paid to us will not disadvantage mana whenua planning and will not put people off engaging in the workshops and other activities.

Apart from relevant legislation, NWO is independent of government, business interests and political parties.

The Organising Group currently has six members and meets approximately fortnightly for two hours. The membership of NWO is 63 and members continue to receive email news.

Our website is www.nwo.org.nz

*Our NWO resources, many of which are available on our website to download, are made available under the **Creative Commons licence**. This means that permission is given to copy, distribute or transmit them provided they are properly attributed, not altered in any way and not sold for profit*

Introduction

Our last AGM was addressed by Rakihiā Tau, Earthquake General Manager for Te Runanga o Ngāi Tahu (TRONT). He replaced Lisa Tumahai, the then newly-appointed deputy Kaiwhakahaere of TRONT whom we had invited to speak on *Treaty Relationships in the Rebuild of Greater Christchurch* but who was unable to attend. The statutory recognition of TRONT in the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act had led us to pose the question of whether the Treaty will be named as a framework for the future. Rakihiā noted that the Treaty had been the framework used for Treaty settlements and reflected on the question with us. This question set a major theme for our work this past year.

Treaty Outreach

Our focus has been on networking widely and responding to requests from individuals, groups and government, commercial or non-government organisations on the basis of their available time and expertise and the outcomes they wish to achieve.

These requests vary widely – for example full workshops with Project Lyttelton and with remand prisoners at Paparua Prison, shorter sessions with the Red Cross, NZ Career College, OSCAR, SuperGrans, College of Midwives, and the Citizen's Advice Bureau, talks to many groups including U3A, consultation with the Health Promotion Forum about their publication *A Treaty Understanding of Hauora in Aotearoa New Zealand (TUHANZ)* and policy development and education sessions with the national Federation of Multicultural Councils.

Several one-to-one tuition sessions with new migrants who need to be prepared for admission to professional organisations have been a significant part of the work.

We have been asked to brief visitors from France, USA, Canada, and Germany about our approach.

The handbook ***The Treaty of Waitangi Questions and Answers*** and the resources on our **website** have been pivotal to one-to-one work, as has the feedback from those people as they have been assessed for their knowledge. As one example, one of our NWO members spent an evening with the NWO Organising Group to prepare for his presentation on *Social Work and Globalization in the NZ Context*. We subsequently supported his involvement in the young people's *Inspiring Leaders Forum* at Parliament.

We would like to emphasise the value of our workshop **process**, which we endeavour to touch on even in shorter educational sessions.

The Treaty

Critical to our Treaty education is the understanding of history prior to 1840, both in this country and in relation to colonisation around the world. The new report ***Nga Puhi Speaks*** (see our website) provides the first written resource we have found that includes concise documentation for this period which we see as pivotal to understanding the Treaty itself. We were pleased to be able to assist this project with administrative support, and to attend the briefing on the publication, with other Treaty workers from around the country at the Kotare Research and Education Centre for Social Change (Kotare).

Another resource we have been pleased to promote is the movie ***Tatarakihi The Children of Parihaka***. The documentation of the story of peace at Parihaka is poignantly presented and underlines the Treaty as a declaration of a peaceful future for this country.

The five aspects of the Treaty (the Preamble and four Articles) taken together, both as a whole and also as a follow-on from the 1835 Declaration of Independence form a framework which we present as a basis for thinking through implementation plans for Treaty-based action in our lives and organisations.

We continue to participate in the national Treaty People Network, for example by attending the Bicultural Praxis conference at Kotare.

We have been involved in preparation of ***Time For Change – A framework for values-based and Treaty-based discussion on Constitutional Change*** www.converge.org.nz/pma/change.htm. This follows on from our participation in the earlier conference ***Empower*** organised by the McGuinness Institute and held at Parliament for young people. Discussions during preparation of *Time For Change* focussed on how we settle as settlers and what we want to *constitute* our way of life. This resulted in Papatuanuku being identified as the basis of what we want to "constitute" our way of life - not separating the environment for special attention but embracing nature, justice, equality and fairness. Central to this are relationships in the framework of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and our particular responsibility for developing honourable Kawanatanga. We are pleased that Professor John Burrows, Co-Chair of the government's Constitution Advisory Panel is to address our AGM this year on **The Treaty and NZ's Constitutional Arrangements**. Sharing of new thinking through these national Treaty networks develops our collective wisdom and helps sustain us for the year to come.

