



Submissions Booklet

Māori Representation

Consultation

2023

Sub No.	Submitter Name	Page
1.	Keren Paekau	4
2.	Maude Green	5
3.	Lynda Mullany	6
4.	Kayla Ngare	7
5.	Kristen Pari	9
6.	Sally Anderson	10
7.	Lee-Anne Kelly	11
8.	John Shannon	12
9.	Tanchia Pitts-Brown	13
10.	Fraser Darke	14
11.	Mark Verry	15
12.	Patrick Kelly	16
13.	D Petre	17
14.	Cindy Clayton-Greene	18
15.	Warren Clayton-Greene	19
16.	Mark Coleman	20
17.	Andrew D'Ath	22
18.	Gloria Wharekawa	24
19.	Aquarius Macpherson Heta	25
20.	Maurice Dixon	26
21.	Jeff Knight	27
22.	Philip Braiden Bothwell	28
23.	Rangiwhiua Ngatai	30
24.	Margaret Black	31
25.	David Black	32
26.	Xavier Turner	34
27.	Rachel Howie	36
28.	Guy Whitaker	38
29.	Ronald McKeller	39
30.	Maringi Kete	41
31.	James Waretini	43
32.	Kim Graeme Osborne	44
33.	Doug Oliver	46
34.	J Darlington	49

Sub No.	Submitter Name	Page
35.	Titia Allaries	51
36.	Toni Brown	53
37.	Leah Taratu	55
38.	Mirumiru Paa ki Marokopa (Natasha Willison)	57
39.	Natasha Willison	71
40.	Kylie Willison	93
41.	Sandra Jones	95
42.	Leo Leitch	97
43.	Mokau Kohunui Marae (Mark Bidois, Chairperson)	101
44.	Te Whare o Mokau ki Runga (Anne Lemieux, Secretary)	104
45.	Oparure Marae (Mārama Henare-Waho)	105
46.	Te Whare Hauāuru ki Uta (Roimata Harmon)	109
47.	Te Runanga o Ngāti Mahuta (Melaina Huaki)	111
48.	BLANK	113
49.	Isaiah Wallace	115
50.	Ross Smith	117
51.	Te Kauae Marae (Roimata Harmon)	119
52.	Mary Tapu	122
53.	Ronald Takerei	124
54.	Te Aomarama Anderson	127
55.	Alannah Batger	130
56.	Tim Stokes	132
57.	Graeme Reinhardt	134
58.	Russell Aldridge	136
59.	BLANK	137
60.	Burmester Trust	139
LATE SUBMISSIONS		
Late 1	Brian Griffin	140
Late 2	Te Piruru Papakainga Marae (Ngahuia Sheedy)	142
Late 3	Te Whare ki Tokanganui-a-Noho (Ngahuia Sheedy)	143
Late 4	Luke Moss	144

Note: Those Submitters **highlighted in blue font** in the above Contents Table have indicated they wish to be heard at the Hearing to speak in support of their submission.

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 10 July 2023 11:36:17 am

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Keren Paekau

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

Postcode

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Guarantees Māori are at the Decision making table and wider engagement is being undertaken

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 10 July 2023 12:09:02 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Maude Green

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] street Te kuiti

Postcode

3910

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 2 - Māori Wards

Please explain why you have chosen this option

I support Māori wards within Waitomo District Council - to further support māori kaupapa within our iwi and have representation for our māori people within Waitomo District Council for the future of our whānau, hapu and iwi.

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 10 July 2023 12:11:55 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Lynda Mullany

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Te Kuiti

Postcode

3910

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

It's working well now as it is and we don't need more ratepayer money spent on this.

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 10 July 2023 2:51:35 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Kayla Ngare

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] Street Te Kuiti.

Postcode

3900

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

We need more of our Māori people in them seats so when decisions are made that affect our community there will be Equility among the decision makers. Our Māori people only work well and respond to Māori responses because Māori can relate and break the barriers down enough for our whanau to understand. And it's about time we had more Māori whanau being apart of council for our people.

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 10 July 2023 3:08:37 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Kristen Pari

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] RD 2 Piopio

Postcode

3942

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 3 - A committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

A committee could be formed with 1 representative from Te Nehenehenui, ALL hapū sitting within the WDC region or a member from each town/area, a rangatahi rep, kaumatua rep. I think what is missing is the consultation outside of Ngati Rora specifically about kaupapa Māori.

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 10 July 2023 3:10:48 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Sally Anderson

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

RD7 Otorohanga

Postcode

3977

Email

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Leave it as it is because we are all New Zealanders, as One. There shouldn't be segregation of different races.

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 10 July 2023 9:05:52 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Lee-Anne Kelly

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Te Kuiti

Postcode

3982

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

No one should be put in a council position without working for it like everybody else. We have a large verity of cultures in NZ not just Māori to consider

I am not a robot

From: [John Shannon](#)
 To: [haveyoursay](#)
 Subject: Maori Representation at Council
 Date: Tuesday, 11 July 2023 1:23:58 pm
 Attachments: [IMG_9826.jpg](#)

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Hi,
 Please see my submission attached.



Cheers
 John Shannon
 Inventor | Researcher

--

----- John Shannon In2Go-I Pty Ltd Sent from Gmail Mobile

HAVE YOUR SAY

Waitomo District Council

Name: John Shannon

Organisation/group (if applicable): NGOV CSG's

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y N

Please circle your preferred option:

1) Status-quo 2) Māori wards
 3) A committee with Māori representation
 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

There is too much Māori involvement in NZ at present. TOWA needs to be removed or changed. Besides which Maori are not the indigenous people of NZ, with evidence held under Official Secrets Act (OSA) until 2067 proves Vikings & Celts in NZ 500 years before Maori arrived.

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: [haveyoursay](https://www.govt.nz/submit)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Tuesday, 11 July 2023 6:05:31 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Tanchia Pitts-Brown

Organisation

None

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

RD7

Postcode

3977

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 2 - Māori Wards

Please explain why you have chosen this option

This is my preference i would like Maori to be represented and ensure we are heard across all areas of council

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Wednesday, 12 July 2023 1:54:12 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Fraser Darke

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED], Aria

Postcode

3979

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

because ALL representatives need to be VOTED in regardless of nationality or race. it is extremally raciest to offer one race of people more than another races. all New Zealanders should be able to live as one, under the same laws and opportunities.

I am not a robot

From: [Mark Verry](#)
To: [haveyoursay](#)
Subject: Māori Representation
Date: Wednesday, 12 July 2023 12:02:00 pm
Attachments: [IMG_4222.jpg](#)

cannot vote for Māori ward candidates.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Waitomo District Council

Name: Mark Verry

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: [REDACTED] RDI, Piopio

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y N

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo
- 2) Māori wards
- 3) A committee with Māori representation
- 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

To encourage maximum local Government participation from half of Waitomo population who have historically not been well represented.

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Sunday, 16 July 2023 6:30:17 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Patrick Kelly

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Te Kuiti

Postcode

3982

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

We are all equal. Whoever is in council she have the best interest for everyone in general

I am not a robot

OPTION 3: A committee with Māori representation

A Māori committee is a formal council committee set up to represent Māori interests. If established, this committee would meet to specifically discuss issues relevant to Māori (whānau, iwi, and hapū).

This committee will include some elected members, but unlike the status-quo (TRWK committee), community members will also be appointed. Community members could be representatives from local Whare⁽¹⁾ who would enable broader representation and a greater diversity of Māori perspectives.

Māori committees provide input and expertise into council decision-making processes, in the same way that WDC's existing Audit and Risk Committee provides input into council decisions about risk and compliance.

⁽¹⁾ Whare within the District are made up of representatives of local marae. Whare meet to discuss issues of importance to those marae.

Advantages

Representation on this committee could strengthen Council's ability to consider Māori viewpoints.

Local iwi and hapū could determine the most appropriate people to sit on this committee, providing more diverse representation than Māori seats.

Disadvantages

These appointments won't have a seat at the Council table so do not have as much ability to influence decision making over all Council decisions.

It could be seen as undemocratic to have appointments to a Council committee who have voting rights.

17

HAVE YOUR SAY

Submission No. 013

Doc No. A678448

Waitomo
District Council



Name: D. PETRE

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

PIOPIO 3971

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y N

Please circle your preferred option:

1) Status-quo

2) Māori wards

3) A committee with Māori representation

4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

HAVE YOUR SAY



Name: Cindy Clayton-Greene

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y/N

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo 2) Māori wards
 3) A committee with Māori representation
 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

Council members should be voted on by the general public. If someone wants to be on the council. They can run for election by the public. one man - one vote

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Name: Warren Clayton-Greene

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: [REDACTED] RD8, Tekuiti

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: _____

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y | N

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo 2) Māori wards
 3) A committee with Māori representation
 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

Status-quo seems to work
and only fair that Council members
are voted on (one man one vote).

