

NWO APPROACH

Te Tiriti o Waitangi sets out the relationship between hapu and the Crown, providing a place for us all to belong and live here in harmony as Tangata Tiriti and Tangata Whenua. Te Tiriti has in effect been ignored by the dominant system until very recently, and even then at best only imperfectly taken into consideration, and Maori have suffered mightily as a consequence. NWO supports the restoration of Tino Rangatiratanga by Tangata Whenua and we are committed to Te Tiriti as the framework for a multicultural and [Strongly Sustainable](#) future. Its implementation requires development of the honourable Kawanatanga envisioned in Te Tiriti, which we believe is essential to collective and individual wellbeing for all.

All 5 aspects of the Treaty need to be taken together as a whole and as a follow-on to the 1835 Declaration of Independence – He Wakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tireni.

Preamble: Peace with justice for all

Article 1: Practising honourable KAWANATANGA

Article 2: Promoting TINO RANGATIRATANGA by Tangata Whenua

Article 3: Maori participation in Kawanatanga in ways determined by Maori in relation to tikanga

Article 4: Everybody's belief systems upheld

This work supports the kaupapa of the restoration of Tino Rangatiratanga by Tangata Whenua and the establishment of honourable Kawanatanga by the Crown. Through developing this understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi we can assist in the process of working toward a Treaty-based, multicultural future. Currently, Te Tiriti o Waitangi is usually seen as relating almost exclusively to Maori but in a Treaty-based future it will be seen as relevant to all of us, with all political relationships between Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti based on it.

We promote Sustainable Development and have a strong commitment to taking a Community Development approach so our workshops and other activities are designed to start where people are at and are non-confrontational. See [Strong Sustainability for NZ](#).

NWO is an educational incorporated society with registered charitable status. Our Charities Services number is "CC1471115". Apart from relevant legislative and some funding requirements, NWO is independent of government, business interests and political parties. We accept [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. We are part of a wider national network of groups and individuals.

In a speech in Wellington on 17 August 2006, Dr Pita Sharples referred to the words spoken by Captain William Hobson who signed Te Tiriti on behalf of the British Crown 'He iwi kotahi tatou' meaning 'Now we are one people'. Dr Sharples notes:

"As Nelson Mandela had said, 'It is difficult to negotiate with those who do not share the same frame of reference'. If we are able to recognise and come to have a shared view of this political document called the Treaty of Waitangi, as our shared frame of reference, then and only then, can we perhaps say – He iwi kotahi tatou".