Publications & Resources

To date 52,500 of our **Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi** posters have been printed (with a new version produced in 2011). We distribute these with descriptive posters on **He Wakaputanga o Te Rangatiriranga o Nu Tireni/Declaration of Independence**, of which 50,000 have been printed.

We continue to receive follow-up enquiries from readers of **The Treaty of Waitangi Questions and Answers** handbook. Since our last AGM we have distributed (at \$5 each) 434 hard copies, bringing the total we have distributed so far to 5834. The new version of our Treaty poster was incorporated in the 2012 reprint. In addition this handbook is being downloaded (without cost) by many individuals and some educators. As mentioned earlier in this report, feedback continues to indicate the value of this resource both as an introduction to the Treaty as well as for those who have done previous work on the Treaty.

We find hard copy resources of our Treaty and Declaration posters as well as the Treaty *Questions and Answers* handbooks very useful when we set up a display. For example displays were provided during Adult Learners' Week at Christchurch Polytechnic in October, and at Culture Galore in March this year. On Waitangi Day NWO Organising Group members used these resources at Kaiapoi with the Waimakariri District Council and at Onuku. Many people ask questions when they visit these displays and express gratitude for our clarifications. Treaty workers from around the country also ask for our hard-copy resources for their displays – for example in Invercargill, Dunedin, Nelson, Kapiti, Hutt City, Wellington, Palmerston North, New Plymouth, Hamilton, Auckland and Whangarei.

Our slogan and banner ***Understanding the Treaty*** has continued to draw people to our educational approach.

A significant outcome from contact with those using these resources and those on our **website** is that many organisations are liaising with us as they study how to update their Treaty policy.

NWO and Tangata Whenua

NWO continues to be represented at the now re-established bimonthly meetings of Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu. Our relationship with this Runaka which was established in 1936, began in 1984. Having been in recess for much of the last year we are pleased to again support Hui Whakamana Tiriti (HWT), which was set up by this Runaka, for the purpose of *Supporting the kaupapa of the restoration and enhancement of Tino Rakatirataka and recognising the need to continue the discussion by working through the Treaty to achieve this collective vision to lay the foundation for the future.* The recent HWT on 13 April addressed ***The History of te Tiriti here in Christchurch and rights (democratic etc) around the rebuild of the city.*** Making the links between democracy and the Treaty as a framework for the future highlights the limitations of the market approach to social planning and the value of exploring new frameworks for addressing the future.

Sir Mark Solomon, Kaiwhakahaere of Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu (TRONT) is kept informed of our work. He has been supportive in our exploration of the links between Strong Sustainability and Treaty-based development. The TRONT Newsletter Te Karaka and other published resources from TRONT have also been really valuable in expanding our thinking as well as in keeping us informed. We have had a meeting with Donna Matahaere Atariki, the newly appointed CEO of He Oranga Pounamu and subsequently with Robyn Wallace and await further developments. By attending the *Otautahi Revealed – Cultural Design and Planning Symposium*, organised by Landcare, we have been made aware of the huge amount of work being done by TRONT staff.

We have recently also received a copy of the Mahaanui Iwi Management Plan which was recently launched by the six Ngai Tahu Runanga.

NWO's relationships beyond the NGO sector

In the *Human Rights Commission* locally we have appreciated engagement with recently-appointed Henning Borchers in his new position. We are pleased the position of Race Relations Commissioner has been retained (having made a submission accordingly) and will watch with interest as Dame Susan Devoy takes up her role. Our recent involvement with a representative of the NZ Police and of the Human Rights Commission in judging the Baha'i Race Unity Awards has also expanded these networks as has attendance at the Ministry of Ethnic Affairs Christchurch EthnicA! Conference.