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 17 July 2023 7:10:30 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Mark Coleman

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Mahoenui 3978

Postcode

3978

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Please, I implore the Council, not to go down the track of dividing

our people even further than we are now. We are one people! We are New Zealanders! We don't need further division! What we do need is cheaper rates for the whole of the Waitomo District. Co governance will only cost us, the rate payers, further pain and suffering. Democracy means exactly what it says! People or Councilors voted in by the people to act as a mouthpiece for the people, that voted them in! It certainly does not mean giving some people a privileged right to stand and govern, without having been voted in by the Waitomo constituents. To even contemplate Co Governance is absurd, not to mention the cost of drawing up, printing and posting such rubbish. I can think of far better ways of spending hard earned rate payers money! It is our core infrastructure that is in dire straits at the moment, that needs massive amounts of funding. ROADING, HEALTH and EDUCATION in that order! To all the Waitomo Council Members. GROW SOME BALLS! and say NO! We cannot afford any further unnecessary costs or charges. At the end of the day it is us, the Ratepayer! and only the Ratepayer who will pay in the long term. Mark Coleman.

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: [haveyoursay](#)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Wednesday, 19 July 2023 4:34:11 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

andrew D'Ath

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Tekuiti RD5

Postcode

3985

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Maori have every right to stand in the election for a place on council and if have every chance any person has. If so desired Maori could stand to have more than two seats on council but if candidates do not put themselves forward now, forcing them to take seats by having Maori wards, who's to say they will represent Maori any better? Let all council members be elected on their merit, skills and wisdom consulting a wider representative together rather than reduce the consultation or representation to two set seats that have potential that potentially reduce consultation and potentially produce bias to favored minorities within the greater Maori community.

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Wednesday, 19 July 2023 7:59:08 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Gloria Wharekawa

Organisation

Phone

Address

Postcode

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 2 - Māori Wards

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Because I can. Thanks.

I am not a robot

Name: Aquarius Macpherson Heta

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: [REDACTED] Waitomo

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y **N**

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo 2) Māori wards
- 3) A committee with Māori representation
- 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation**

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

I believe having both Maori Wards and a committee with Maori representation is essential to ensure Maori are represented completely.
While the Maori Councillors ensure the Maori voice is heard in all parts of the Council meeting, the Committee can ensure our Councillors continue speaking for all Maori

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Sunday, 23 July 2023 1:49:57 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Maurice Dixon

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

TeKuiti 3988

Postcode

3988

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

The council is currently working fine any changes will only cause unnecessary rate increases

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: [haveyoursay](#)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Thursday, 20 July 2023 7:51:28 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Jeff Knight

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Postcode

3910

Email

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

To much say now

I am not a robot

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: [haveyoursay](#)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 24 July 2023 11:14:22 am

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Philip Braiden Bothwell

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Road Kinohaku

Postcode

3988

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

It is important that a Maori viewpoint is actively listened to and

considered for all decisions that significantly impact tangata tiriti and tangata whenua but this must not come at the expense of basic democracy. Progress of all kinds must not be held up by endless unnecessary rigmarole seeking myriad points of view. Neither must there be any significant financial burden to ratepayers from 'cultural consultants' and the like. The best way for Maori to have their view taken into account is to fully engage in the current TRWK system. I will vote for the person best able to do the job irrespective of race or ethnicity. I expect my council to be made of of those same people, not people who have been given a shoe in through undemocratic means.

I am not a robot

Name: Rangihina Ngatai

Organisation/group (if applicable):

Address:

Phone:

Email:



Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? N

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo
- 2) Māori wards
- 3) A committee with Māori representation
- 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

THIS WILL PROVIDE BOTH A LEVEL OF
COUNCIL PERSPECTIVE & LOCAL
PEOPLE IDEOLOGY.

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES.

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
To: [haveyoursay](#)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Sunday, 30 July 2023 10:02:02 am

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Website Form

Form Results

Full Name

Margaret Black

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

RD1 Mokau

Postcode

4376

Email

[REDACTED]

Requirements

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

I don't agree with Māori wards

I am not a robot

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
To: [haveyoursay](#)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 31 July 2023 8:51:15 am

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

David Black

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

R.D. 1 Mokau

Postcode

4376

Email

[REDACTED]

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Don't agree with it as we are all one & it will create more division

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
To: [haveyoursay](#)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Monday, 31 July 2023 1:58:51 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Xavier Turner

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] RD1 Te Kūiti

Postcode

3981

Email

[REDACTED]

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori

representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

I believe it is important to have a Māori ward to allow representation for Māori in our community because, we have every right to sit in spaces that allow us to make decisions over all things that relate to us as tangata whenua in the Waitomo district. I think it's important to have representation not only for Kaumatua, whenua Māori but also Rangatahi Māori as well. As this is the next generation and maybe one day be sitting in those council seats, makes sense to start nurturing and investing in our younger generation.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
To: [haveyoursay](#)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Wednesday, 2 August 2023 1:12:13 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Rachel Howie

Organisation

Phone

Address

Postcode

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Councils should be made from elected officials, based on who the residents feel is best placed to represent them from the pool of candidates. Members who only represent Residents from one group of people based on race is not allowing the council to be equally representative of the people who live in Waitomo.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY



Name: GUY WHITAKER .

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

TE KUTI .

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y N

Please circle your preferred option:

1) Status-quo

2) Māori wards

3) A committee with Māori representation

4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

THERE IS NO GUARANTEE WITH THE STATUS-QUO
THAT ANY MAORI CANDIDATES WILL GET ELECTED TO
COUNCIL BUT THEY ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO
BE ALL MAORI CANDIDATES ELECTED TO COUNCIL,
IT SHOULD BE BEST PEOPLE AVAILABLE TO MAKE
UP COUNCIL + NOT RACIALLY SEGREGATED.

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz

Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz

Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

*postage / i-site

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
To: [haveyoursay](https://www.waitomo.govt.nz/haveyoursay)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Sunday, 6 August 2023 7:00:17 pm

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Ronald McKellar

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] RD, 5.

Postcode

3985

Email

[REDACTED]

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Of the opinion the most suitable people be elected demoratically
rather than a person as a token gesture

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
To: [haveyoursay](#)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Tuesday, 8 August 2023 9:50:01 am

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Maringi Kete

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] RD8 Tahaaroa

Postcode

3988

Email

[REDACTED]

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 2 - Māori Wards

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Tēnā tātou He uri ahau nō Ngāti Mahuta ki te hauāuru, nō Uekaha, nō Te Whakatōhea, nō Tainui anō hoki. Ko Tahaaroa tōku ūkaipō. Ko Maringi Kete tōku ingoa. I am a rangatahi Māori. My whānau have lived in Tahaaroa, Marokopa and Waitomo for many years. I have selected Option 2 - Māori wards. The reason for my decision is because I would like to see enhanced representation of Māori at Waitomo District Council. I see this option enabling more direct input into decision making by Māori and voting rights on Council. I see this as a way for addressing obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and a greater way for Māori representation from the community.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY

Submission No. 031

Doc No. A681673


Waitomo
District Council

Name: James Waretini

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

st Tkt

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y | N

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo
- 2) Māori wards
- 3) A committee with Māori representation
- 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

RECEIVED

1 AUG 2023

BY:

Diane

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

My decision seems to allow
Maori to have a fair representation
at Council's TABLE.

We have a Saying, Kanohi ki te
Kanohi (face to face) to settle
any disputes, Maori Wards allow for this.

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
To: [haveyoursay](#)
Subject: The Form "Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council" was submitted
Date: Sunday, 13 August 2023 9:44:56 am

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Kim Graeme Osborne

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] Rd 8 Te Kuiti

Postcode

3988

Email

[REDACTED]

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

New Zealand is a democratic country that prides itself on giving every person a fair go and if we start to be divisive by our ethnicity our country will be reinventing apartheid.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY

46

Submission No. 033

Doc No. A685049

RECEIVED Waitomo District Council

Name: Doug OLIVER.

Organisation/group (if applicable):

[REDACTED]

R4 P10910

Phone:

[REDACTED]

Email:

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y | N

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo
- 2) Māori wards
- 3) A committee with Māori representation
- 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

AS FAR AS I AM AWARE NZ IS STILL A DEMOCRACY 1 PERSON 1 VOTE TO ELECT OUR COUNCIL. I DONT SEE WHY A PRIVILEGED FEW PEOPLE BASED ON RACE CAN LOOPT WHOEVER THEY LIKE WITH NO SAY FROM THE REST OF US RATEPAYERS.

