



## Mana Rangatahi 2024

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō recently wrapped up the winter Mana Rangatahi at Waikawa. During this immersive week, our rangatahi engaged with Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō history and heritage, tikanga, karakia and waiata.

The event saw a fantastic turnout from whānau. Our group spent their time at Waikawa marae exploring sites of significance around the rohe, participating in land based workshops and strengthening their ties with whanaunga from across the motu.

The next Mana Rangatahi will be taking place in December on the West Coast. If you or your child are interested in participating in future Mana Rangatahi, please contact the office for more information.

» See more photos on the back page.



## *Kia hiwa rā* NEWS AND EVENTS

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Keeping you informed of news, announcements and opportunities, from around our rohe and the motu.

# Get financially fit and digitally smart

Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō is partnering with Aspire2 to deliver a 10-week skills programme for whānau members in Te Taihū, covering personal finance, communication, and digital and tech skills.

The programme will be held in person, either in the Wairau or Whakatū office, depending on the level of interest. Graduates will receive a FREE tablet on completion of the programme.

For more information or to register your interest please email [office@ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz](mailto:office@ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz).

Eligibility criteria apply.



## Kaumātua koha

A Christmas koha will be provided to all our kaumātua (60+) this year. To ensure that Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trust can process this for you, please make sure we have your current bank details.

If you're unsure whether we already have your information, please contact the office by phone or email to verify. Otherwise, if you haven't already submitted your details, please send us a screenshot of the top of your bank statement, showing your name and full account number.

You can forward your queries and information to the Office Manager – [lynne.owen@ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz](mailto:lynne.owen@ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz).

## AGM and election notice

### Notice of Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM for the Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trusts will be held at Omaka Marae, 120 Aerodrome Road, Blenheim on Saturday 14 September 2024 at 1.00pm. Please email [events@ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz](mailto:events@ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz) or phone 0800 578 900 to register or for further information.

#### Agenda:

- Financial reports
- Annual Report
- Annual Plan
- Trustee election results
- General business

Copies of information to be tabled at the AGM may be inspected at the Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō office in Blenheim (78 Seymour Street), the iwi office in Nelson (1/14 Harley Street) and/or on the Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō website ([www.ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz](http://www.ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz)).

### Notice of trustee election

One Tarakaipa trustee position and one Pūaha Te Rangi Trustee position are up for election on the Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trust and the Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Charitable Trust. As more nominations were received than the available vacancies, an election is required to fill both positions. Voting is now open through postal and internet voting options.

#### Please note:

- Eligible iwi members may vote for up to a maximum of two candidates, one Tarakaipa Trustee and one Pūaha te Rangi Trustee.
- All registered iwi members aged 18 and over are eligible to vote.
- All adult members who have an email address on file have been sent their voting pack electronically.
- Adult registered members who do not have an email address and those over 55 have been sent a postal voting pack.
- For whānau who are not registered members, registration forms may be downloaded from the iwi website.
- To cast your vote, members may vote online via the Electionz website, or use the post-paid reply envelope.
- Voting closes at 12.00 pm on Friday 6 September 2024.

The successful candidates will be confirmed at the Annual General Meeting at Omaka Marae, 120 Aerodrome Road, Blenheim on Saturday 14 September 2024. For further information, please call Electionz on 0800 666 047.

# The Takutai Moana Act

Ngāti Apa ki Te Rā Tō Trust is currently engaged in processes relating to the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 (sometimes referred to as MaCA). This pānui summarises the Act, outlines recently proposed Government amendments to the Act, and runs through current work being undertaken by the Trust on behalf of the iwi.

## What is the Takutai Moana Act?

The Takutai Moana Act 2011 provides recognition and the exercise of customary interests of iwi, hapū and whānau in the common marine and coastal area of Aotearoa New Zealand and its offshore islands. It was brought in to replace the Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004, which vested the foreshore and the seabed in the Crown.

Together with Ngā Rohe Moana o Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Porou Act 2019, the 'Takutai Moana legislation' provides for the right of all New Zealanders to access and use the common marine and coastal area. Protection extends to existing uses, such as recreational fishing and navigation rights, and in some cases, it also extends the rights of infrastructure such as ports and aquaculture.