Relationships with *Environment Canterbury (ECAN)* have been facilitated by Commissioner Williams and led to a meeting with CEO Bill Bayfield and David Perera O'Connell (a recent secondment from TRONT to ECAN). We await further development in relation to Treaty work with ECAN following our earlier dialogue initiated by ECAN staff member Rachel Puentener. We have made a submission on the ECAN Canterbury Water Management Strategy (CWMS) Christchurch West Melton Zone Implementation Plan, requesting from ECAN a statement of Tangata Tiriti values to complement the Tangata Whenua values listed. Our submission on the ECAN draft Regional Land and Water Plan noted with pleasure the references to the ethical statements *For Us and Our Children After Us* and *Everything is Connected*, pointing out the value of a Treaty framework and the inclusion of specific

reference to Tangata Tiriti alongside Tangata Whenua. Commissioner Ellison noted our points and suggested that this needed to be followed up. These considerations and those that arise from the recent TRONT/ECAN Memorandum of Understanding between ECAN and Nga Papatipu Runanga in the greater Canterbury region are all vital to our educational work.

We have submitted to the *Christchurch City Council* Three Year Plan raising the recognition of the "special position that Ngai Tahu has in decision-making" (p.198). We believe this implies much more than acknowledgement of Ngai Tahu as a stakeholder. It also flags the need to develop an understanding of the Treaty as a framework for decision-making. We have submitted that the CCC needs to clarify the role of Tangata Tiriti in this process.

We made a submission to the Parliamentary Select Committee considering amendments to the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002). We strongly supported the legal imperative to uphold the four wellbeings (social, economic, environmental and cultural), taking a sustainable development approach in relationship with Maori, and sought their support in advocating for an overriding parallel legal imperative in the purpose of central government's approach. We were deeply disappointed that these suggestions were unsuccessful.

Making the connections between the hopes and aspirations gathered in the CCC-led *Share an Idea* process and the ten point plan *Better Public Services (BPS)* announced by the government needs coherence between local, regional and central government policy. Without that it is difficult to engage citizens with respect to developing a shared clarification of *public good*. *Healthy Christchurch*, whose Charter we have signed, has provided valuable networking opportunities to make links and build respect between NGOs and statutory organisations.

NWO's Wider Work in the NGO Sector

The role of citizens of this earthquake-torn and socially-damaged city has in practice (as an outcome of the Recovery legislation) become limited to that of stakeholders in various specific spheres of planning for the future. Outcomes often appear to be largely pre-determined and much of our attention has been drawn to focus on accountabilities to meet those results/outcomes.

Our workshops and sessions with participants however, have addressed higher-level questions such as *What Really Matters? What do you want to pass on to the next generation?* These questions elicit wider views and the need to "measure what we treasure" (not treasure what we measure!). To this end we organised a meeting with economist Suzi Kerr of the NGO **Motu Research** on *Water: A Commons or a Commodity?* This evening highlighted the limitation of treating economics as a discipline separate from social, ecological and governance contexts. The Christchurch **Keep Our Assets** NGO has produced useful research clarifying what is a "strategic" asset.

One Voice Te Reo Kotahi

These matters are the focus of many NGOs and we have been pleased to support One Voice *Te Reo Kotahi* (OVTRK) <onevoicetereokotahi.blogspot.co.nz> as a forum for discussion. The kaupapa of OVTRK is printed on the following page and describes the framework for Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti caucuses.

One Voice

Email: ngovoices@gmail.com

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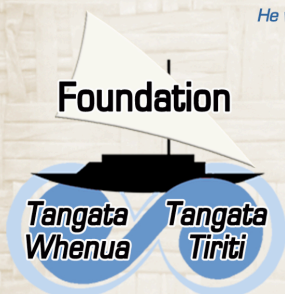
Te Reo Kotahi

Speaking from the NGO Sector

We are the waka on which the NGO sector with its many faces (ngā matatini) carries community expectations and truths with integrity

He waka eke noa – a canoe on which we can all embark

Foundation



Me Pāhea

We embrace *Te Tiriti o Waitangi* / Treaty Relationships Framework as reflected by our two caucuses of *Tangata Whenua* and *Tangata Tiriti*.

Hei whakakahangia te kaupapa – Strengthen our purpose

Who

We are independent and speak from the Non Government Organisation sector - the 'Third Sector' - allowing the voices of organisations that have not been formed by Government or Commerce to be heard.