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

What's the process??

47

This consultation document has been sent to households within the Waitomo District. We are seeking feedback and submissions from iwi, mana whenua, Māori and the general population.

Submissions are open until Sunday 17 September 2023.

Following the close of submissions, the Council will hold hearings for anyone wanting to speak to their submission.

This is not a vote, but your input is hugely important. Following the hearings, the Council will make a decision on Māori Representation for the next election.

Want to chat to us in person?

There will be a drop-in session on Thursday 17 August 2023 from 3pm-6pm at Railway Building 3 on Rora Street, Te Kūiti.



Submission No. 033

Frequent Questions

What is a Māori ward?

A Māori ward would be an electoral roll based on the Māori population, currently the Māori ward.

Who votes in the Māori ward?

Anyone who is registered on the electoral roll within the Māori ward.

How many Māori voters would we have?

It is based on the Māori population, currently the Māori ward.

Who could stand as a Māori candidate?

Anyone who is eligible to stand for a general election.

Read more



SO DO WE DO AWAY WITH 2 DEMOCRATICALLY
ELECTED COUNCILLORS TO MAKE WAY FOR THEM
OR DO WE ADD 2 EXTRA COOPTED PEOPLE
TO ~~THE~~ COUNCIL AT MORE EXPENSE TO THE
ALREADY OVER BURDENED RATEPAYER

R. D. Oliver

HAVE YOUR SAY

49

Submission No. 034

Doc No. A685050

RECEIVED

Waitomo
District Council

25 AUG 2023

WAITOMO DISTRICT
COUNCIL

Name: J. Darlington

Organisation/group (if applicable):

Address:



Road

Phone:

Email:



Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y | N

Please circle your preferred option:

1) Status-quo

2) Māori wards

3) A committee with Māori representation

4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

The status-quo represents the whole community fairly and provides for fair democracy and representation of all of the "unique" cultural identities of people who have made Waitomā their homes. The Treaty of Waitangi is for all people of NZ. let that be true.

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

What's the process??

50

This consultation document has been sent to households within the Waitomo District. We are seeking feedback and submissions from iwi, mana whenua, Māori and the general population.

Submissions are open until Sunday 17 September 2023.

Following the close of submissions, the Council will hold hearings for anyone wanting to speak to their submission.

This is not a vote, but your input is hugely important. Following the hearings, the Council will make a decision on Māori Representation for the next election.

Want to chat to us in person?
There will be a drop-in session on Thursday 17 August 2023 from 3pm-6pm at Railway Building 3 on Rora Street, Te Kūiti.



Submission No. 034

Frequent Questions

What is a Māori ward?

A Māori ward would be a ward with a high proportion of the Māori population, and a high proportion of the Māori population.

Who votes in the Māori ward?

Anyone who is registered on the electoral roll within the Māori ward.

How many Māori would we have?

It is based on the Māori population, currently the Māori population in the Māori ward.

Who could stand as a Māori councillor?

Anyone who is eligible to stand as a general councillor.

Read more



From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Saturday, 26 August 2023 11:04 am
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Titia Allaries

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] RD 8

Postcode

3988

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 2 - Māori Wards

Please explain why you have chosen this option

It is the most powerful way for the Maori views to be expressed because of the legal status of the representation. But like all improvements it will have to be supported by educating the younger generation in the importance of voting in elections when they reach the voting age. Introducing lessons at primary and secondary school on how the democratic system in New Zealand works on national and local level is important.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Wednesday, 30 August 2023 8:16 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Toni Brown

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] Te Kuiti

Postcode

3910

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

I feel this will provide the best representation for Māori within our region.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Thursday, 31 August 2023 10:47 am
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Leah Taratu

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] Piopio

Postcode

3912

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

I want Maori to have a voice

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

Submission on Māori Representation at Council (Waitomo): Fostering Inclusive Participation

“As mana whenua and tangata whenua, it is incumbent upon us to steadfastly uphold the sacred tenets of stewarding our precious whenua, hau, wai, tai, and the oranga of the people – which in turn sustain the holistic well-being of our communities – an intricate web of interconnected lives.

Our important ties through whakapapa, nurtured through generations and woven into the very fabric of our existence, bestow upon us a spiritual kinship with the taiao. This connection mandates that we champion its preservation for posterity, safeguarding an inheritance that exceeds our individuality, blends into a collective consciousness that combines whakaaro and moemoeā in harmonious unison. Echoing the wisdom of the tongikura a Kīngi Tāwhiao: "Ki te kotahi te kākaho, ka whati; ki te kāpuia, e kore e whati" – a single reed may falter, yet a multitude interwoven stands indomitable.

As guardians of the taiao, our focus is intrinsically attuned to te Hauāuru – the West, a realm where our interests are connected. There lies a tūpatotanga, a danger, that these interests, deeply rooted in a mosaic of beliefs, might remain unrecognised, unrepresented, and consequently misconstrued without the valuable presence and insights of tangata whenua, of mana whenua. Māori perspectives and worldviews, steeped in wisdom, lend an important texture to the deliberations of council decision-makers and leaders, enriching their guidance immeasurably.

Historically, the omission of Māori voices from pivotal decision-making processes within Council chambers, that inevitably ripple through the fabric of our lives has been an appalling reality. Yet, the tides of change beckon, offering the prospect of authentic Council representation that mirrors the intricate threads by which we, as Māori, are interwoven with the tapestry of our taiao. Such a transformational shift would not only resonate deeply within our own community but reverberate as an inclusive force nurturing the entirety of our shared society.

In conclusion, let it be resoundingly acknowledged that the infusion and real inclusion of genuine and authentic Māori perspectives into the Council's ranks constitutes an enormous leap towards a brighter collective future, not just for the councils but for society overall. As mana whenua, our connections to the taiao is indeed multifaceted, and by embracing this truth, we pave the way for a future in which the dividends of unity, insight, and sustainable growth are reaped by all sectors of our diverse community, our marae, our hapū, our iwi.

Kāre he hau e rite ana ki te hauāuru, ka pupuhi ana, ka ngaro katoa ngā hau. There is no wind like the west wind, when it blows, all other winds are quiet.”

(Na Taituwaha King 2023)

Tena koutou katoa,

We (Mirumiru Pa ki Marokopa and Kiritehere mana whenua) are writing to share mana whenua perspectives on the options available for encouraging Māori participation in Council decision making, as part of the review of Māori Representation at Council. We appreciate this opportunity to contribute to the shaping of our local governance structure.

Recognizing Māori Heritage

Our district, situated within Te Rohe Pōtae King Country and Waikato Hapu, Iwi, boundaries which holds profound history in the the rohe. With a significant Māori population, it is imperative that our Council structure respects and incorporates the diverse perspectives, values, and cultural heritage of our intrinsic values and beliefs as Mana whenua.

Nurturing Inclusive Engagement

It is essential that Council decisions are inclusive and reflective of the entire community's voices. Meaningful mana whenua representation is not merely symbolic but an avenue to ensure that Māori viewpoints are actively considered in matters affecting our district. Strengthened Māori representation is vital to balance potential decisions that may overlook Māori perspectives.

Evaluating Potential Options

Māori Wards: The creation of dedicated Māori wards can provide direct representation for Māori at the Council level. This concept, parallel to Māori seats in Parliament, honours the distinctive cultural identity of Māori communities and promotes diversity within the Council. However, challenges emerge in the attempt to include a diverse range of Māori perspectives within a

limited number of seats.

Māori Committee: Forming a Māori committee, inclusive of elected members and community representatives, can foster in depth discussions about topics relevant to Māori interests. This approach offers a broader spectrum of viewpoints and expertise, enriching the decision-making process. However, it might not give the same degree of influence on Council decisions as Māori ward representatives.

Hybrid Approach - Māori Ward and Committee Combination: A blend of the above methods could potentially address the limitations of each individually. This hybrid approach might allow for both direct representation and diverse discussions through a committee featuring community representatives. Such an approach recognises the value of both Māori perspectives and community expertise.

Recommendations

Upon careful consideration, we advocate for (Option 4) Maori wards and Committee, however, we still think that more research could have introduced more examples of innovative models. This path of action capitalises on the advantages of direct representation within the Council while concurrently fostering extensive conversations via a committee comprising community representatives. This approach highlights the importance of both Māori viewpoints and localised expertise in shaping the path of our hapori.