Essentially, the Takutai Moana Act creates a space in the common marine and coastal area that cannot be owned by anyone and, therefore, cannot be sold. Importantly, the Act also provides for two main types of rights: Customary Marine Title and Protected Customary Rights.

## What is Customary Marine Title?

Customary Marine Title (CMT) recognises the relationship of an iwi, hapū or whānau with a particular marine and coastal area since 1840. It is the highest form of recognition and protection of our customary rights, although it is not the same as a title to dry land.

Free public access, recreational use, fishing, and navigation are unaffected by CMT (except if a lawful restriction applies, including protections afforded to wāhi tapu areas). All existing rules for commercial, recreational and customary fishing still apply.

Up until now, to have CMT recognised, groups must show they:

- Hold the specified area in accordance with tikanga,
- Have exclusively used and occupied the area from 1840 to the present day without substantial interruption, or
- If the area was received through a customary transfer or tuku (an area gifted by one group to another) after 1840, it has exclusively been used and occupied from the time of the transfer to the present day without substantial interruption.

If a CMT is recognised, that recognition is given effect through an Act of Parliament. To date, 34 customary marine titles (CMTs) have been awarded to applicants, and of those, 19 have been finalised through the legal process and are in place.

## What is a Protected Customary Right?

Protected Customary Right (PCR) status is broader than CMT and allows certain customary activities to be exercised without regulatory constraint. PCRs are all the things we as an iwi have been doing in the takutai moana in line with our tikanga. This includes taking of stones and shells, gathering of karengo and kopakopa for rongoā, harvesting eels and inanga (whitebait), launching of waka, snaring and hunting of birds, and other ceremonial activities within the CMT.

## What amendments are the Government proposing to the Takutai Moana Act?

The coalition Government has announced it will change the law around Māori seeking recognition of their customary rights in the marine and coastal area. The Government plans to overrule decisions made in the Court of Appeal in 2023 and the High Court in 2022 and legislate to make the test for proving CMT harder to meet. If Parliament enacts these amendments, any CMT awards made between today and the date of enactment would be overturned, and those cases would need to be reheard under new rules.

The Government intends to finalise the drafting of the Amendment Bill by mid-September so it can be introduced into Parliament and passed by the end of 2024.

## How is Ngāti Apa ki Te Rā Tō responding?

Ngāti Apa ki Te Rā Tō initially filed an application with Te Arawhiti in 2017 signalling our interests in the coastal marine area. At the time this involved providing a map of our preliminary area of customary interests to the meet the deadline required by the Government. However, we did not need to, nor did we, identify what rights we would apply for or if we would pursue our claims through the High Court, or with the Minister in charge of MaCA directly. Like many iwi, we needed to complete research, and were waiting to see what tests of evidence and burdens of proof would be required.

Ngāti Apa ki Te Rā Tō Trust is now working on preparing an application of evidence to apply for CMT. Research is a critical part of the application to meet the tests under the Takutai Moana Act. This work stream is being led by Mark Moses and Peter Mason and will cover the origins of Ngāti Apa ki Te Rā Tō and the hapū and tūpuna who have an association with the coastal marine area. Ngāti Apa ki Te Rā Tō Trust must provide evidence of our claim by 7 October 2024. The Trust will update you about next steps as further information comes to hand.



## Annual Report

Our 2023/2024 Annual Report is ready to view on our website.

Click here to read or visit [www.ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz](http://www.ngatiapakiterato.iwi.nz).



## Ngāti Apa ki te Rā To Trusts – Office Administrator

A new and exciting opportunity exists for a person looking for a career in administration with Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō Trusts.

The Office Administrator works closely with Trust staff, iwi members and contractors to ensure the administrative needs of the organisation are taken care of. The position is Blenheim based and hours are flexible (20 – 32 hours per week).

For further information please see the jobs and opportunities page on our [website](#).

Applications close on 27 September 2024.