Ngā matatini, he reo kotahi – Many faces, one voice

Third Sector

Government Commerce

Participation



Why

Our goal is to build relationships of trust and partnership with Government and Commerce and within the NGO sector, to facilitate communication.

Ehara taku toa, he toa takitahi engari, he toa takitini – It is not for my success alone, but the success for us all

How

We do this by utilising our wealth of experience, our collective expertise and our established and ever-expanding networks from our work within the sector in Greater Christchurch over many years. To do this we have set up a register for NGOs who are interested - please register here: <http://bit.ly/1voicetereokotahi-reg>

Me tū me noho koe, mā te iwi e ue – whether we stand or sit, let the people decide

Networks

Experience Expertise

May the deeds and endeavours of One Voice *Te Reo Kotahi* only serve to enhance, strengthen and enrich the futures of those who follow.

The value of making visible the work of the many NGOs at work in the city has been highlighted by the Study of Non-Profit Organisations in this country as part of an international research project undertaken by the Johns Hopkins University. There are 97,000 NGOs and only 10% have any paid staff. We estimate that about 10% of those 97,000 would be in greater Christchurch – approximately 10,000.

Examples of recently established NGOs include Canterbury Communities' Earthquake Recovery Network (CanCERN) and the planned Federation of Christchurch Residents' Associations which work with communities of place. They in turn have come together with communities of interest such as the VIVA project, Greening The Rubble and Gap Filler. These, along with the often more well known NGOs which have contracts for parts of their work with the Ministry of Health, of Environment, or of Social Development, constitute just part of the much wider NGO sector. Many others glean insecure resources from many sources. Together NGOs are repositories of a great deal of untapped wisdom!

OVTRK is working with the Council of Social Services, Social Service Providers Association, networkers in the Youth and Older Persons sectors in relation Well-being planning by the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA).

We are particularly aware of the need to support the work of OVTRK as we get regular but limited reports via the CERA website from the Minister's Community Forum. That Forum does not have the capacity as yet to address many of the issues raised in the wider community.

The most recent OVTRK Forum on 20 April discussed NGO concerns and issues arising from the draft Land Use Recovery Plan (LURP). This highlighted the need to continue to profile *What Really Matters?* and maintain conversations about people's hopes and aspirations for a better future. The work of NWO is closely connected to that of HWT and OVTRK.

Other Networks

After the demolition of *Te Whakaruruhau ki Otautahi* Christchurch Community **House** premises at 141 Hereford St following the February 22 2011 earthquake, when all our NWO records and resources were destroyed, we were able to move, in April 2013, to their temporary premises in 113 Tuam St. Our office is in a storage cupboard with no natural lighting! We would like to place on record our thanks to the Trust and particularly the House Manager, Mike Asmussen, who has continued to support our organisation. We are pleased with the shift from the tenants-only focus to making membership of the Trust open to any NGO. We hope the collaborative approach made by OVTRK to the House Trust will be able to be revisited.

We have particularly enjoyed a close working relationship with the Christchurch Migrants' Centre. We have referred many people to their publications, in particular to *Lessons Learned* which has relevance for culturally and linguistically diverse communities around the country. The local Christchurch member of the Federation of Multicultural Councils has also made practical the attention now being given to the role of Tangata Tiriti alongside Tangata Whenua. Attendance at the *Refugee Wellbeing in the Rebuild* seminar at the College of Education also extended these networks.

The Adult and Community Education (ACE) annual conference in Wellington, June 2012 provided an opportunity to distribute our Treaty and Declaration posters along with a flyer about our *Treaty of Waitangi Questions and Answers* handbooks. It is heartening to experience this conference modelling caucusing by Tangata Tiriti and Tangata Whenua. We continue to be involved with the local ACE Network, its Professional Development programme and its Collaborative Activities Project. While we have expressed reservations about their limitations, we have emphasised that we understand that these are a result of the lack of better statutory recognition of the value of ACE. We also really value relationships with the **Canterbury WEA** and their strengthening of the nationwide Federation of WEAs.