Inclusion of Hapū Groups

We thank the Council's commitment to strengthening its ties with local hapū, Marae, whanau and Iwi. As this review unfolds, it's crucial to acknowledge the essential role of hapū and Paa groups in the decision-making process. Their unique perspectives and close connection to our community's heritage deserve consideration in any chosen model of Māori representation.

Final Thoughts

In conclusion, we need the Council to grab this key moment to design a governance structure that mirrors the values and beliefs of Mana whenua of each area. The available options open avenues for various voices to be heard, and a hybrid approach of Māori Ward and Māori Committee appears to be a practical means to ensure balanced representation and meaningful participation in our local affairs.

We would also like to suggest a timeline put in place to give us the opportunity to work with the council to talk with our whanau and people about their ideas of Models. We support the hamilton City council Model of Mangai and Maori seats. This should be explored more.

Thank you for your dedication to promoting an inclusive community, and I look forward to witnessing the positive impacts that will stem from this review.

Nga mihi,

Natasha Willison
Taiao Representative for
Mirumiru Paa ki Marokopa
Kiritehere

Innovative Models around the world:

Native American Tribal Councils and Sovereignty (United States and Canada):

Many Native American tribes in the United States and Indigenous nations in Canada have established governance structures that include tribal councils with decision-making authority. These councils often integrate traditional customs and values with modern governance principles. This model emphasises tribal sovereignty, self-determination, and community involvement in decision-making.

Preservation of Cultural Heritage: Tribal councils ensure that traditional customs, languages, and values are integrated into governance, preserving cultural heritage for future generations. **Empowerment and Self-Determination:** Indigenous nations have the authority to make decisions that reflect their unique needs and aspirations, empowering communities to shape their own destinies.

Holistic Decision-Making: Tribal councils often take a holistic approach, considering the social, economic, and environmental impacts of decisions on the community.

Direct Accountability: Leaders are often accessible to community members, fostering a sense of direct accountability and transparency in decision-making.

Community Involvement: Decisions are often made collectively, promoting community involvement and consensus-building

Treaty Councils (Canada and United States):

Some Indigenous nations in North America have established treaty councils to negotiate and implement agreements with federal and state governments. These councils ensure that indigenous voices are heard in matters affecting their territories and resources. The negotiation and collaboration aspects of this model could inform mechanisms for Māori engagement and representation.

- **Sovereign Relationships:** Treaty councils strengthen the negotiation and implementation of agreements, ensuring that indigenous sovereignty and rights are respected.
- **Influence on Policy:** Treaty councils can influence policies and regulations that directly affect indigenous lands, resources, and communities.
- **Inter-Governmental Collaboration:** These councils facilitate collaboration between indigenous nations and state or federal governments, promoting dialogue and cooperation.
- **Preservation of Land and Resources:** Treaty councils advocate for the protection and sustainable use of ancestral lands and resources.
- **Recognition of Nationhood:** The establishment of treaty councils can be a step toward recognising the nationhood of indigenous communities within the broader legal framework.

Indigenous Parliaments (Australia):

Indigenous Australians have explored the concept of Indigenous parliaments or assemblies to provide a dedicated space for discussing and advocating for indigenous rights and interests. These parliaments are designed to complement the existing government structures and provide a voice for Indigenous peoples on a broader scale.

- **Dedicated Representation:** Indigenous parliaments provide dedicated spaces for indigenous voices to be heard and represented on a national or regional level.
- **Advocacy and Lobbying:** These bodies can advocate for indigenous rights, policies, and resources at a larger scale, ensuring better recognition.
- **Cultural Reaffirmation:** Indigenous parliaments reinforce cultural identity, allowing traditional practices and knowledge to influence contemporary governance.
- **Policy Development:** Indigenous parliaments can contribute to the development of policies that address the specific needs of indigenous communities.

- **Inter-Governmental Relations:** These parliaments facilitate communication between indigenous communities and state governments, fostering collaboration

Customary Law Courts (Various Countries):

In some indigenous communities, customary law courts operate alongside the state legal systems to address legal matters using traditional customary practices and principles. Integrating such mechanisms could enhance indigenous representation and decision-making in matters that intersect both customary practices and modern governance.

- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Customary law courts ensure that legal matters are addressed with cultural sensitivity, respecting traditional norms and values.
- **Local Knowledge:** These courts rely on local knowledge and traditions, often resulting in decisions that align closely with community values.
- **Community Empowerment:** Decisions are made within the community, empowering individuals to actively participate in dispute resolution.
- **Effective Conflict Resolution:** Customary law courts often resolve conflicts efficiently, as they are rooted in community consensus and shared values.
- **Restorative Justice:** These courts focus on restoring harmony and relationships rather than punitive measures, promoting healing.

Community-Driven Decision-Making (Various Countries):

Many indigenous communities around the world emphasise community-driven decision-making models that involve consensus-based approaches and prioritise local knowledge and values. These models could influence Māori representation by promoting inclusive, participatory, and localized governance.

- **Cultural Relevance:** Community-driven models ensure that decisions align with cultural practices, customs, and beliefs.
- **Inclusive Participation:** All community members have the opportunity to contribute to decision-making,

fostering inclusivity.

- **Localized Solutions:** Decisions are tailored to the unique needs of each community, addressing specific challenges effectively.
- **Ownership and Responsibility:** Community members take ownership of decisions and are invested in their outcomes, leading to more sustainable solutions.
- **Empowerment and Ownership:** Community-driven models empower individuals to take control of their own development and future.

Cultural Advisory Committees (Various Countries):

Some regions have established cultural advisory committees within government structures to provide expert advice on matters related to indigenous culture, heritage, and representation. These committees could be integrated to enhance Māori representation in local council decisions.

- **Expert Cultural Insights:** These committees provide expert guidance on cultural matters, ensuring decisions are well informed and respectful.
- **Cultural Impact Assessment:** Committees assess the potential cultural impact of policies and projects, helping prevent harm to indigenous heritage.
- **Bridge between Worlds:** Cultural advisory committees facilitate communication and understanding between indigenous communities and governing bodies.
- **Policy Alignment:** These committees ensure that policies align with indigenous cultural values, fostering recognition and respect.
- **Cultural Education:** By engaging with cultural advisory committees, governing bodies gain a deeper understanding of indigenous cultures and

histories.

Referencing: Research

Māori Representation and Local Government

Author: Andrew Erueti Source: Victoria University of Wellington Law Review, Volume 40, 2010 This article discusses the challenges and opportunities of Māori representation in local government, providing insights into the legal and practical aspects of various representation models.

- Discusses the legal and practical challenges of implementing Māori representation in local government.
- Explores the concept of "tino rangatiratanga" and how it can be integrated into governance structures.
- Highlights the importance of culturally appropriate methods of representation.
- Emphasizes the need for consultation with Māori communities to determine effective representation models.

Outcome: **Culturally Responsive Decision-Making Processes** • Establish culturally appropriate consultation mechanisms that respect Māori tikanga (protocols) and values.

- Develop guidelines for council engagement with Māori communities to ensure respectful and effective communication.
- Develop resources to educate council members and staff about Māori cultural norms and values. (localised)
- Implement a structured process for incorporating Māori viewpoints into council discussions, ensuring cultural sensitivity.

Māori Representation in Local Government Decision Making: The Case of Auckland Council

Author: Ann Dysart
Source: Policy Quarterly, Volume 10, Issue 2, 2014
This paper explores the Māori representation model in the context of Auckland Council and evaluates its effectiveness in promoting Māori participation and influence in decision-making processes.

- Examines the unique context of Auckland Council's representation model and its relevance to Māori communities.
- Discusses the significance of the Māori statutory board and its effectiveness in ensuring Māori representation.
- Explores the concept of shared decision-making between the council and Māori representatives.
- Analyses the challenges of balancing representation with the need for effective governance.
- Establish a formal mechanism for council and Māori statutory board members to collaborate on the development of policies and strategies.
- Create a joint committee to oversee projects of mutual interest, ensuring equal input from both parties.

Māori Participation and Representation in Local Government Decision Making

Author: Juliet Gerrard
Source: Local Government New Zealand, 2013
This report delves into the challenges and potential solutions for Māori representation and participation in local government decision-making, discussing the implications of various models.

- Explores the potential benefits of dedicated Māori wards or committees in enhancing Māori representation.
- Discusses ways to address historical disparities and promote equitable participation.
- Highlights examples of successful collaboration between local government

and Māori communities.

- Emphasizes the role of trust-building and relationship building in effective Māori representation.

Outcome: **Effective Shared Decision-Making**

- Establish collaborative mechanisms where the Māori statutory board collaborates with the council on significant decisions.
- Develop protocols for respectful engagement between the council and Māori representatives.
- Establish a formal mechanism for council and Māori statutory board members to collaborate on the development of policies and strategies.
- Create a joint committee to oversee projects of mutual interest, ensuring equal input from both parties.
- Organise regular community forums where Māori ward or committee members engage directly with Māori constituents to gather input.
- Develop training programs that empower Māori community members to actively participate in council meetings and discussions.

Māori Participation in Local Government Decision Making: Rotorua District Council and Māori Wardens

Author: Bevan Tipene-Matua Source: AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples, Volume 8, Issue 2, 2012 This article examines the role of Māori Wardens in enhancing Māori participation in decision-making processes, shedding light on the practical aspects of one particular model.

- Examines the role of Māori Wardens in facilitating Māori participation in local government.
- Discusses the importance of building bridges between Māori communities and local authorities.
- Highlights the need for proactive engagement and initiatives to ensure meaningful representation.
- Provides insights into community-led models of representation and

engagement.

- Collaborate with Māori Wardens to organize workshops that facilitate open conversations between local communities and council representatives.
- Establish a dedicated fund to support community-driven projects that address specific needs identified through engagement

Representation and Participation: Māori in New Zealand Local Government

Author: Tahu Kukutai
Source: National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis, University of Waikato, 2003
This research paper provides an overview of Māori representation and participation in local government, discussing both historical context and contemporary developments.

- Explores the historical context of Māori representation in local government and its evolution.
- Discusses the challenges of ensuring effective representation for diverse Māori communities.
- Highlights the significance of cultural competence and understanding within local government bodies.
- Provides a foundation for understanding the various representation models and their implications.
- Develop cultural competence training modules for council members, focusing on building relationships and understanding Māori perspectives.
- Encourage council representatives to attend local Māori events and marae visits to deepen their cultural understanding.

Representation and Local Government in Aotearoa New Zealand: A Critical Examination of Legal Frameworks and Political Engagement

Author: Brad Coombes
Source: Political Science, Volume 68, Issue 2, 2016
This article offers a critical analysis of legal frameworks and political engagement concerning Māori representation in local government, addressing the advantages and disadvantages of various models.

These resources should provide you with valuable insights and academic perspectives to support your submission.

- Critically evaluates the legal frameworks governing Māori representation in local government.
- Discusses the implications of different models on Māori political engagement and representation.
- Highlights the importance of recognizing the diversity of Māori communities and their unique needs.
- Addresses potential tensions between promoting Māori representation and maintaining democratic processes. • Implement rotational representation where different Māori communities take turns to provide representatives, ensuring broader inclusion.
- Establish a network of Māori advisors who can contribute their expertise to council decisions without having a formal voting role.

Submission on Māori Representation at Council: Fostering Inclusive Participation

Tena koutou katoa,

I am writing to share my personal perspective on the options available for encouraging Māori participation in Council decision-making, as part of the review of Māori Representation at Council. We appreciate this opportunity to contribute to the shaping of our local governance structure.

Hitiri Koorero – na Taituwaha King

Our important ties through whakapapa, nurtured through generations and woven into the very fabric of our existence, bestow upon us a spiritual kinship with the taiao. This connection mandates that we champion its preservation for posterity, safeguarding an inheritance that exceeds our individuality, blends into a collective consciousness that combines whakaaro and moemoeā in harmonious unison. Echoing the wisdom of the tongikura a Kīngi Tāwhiao: "Ki te kotahi te kākaho, ka whati; ki te kāpuia, e kore e whati" – a single reed may falter, yet a multitude interwoven stands indomitable.

As guardians of the taiao, our focus is intrinsically attuned to te Hauāuru – the West, a realm where our interests are connected. There lies a tūpatotanga, a danger, that these interests, deeply rooted in a mosaic of beliefs, might remain unrecognised, unrepresented, and consequently misconstrued without the valuable presence and insights of tangata whenua, of mana whenua. Māori perspectives and worldviews, steeped in wisdom, lend an important texture to the deliberations of council decision-makers and leaders, enriching their guidance immeasurably.

Historically, the omission of Māori voices from pivotal decision-making processes within Council chambers, that inevitably ripple through the fabric of our lives has been an appalling reality. Yet, the tides of change beckon, offering the prospect of authentic Council representation that mirrors the intricate threads by which we, as Māori, are interwoven with the tapestry of our taiao. Such a transformational shift would not only resonate deeply within our own community but reverberate as an inclusive force nurturing the entirety of our shared society.

In conclusion, let it be resoundingly acknowledged that the infusion and real inclusion of genuine and authentic Māori perspectives into the Council's ranks constitutes an enormous leap towards a brighter collective future, not just for the councils but for society overall. As mana whenua, our connections to the taiao is indeed multifaceted, and by embracing this truth, we pave the way for a future in which the dividends of unity, insight, and sustainable growth are reaped by all sectors of our diverse community, our marae, our hapū, our iwi.

“Kāre he hau e rite ana ki te hauāuru, ka pupuhi ana, ka ngaro katoa ngā hau. There is no wind like the west wind, when it blows, all other winds are quite”.

Recognizing Māori Heritage

Our district, situated within Te Rohe Pōtae King Country and Waikato Hapu, Iwi, boundaries which holds profound history in the the rohe. With a significant Māori population, it is imperative that our Council structure respects and incorporates the diverse perspectives, values, and cultural heritage of our intrinsic values and beliefs as Mana whenua.

Embedding Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the Fabric of Council: A Path to Equitable Representation

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is the foundational document in New Zealand's history, signifying the agreement and partnership between Tangata Whenua and the British Crown. Te Tiriti consists of four articles, each carrying a distinct set of principles that underscore the rights, responsibilities, and relationships between the parties involved. To honour the spirit and intent of Te Tiriti, it is essential to embed its principles into the very fabric of local councils, ensuring equitable representation and fostering genuine partnerships.

Article One: Protection of Māori Authority

Article One recognizes Māori as tangata whenua (people of the land) and safeguards their authority over their lands, possessions, and treasures. For local councils, this article calls for the recognition and respect of Māori sovereignty over our traditional territories. Embedding Article One involves:

Land Acknowledgment: Begin council meetings and public events with a land acknowledgment that pays respect to the Mana whenua of the land.

Co-Design of Policies: Involve Mana whenua in the co-design of policies that impact their communities, allowing them to exercise authority over their own affairs.

Cultural Impact Assessments: Implement cultural impact assessments for projects and policies to ensure that they respect Mana whenua and spiritual values at all levels.

Article Two: Partnership and Equitable Treatment

Article Two establishes a partnership between Māori and the Crown, ensuring that Māori retain their sovereignty while allowing the Crown to govern. To embody this principle in local councils:

Representation Models: Develop representative structures that ensure Mana whenua have meaningful participation in decision-making, reflecting the partnership aspect of Te Tiriti.

Resource Sharing: Collaboratively allocate resources to address disparities and promote equitable distribution of benefits and services among all communities.

Joint Decision-Making: Create mechanisms for joint decision-making between Māori representatives and council members on matters directly affecting Māori.

Article Three: Protection of Rights and Equal Treatment

Article Three guarantees equal rights and protection to all New Zealanders, irrespective of their cultural background. To integrate this principle:

Article Four: Protection of Rights and Equal Treatment

Article Three guarantees equal rights and protection to all New Zealanders, irrespective of their cultural background. To integrate this principle:

Cultural Competency Training: Offer cultural competency training for council staff to ensure that services are delivered in a culturally sensitive manner. Ensure Mana whenua of those areas deliver this as it is different for each area.

Inclusive Engagement: Promote inclusive engagement with Mana whenua in all stages of policy development and implementation.

Recognition of Cultural Diversity: Celebrate and acknowledge the rich diversity of cultures within Māori communities.

Conclusion: Building Stronger Communities Through Partnership

Embedding the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi into the fabric of local councils signifies a commitment to partnership, equity, and respect. By acknowledging Mana whenua, fostering partnership, and ensuring equal treatment, local councils can contribute to building stronger, more inclusive communities where Māori voices are heard, valued, and integrated into the decision-making process. Embracing the spirit of Te Tiriti is not just a legal obligation; it is a powerful means of enriching local governance and fostering cultural understanding.