We continue to value our membership of ACE Aotearoa, Kotare (each referred to earlier in this report) and of the Association of Non Government Organisations (ANGOA) which provides useful newsletters from their monthly Round Tables and their Research Fora. We referred an approach to us by Transparency International re their work on transparency in the public service to ANGOA, as that is a national initiative. The international body to which ANGOA belongs, CIVICUS, has recently provided useful detail in learning to “measure what we treasure” as referred to earlier in this report. The NZ Council of Christian Social Services *Kete Kupu* and *Policy Watch*, Peace Movement Aotearoa regular bulletins, the Australia NZ Third Sector Association and the Tangata Whenua, Community and Voluntary Sector Research Centre all provide useful background relating to the nationwide context in which we work.

Other organisations with which we are closely involved but are not mentioned elsewhere in this report give us insights relevant for the next stages in our work. We have been involved with The National Council of Women both locally and nationally. Third Age networks, including the University of the Third Age continue to reveal the lack of understanding of Te Tiriti amongst many older Christchurch citizens. The Healthy Christchurch network continues to provide valuable networking opportunities. The Kotare Research and Education Centre of which we are a member also provides valuable nationwide networking opportunities to share our educational resources.

Our involvement in Sustainable Otago Christchurch (SOC) (www.soc.org.nz) is vital for making the links between Strong Sustainability and Treaty-based development that are inherent in our NWO educational approach. Links between SOC and Sustainable Aotearoa NZ (SANZ) (www.phase2.org) continue to resource our work and open our access to resources from the UN Decade for Education for Sustainable Development. By maintaining both local and nationwide networks and establishing new ones we continue to expand our practical resource base for social cohesion in a sustainable, multicultural, Treaty-based future where the status of all other citizens is understood alongside the indigenous status of Maori.

The evening organised by SOC with Dr Bronwyn Hayward on *Re-Thinking Citizenship* based on her recent book *Children, Citizenship and the Environment* was particularly inspiring. The work of the Child Poverty Action Group and of the Twigger Women’s Endowment Collective also give insights into the lack of attention being paid to challenges for women and children in the rebuild. MP Nikki Wagner’s encouragement of women leaders in the city to meet has further expanded networks. The Avon Otakaro Network (AvON) proposal of a River Park from city centre to the

sea on land that has been red-zoned continues to provide a practical project advocating the inclusion of a corridor of indigenous plants. Now that indigenous birds are returning to the city as a result, people are "learning by doing" the potential of Treaty-based collaboration.

All these networking opportunities provide non-formal but vital educational opportunities by sharing resources amongst NGOs.

Conclusions

We conclude by noting that the rebuild of Christchurch urgently needs decision-making frameworks for all citizens. Relationships between statutory partners, including TRONT who are working together in CERA are not widely understood. A framework for decision-making needs to be developed which gives encouragement and opportunity for participation by all people. Pivotal to social cohesion is the use of language that includes everyone.

TRONT is leading a strong presence both locally and nationwide for the role of Tangata Whenua. This raises the need for those of us who are not of Maori descent who wish to support that presence to name a way to justly have a place in this country. Judge Sir Edward Taihakurei Durie has referred to such people as Tangata Tiriti - people of the Treaty - who have been invited to share this country with Tangata Whenua.

At the moment the Treaty is still understood by most people as being about Maori alone and we think it is vital at this stage of the Christchurch Rebuild for there to be recognition that education about the Treaty is essential for future decision-making by and for all of us living in the country. Pakeha, together with all others who are not of Maori descent, work as Tangata Tiriti alongside Tangata Whenua in a multicultural, Treaty-based approach where the indigenous status of Maori is understood.

The Treaty is both an invitation to share this land and the basis of our nationhood. This poses a particular challenge because Treaty relationships with Tangata Whenua are rooted in the recognition that the local context becomes critical when developing ways forward. The CERA will need to identify how TRONT is recognised alongside the territorial local authorities and the regional council Environment Canterbury (ECAN). We hope it will also take responsibility to clarify what opportunities there are for all citizens of Canterbury, including all Maori, to participate. Will the Treaty be named as a framework for the future?

Acknowledgements

Finally, we thank all our members and friends for their encouragement and on-going commitment.

Averil Williams, Eileen Shewan, John Peet, Tatjana Parsons, Helen Gibson and Katherine Peet

NWO Organising Group

28 April 2013