Integrating He Whakaputanga into Council Representation for Māori Empowerment

He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirene, often referred to as the Declaration of Independence of New Zealand, holds immense cultural significance as a prelude to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Integrating the principles and spirit of He Whakaputanga into council representation for Māori can be a powerful step toward genuine empowerment and partnership. By recognizing the unique authority of Mana whenua and their aspiration for self-determination, local councils can enhance Māori representation in a more holistic manner.

Recognition of Māori Sovereignty:

1. **Community Presence:** Establish advisory bodies or committees within councils that directly represent Māori communities and are guided by the principles of He Whakaputanga.
2. **Protocols and Ceremonies:** Include protocols in council proceedings to acknowledge the cultural sovereignty embedded in He Whakaputanga.

Community-Driven Decision-Making:

1. **Māori-led Initiatives:** Collaborate with Māori leaders to develop initiatives and policies that align with the principles of self-determination outlined in He Whakaputanga.
2. **Local Governance Structures:** Explore the creation of local governance structures that draw inspiration from He Whakaputanga, enabling Māori communities to make decisions that directly affect them.

Resource Management and Guardianship:

1. Environmental Stewardship: Partner with Māori to establish environmental management practices based on Māori concepts of guardianship, as highlighted in He Whakaputanga.
2. Cultural Landscaping: Engage Māori in the preservation and enhancement of cultural landscapes, reflecting the ancestral connection emphasized in He Whakaputanga.

Inter-Cultural Partnerships:

1. Cultural Exchange: All council members to participate in cultural exchange programs with Māori communities to deepen mutual understanding and respect.
2. Joint Initiatives: Collaborate with Māori on joint projects that honour He Whakaputanga's vision of partnership and shared aspirations.

Education and Awareness:

1. Curriculum Integration: Advocate for the integration of He Whakaputanga into educational curricula, fostering awareness of Māori history and aspirations in all decision making in councils.
2. Public Spaces: Erect taonga tuku iho or information panels about He Whakaputanga in public spaces, promoting a broader understanding of its significance.

Integrating He Whakaputanga's principles into council representation acknowledges Māori as the original Kaitiaki of the land and affirms their aspirations for self-determination. By

weaving the Wairua of He Whakaputanga into local governance, councils honours Māori authority, foster meaningful partnerships, and contribute to the empowerment of Māori communities. This integration isn't just symbolic; it's a commitment to recognizing Māori as valued partners in the shared journey toward a partnership.

Nurturing Inclusive Engagement

It is essential that Council decisions are inclusive and reflective of the entire community's voices. Meaningful mana whenua representation is not merely symbolic but an avenue to ensure that Māori viewpoints are actively considered in matters affecting our district. Strengthened Māori representation is vital to balance potential decisions that may overlook Māori perspectives.

Evaluating Potential Options

Māori Wards: The creation of dedicated Māori wards can provide direct representation for Māori at the Council level. This concept, parallel to Māori seats in Parliament, honours the distinctive cultural identity of Māori communities and promotes diversity within the Council. However, challenges emerge in the attempt to include a diverse range of Māori perspectives within a limited number of seats.

Māori Committee: Forming a Māori committee, inclusive of elected members and community representatives, can foster in-depth discussions about topics relevant to Māori interests. This approach offers a broader spectrum of viewpoints and expertise, enriching the decision-making process. However, it might not give the same degree of influence on Council decisions as Māori ward representatives.

Hybrid Approach - Māori Ward and Committee Combination:

A blend of the above methods could potentially address the limitations of each individually. This hybrid approach might allow for both direct representation and diverse discussions through a committee featuring community representatives. Such an approach recognises the value of both Māori perspectives and community expertise.

Recommendations

Upon careful consideration, I advocate for (Option 4) Maori wards and Committee, however, we still think that more research could have introduced more examples of innovate models. This path of action capitalises on the advantages of direct representation within the Council while concurrently fostering extensive conversations via a committee comprising community

representatives. This approach highlights the importance of both Māori viewpoints and localised expertise in shaping the path of our hapori.

Inclusion of Hapū Groups

We thank the Council's commitment to strengthening its ties with local hapū, Marae, whanau and Iwi. As this review unfolds, it's crucial to acknowledge the essential role of hapū groups in the decision-making process. Their unique perspectives and close connection to our community's heritage deserve consideration in any chosen model of Māori representation.

Final Thoughts

In conclusion, the Council could use this moment to design a governance structure that mirrors the values and beliefs of Mana whenua of each area. The available options open avenues for various voices to be heard, and a hybrid approach of Māori Ward and Māori Committee appears to be a practical means to ensure balanced representation and meaningful participation in our local affairs.

Thank you for your dedication to promoting an inclusive community, and we look forward to witnessing the positive impacts that will stem from this review.

Nga mihi,

Natasha Willison
From
Marokopa
Kiritehere

Tahaaroa Kawhia

Innovative Models around the world:

Native American Tribal Councils and Sovereignty (United States and Canada):

Many Native American tribes in the United States and Indigenous nations in Canada have established governance structures that include tribal councils with decision-making authority. These councils often integrate traditional customs and values with modern governance principles. This model emphasises tribal sovereignty, self-determination, and community involvement in decision-making.

Preservation of Cultural Heritage: Tribal councils ensure that traditional customs, languages, and values are integrated into governance, preserving cultural heritage for future generations.

Empowerment and Self-Determination: Indigenous nations have the authority to make decisions that reflect their unique needs and aspirations, empowering communities to shape their own destinies.

Holistic Decision-Making: Tribal councils often take a holistic approach, considering the social, economic, and environmental impacts of decisions on the community.

Direct Accountability: Leaders are often accessible to community members, fostering a sense of direct accountability and transparency in decision-making.

Community Involvement: Decisions are often made collectively, promoting community involvement and consensus-building

Treaty Councils (Canada and United States):

Some Indigenous nations in North America have established treaty councils to negotiate and implement agreements with federal and state governments. These councils ensure that indigenous voices are heard in matters affecting their territories and resources. The negotiation and collaboration aspects of this model could inform mechanisms for Māori engagement and representation.

- **Sovereign Relationships:** Treaty councils strengthen the negotiation and implementation of agreements, ensuring that indigenous sovereignty and rights are respected.
- **Influence on Policy:** Treaty councils can influence policies and regulations that directly affect indigenous lands, resources, and communities.
- **Inter-Governmental Collaboration:** These councils facilitate collaboration between indigenous nations and state or federal governments, promoting dialogue and cooperation.
- **Preservation of Land and Resources:** Treaty councils advocate for the protection and sustainable use of ancestral lands and resources.
- **Recognition of Nationhood:** The establishment of treaty councils can be a step toward recognising the nationhood of indigenous communities within the broader legal framework.

Indigenous Parliaments (Australia):

Indigenous Australians have explored the concept of Indigenous parliaments or assemblies to provide a dedicated space for discussing and advocating for indigenous rights and interests. These parliaments are designed to complement the existing government structures and provide a voice for Indigenous peoples on a broader scale.

- **Dedicated Representation:** Indigenous parliaments provide dedicated spaces for indigenous voices to be heard and represented on a national or regional level.
- **Advocacy and Lobbying:** These bodies can advocate for indigenous rights, policies, and resources at a larger scale, ensuring better recognition.
- **Cultural Reaffirmation:** Indigenous parliaments reinforce cultural identity, allowing traditional practices and knowledge to influence contemporary governance.
- **Policy Development:** Indigenous parliaments can contribute to the development of policies that address the specific needs of indigenous communities.
- **Inter-Governmental Relations:** These parliaments facilitate communication between indigenous communities and state governments, fostering collaboration

Customary Law Courts (Various Countries):

In some indigenous communities, customary law courts operate alongside the state legal systems to address legal matters using traditional customary practices and principles. Integrating such mechanisms could enhance indigenous representation and decision-making in matters that intersect both customary practices and modern governance.

- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Customary law courts ensure that legal matters are addressed with cultural sensitivity, respecting traditional norms and values.
- **Local Knowledge:** These courts rely on local knowledge and traditions, often resulting in decisions that align closely with community values.
- **Community Empowerment:** Decisions are made within the community, empowering individuals to actively participate in dispute resolution.
- **Effective Conflict Resolution:** Customary law courts often resolve conflicts efficiently, as they are rooted in community consensus and shared values.
- **Restorative Justice:** These courts focus on restoring harmony and relationships rather than punitive measures, promoting healing.

Community-Driven Decision-Making (Various Countries):

Many indigenous communities around the world emphasise community-driven decision-making models that involve consensus-based approaches and prioritise local knowledge and values. These models could influence Māori representation by promoting inclusive, participatory, and localized governance.

- **Cultural Relevance:** Community-driven models ensure that decisions align with cultural practices, customs, and beliefs.
- **Inclusive Participation:** All community members have the opportunity to contribute to decision-making, fostering inclusivity.
- **Localized Solutions:** Decisions are tailored to the unique needs of each community, addressing specific challenges effectively.
- **Ownership and Responsibility:** Community members take ownership of decisions and are invested in their outcomes, leading to more sustainable solutions.
- **Empowerment and Ownership:** Community-driven models empower individuals to take control of their own development and future.

Cultural Advisory Committees (Various Countries):

Some regions have established cultural advisory committees within government structures to provide expert advice on matters related to indigenous culture, heritage, and representation. These committees could be integrated to enhance Māori representation in local council decisions.

- **Expert Cultural Insights:** These committees provide expert guidance on cultural matters, ensuring decisions are well-informed and respectful.
- **Cultural Impact Assessment:** Committees assess the potential cultural impact of policies and projects, helping prevent harm to indigenous heritage.
- **Bridge between Worlds:** Cultural advisory committees facilitate communication and understanding between indigenous communities and governing bodies.

- **Policy Alignment:** These committees ensure that policies align with indigenous cultural values, fostering recognition and respect.
- **Cultural Education:** By engaging with cultural advisory committees, governing bodies gain a deeper understanding of indigenous cultures and histories.

Referencing: Research

Māori Representation and Local Government Author: Andrew Erueti Source: Victoria University of Wellington Law Review, Volume 40, 2010 This article discusses the challenges and opportunities of Māori representation in local government, providing insights into the legal and practical aspects of various representation models.

- Discusses the legal and practical challenges of implementing Māori representation in local government.
- Explores the concept of "tino rangatiratanga" and how it can be integrated into governance structures.
- Highlights the importance of culturally appropriate methods of representation.
- Emphasizes the need for consultation with Māori communities to determine effective representation models.

Outcome: **Culturally Responsive Decision-Making Processes**

- Establish culturally appropriate consultation mechanisms that respect Māori tikanga (protocols) and values.
- Develop guidelines for council engagement with Māori communities to ensure respectful and effective communication.
- Develop resources to educate council members and staff about Māori cultural norms and values. (localised)
- Implement a structured process for incorporating Māori viewpoints into council discussions, ensuring cultural sensitivity.

Māori Representation in Local Government Decision Making:

The Case of Auckland Council Author: Ann Dysart Source: Policy Quarterly, Volume 10, Issue 2, 2014 This paper explores the Māori representation model in the context of Auckland Council and evaluates its effectiveness in promoting Māori participation and influence in decision-making processes.

- Examines the unique context of Auckland Council's representation model and its relevance to Māori communities.
- Discusses the significance of the Māori statutory board and its effectiveness in ensuring Māori representation.
- Explores the concept of shared decision-making between the council and Māori representatives.
- Analyses the challenges of balancing representation with the need for effective governance.
- Establish a formal mechanism for council and Māori statutory board members to collaborate on the development of policies and strategies.
- Create a joint committee to oversee projects of mutual interest, ensuring equal input from both parties.

Māori Participation and Representation in Local Government Decision Making

Author: Juliet Gerrard
Source: Local Government New Zealand, 2013
This report delves into the challenges and potential solutions for Māori representation and participation in local government decision-making, discussing the implications of various models.

- Explores the potential benefits of dedicated Māori wards or committees in enhancing Māori representation.
- Discusses ways to address historical disparities and promote equitable participation.
- Highlights examples of successful collaboration between local government and Māori communities.
- Emphasizes the role of trust-building and relationship-building in effective Māori representation.

Outcome: **Effective Shared Decision-Making**

- Establish collaborative mechanisms where the Māori statutory board collaborates with the council on significant decisions.
- Develop protocols for respectful engagement between the council and Māori representatives.
- Establish a formal mechanism for council and Māori statutory board members to collaborate on the development of policies and strategies.
- Create a joint committee to oversee projects of mutual interest, ensuring equal input from both parties.
- Organise regular community forums where Māori ward or committee members engage directly with Māori constituents to gather input.

- Develop training programs that empower Māori community members to actively participate in council meetings and discussions.

Māori Participation in Local Government Decision Making:

Rotorua District Council and Māori Wardens Author: Bevan Tipene-Matua Source: AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples, Volume 8, Issue 2, 2012 This article examines the role of Māori Wardens in enhancing Māori participation in decision-making processes, shedding light on the practical aspects of one particular model.

- Examines the role of Māori Wardens in facilitating Māori participation in local government.
- Discusses the importance of building bridges between Māori communities and local authorities.
- Highlights the need for proactive engagement and initiatives to ensure meaningful representation.
- Provides insights into community-led models of representation and engagement.
- Collaborate with Māori Wardens to organize workshops that facilitate open conversations between local communities and council representatives.
- Establish a dedicated fund to support community-driven projects that address specific needs identified through engagement

Representation and Participation: Māori in New Zealand Local

Government Author: Tahu Kukutai Source: National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis, University of Waikato, 2003 This research paper provides an overview of Māori representation and participation in local government, discussing both historical context and contemporary developments.

- Explores the historical context of Māori representation in local government and its evolution.
- Discusses the challenges of ensuring effective representation for diverse Māori communities.
- Highlights the significance of cultural competence and understanding within local government bodies.
- Provides a foundation for understanding the various representation models and their implications.
- Develop cultural competence training modules for council members, focusing on building relationships and understanding Māori perspectives.
- Encourage council representatives to attend local Māori events and marae visits to deepen their cultural understanding.

Representation and Local Government in Aotearoa New Zealand: A Critical Examination of Legal Frameworks and Political Engagement

Author: Brad Coombes
Source: Political Science, Volume 68, Issue 2, 2016
This article offers a critical analysis of legal frameworks and political engagement concerning Māori representation in local government, addressing the advantages and disadvantages of various models.

These resources should provide you with valuable insights and academic perspectives to support your submission.

- Critically evaluates the legal frameworks governing Māori representation in local government.
- Discusses the implications of different models on Māori political engagement and representation.
- Highlights the importance of recognizing the diversity of Māori communities and their unique needs.

- Addresses potential tensions between promoting Māori representation and maintaining democratic processes.
- Implement rotational representation where different Māori communities take turns to provide representatives, ensuring broader inclusion.
- Establish a network of Māori advisors who can contribute their expertise to council decisions without having a formal voting role.

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Sunday, 10 September 2023 4:51 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Kylie Willison

Organisation

I affiliate to Ngāti Maniapoto and Ngāti Māhuta and am a Ratepayer living outside of the district

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Welcome bay Tauranga

Postcode

3112

Email


I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

WDC requires better representation of Maori voices via Māori wards and a Maori committee. Tribes of Te Rohe Potae ought to have a greater voice and a seat at the decision making table, particularly on matters that affect them and the people they represent. WDC will find it beneficial partnering with hapu and iwi through representative committees and wards, but they must act in good faith working towards a common goal, and resource appropriately.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Tuesday, 12 September 2023 4:03 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Sandra Jones

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Postcode

3910

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

To have Maori Wards is racist. There is no pakeha only representation. Everyone has equal opportunity to stand for election to council and to represent all the people of the area. It is time to stop all the divisive politicking and work together for the good of both our area and the country.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY

97 Submission No. 42

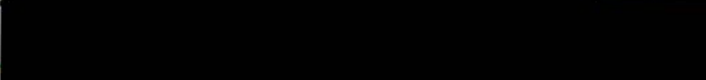
Doc No. A687675

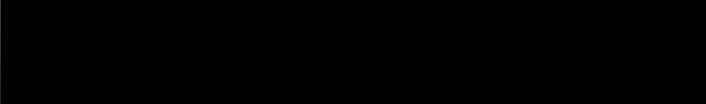


Name: LEO LETTEH

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address:  B' dale

Phone: 

Email: 

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y N

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo
- 2) Māori wards
- 3) A committee with Māori representation
- 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

SEE ATTACHED

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

SUBMISSION on WAITOMO COUNCIL RACISM

Racism

The Cambridge dictionary defines racism as “policies, behaviours, rules, etc., that result in an unfair advantage to some people and unfair treatment of others, based on race”. There can be no doubt that preference for part-Maoris because they are part-Maoris is racism.

And there can be little doubt that the elected Waitomo District Mayor and Councillors and appointed staff know that.

Why ?

So, why are they determined to further entrench the racism that they undemocratically imposed upon non-part-Maori after the last local government election ? Why have they insisted upon individual, private expressions of opposition instead of a public meeting of ratespayers ?

Well, it essentially comes down to cowardice. Cowardice in the face of aggressive part-Maori activists. And cowardice that can't face a meeting of ratespayers making it clear that they are very angrily opposed to the imposition of racism by those whose salaries and stipends they finance.

Ratespayers rights ignored

It is so much easier to dismiss, to sweep into the rubbish bin, individual written submissions, because the public, the ratespayers, will never know. Except the public do know that every referendum/poll held by local government bodies seeking votes as to YES or NO to racism has resulted in overwhelming **NO**.

And so the unquestionably racist Government of Nanaia Mahuta passed legislation to outlaw such referenda/polls. Who of the Waitomo District Council would be prosecuted in a law court for

holding a referendum to seek ratespayers' preferences ? And who of the Waitomo District Council would be too scared ? Silly question, eh ?

So, you've had the extraordinary ignorance, arrogance, to ask us (everyone, anyone, not just those who are paying the piper – the ratespayers – ratespayers, after all, deserve no special consideration, certainly not consideration such as that given to part-Maori activists) which form of racism we would prefer. Well, you might notice that I have ignored your ignorant arrogance – I've not ticked any of your boxes – because I abhor your cowardly racism.

Part-Maoris are in support ?

Now, although it's unlikely, I'm prepared to assume that there might be amongst you some who want to impose this racism because they think it will help part-Maoris succeed where they are otherwise unable to.

Well, those of you, please think again.

On the one hand, those part-Maoris who receive finance and power from this racism have little or no connection to the wide part-Maori community. They are iwi corporation elites, already well-funded and with more than a little leverage in the corridors of power.

On the other hand, I have asked some part-Maori friends for their comments on this proposed racism. They have been entirely unanimous in condemning it. Some of their comments follow:

[my part-Maori children] feel patronised and ridiculed by the notion that Maori cannot get ahead without the good old government giving them a "handout" – [my son] points to his many cousins with Maori blood, all in work, most with families and homes of their own.

Uninvolved part-Māori's do not believe these self-appointed individuals will speak for them. Only Willie Jackson's "useful Māori" will be considered worthy to speak for us all. There can be no positive outcome short of these lucky individuals and their closest whanau becoming wealthy from the fruits of others' labour.

Kia ora Leo. The negatives are so obvious that any who think this is a good idea are already brainwashed and unlikely to change their minds. However, I would say that, like quotas aimed at redressing racial imbalances, special provisions like this devalue the role. And of course crap like this breeds resentment amongst people who have never felt resentful before, creating or deepening divisions and hardening hearts. [Amen to that !]

The Treaty

The Treaty of Waitangi is brief and quite clear. Its most important feature is that it made all settlers, Maori and British, British citizens with equal rights and equal responsibilities. We are one people, and this appalling racism is very destructive.

The wrong side of history

It remains for me to say only that you are all about to find yourselves on the wrong side of history, as each of the National Party, the ACT Party and NZ First have vowed to remove all such racism from local government bodies. And if you think those Parties might not be forming the next Government in October, then that might illustrate your ignorance.

Conclusion

Don't waste ratespayers' money. Just try to keep democracy and equality to the forefront of your minds.

Leo Leitch
September 10th, 2023

From: Kim Hancy [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 September 2023 2:52 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: Mokau Kohunui Marae Submission on Māori Representation
Attachments: Mokau Kohunui Submission on Māori Representation 10Sept23.docx

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Kia ora,

I have just put in a submission but didn't realise I couldn't attach a document to the submission form so have pasted it in the comments. I have also attached the letter from the Marae Chair on behalf of the Trustees of Mokau Kohunui Marae. We would also like the option of doing a verbal submission so would appreciate if you could contact me to confirm a time.

thank you

Kim Hancy
[REDACTED]

Mokau Kohunui Marae Trustees



Piopio 3912

11 September 2023

Waitomo District Council

Rora St

Te Kuiti 3941

Submission on proposed changes to Māori Representation

Tēna koe,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on Māori representation in Waitomo District Council. Mokau Kohunui marae trustees see Māori representation on Waitomo District Council as a hugely important aspect of ensuring the wellbeing of Māori within the Waitomo District and a key part of the Council's obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The trustees strongly support the structure or mechanisms that enables the greatest influence of Māori voice in Council decision making. It is our view that this mechanism for representation is long overdue and there is much work to be done to realise iwi Māori aspirations within our rohe.

The trustees would be supportive of the proposed option 4 - Māori wards and a Māori Advisory Committee to the Council. In addition to this arrangement the trustees would support the following things to strengthen that proposal:

- **Māori Wards** who are accountable to the advisory committee, would take a lead role in this committee. They would be responsible for representing the diverse views of Māori, including mātāwaka who live within the rohe, taking advice from the local whare members of the committee for each of the specific issues and being accountable back to the committee for the outcomes.
- **Advisory Committee** is made up of representatives of each Whare of Te Nehenehenui in the rohe for WDC. Each whare can nominate up to two Māori who whakapapa to that whare, to provide expert advice, and to represent and lead on issues related to their rohe. The mayor would also chair this committee to ensure that the voice of whānau, hapū, and iwi Māori informs decisions that impact them.

The trustees understand that an advisory committee can be established at any time by the WDC. We assume this to also mean that it could also be disestablished at any time. Mokau Kohunui marae trustees would like to see a firm commitment in writing from WDC that this committee would stay in place for the duration of the 2025 and 2028 election terms as the trustees see this committee being key in enabling local Māori voice of Te Rohe Potae, rather than solely through the Māori Wards, recognising there are limitations with only Māori Wards representing diverse Māori views.

Mokau Kohunui trustees would also be supportive of a development pathway for Māori into council. Building iwi Māori understanding and capability in local government is critical to increasing Māori engagement with elections and sharing their views with the Council. Further, rangatahi voice is important in these decision-making processes and we would be supportive of enabling the development of rangatahi into these spaces.

We look forward to these key roles within the council playing an important part in improved decision making and outcomes for Māori within Waitomo District Council.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Mark Bidois

Mokau Kohunui Marae Chairperson

From: Anne [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 16 September 2023 11:47 pm
To: haveyoursay [REDACTED]
Cc: Muiora Barry [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission on the Review of Maori representation at Waitomo District Council

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Kia ora,

Re: Submission on Maaori representation at Council

Contact person: Anne Lemieux, Secretary Te Whare o Mokau ki Runga

Te Whare Mokau ki Runga, c/- [REDACTED] Te Kuiti 3910

Phone [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

- *Te Whare o Mokau ki Runga request the opportunity to speak to this submission*
- *Preferred option: Te Whare Mokau ki Runga supports Option 3: A committee with Māori representation.*

Te Whare Mokau ki Runga would like to take this opportunity to thank the Waitomo District Council for the opportunity to submit on the review of Māori representation at Council. We would also like to thank Mayor John Robertson and the councillors who attended the Whare Mokau ki Runga hui in August to consult and share information on the process and the options put forward.

Te Whare Mokau ki Runga propose that membership to a representative committee is made up of one person from each of the Whare o Te Nehenehenui located within the Waitomo district.

Each of the Whare o Te Nehenehenui are already representing their whānau and hapū at a regional level in land, water, and environmental matters in a manner consistent with our values, goals and aspirations. The members of the various Whare o Te Nehenehenui represent Marae and Papakainga within three District Council areas, including our own here in the Waitomo District, and have the capability to provide a trusted voice for Mana Whenua.

We look forward to the opportunity to speak to this submission in October.

Ngaa mihi, naa

Anne Lemieux,

Secretary, Te Whare o Mokau ki Runga

From: Marama Henare-Waho [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 7:11 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: Feedback on WDC Review of Maori Representation
Attachments: WDC Review of Maori Repstn Oparure Marae.pdf

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

Teena koe

Please find attached feedback from Oparure Marae.

Ngaa mihi

Naa Maarama Henare-Waho

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Oparure Marae

C/- Mārama Henare-Waho

Te Rōpū Whakahaere Member for Oparure Marae

[REDACTED]

15 September 2023

Waitomo District Council

Queen Street

Te Kuiti

Tēnā koe

Submission on Waitomo District Council Review of Māori Representation in Council

I write on behalf of Oparure Marae to provide feedback on the Review of Māori Representation at Council. Over the last month, this matter was put before the Oparure Marae Committee and we canvassed our whānau for feedback via our Marae Facebook page, and through direct discussion with whānau members. We note that while whānau were invited to provide their feedback via this avenue, they were also encouraged to give their feedback directly to Council or via other groups that they are a part of. The main thing is that people knew about this consultation round and had the opportunity to provide feedback, however they chose to. Hence this submission may not be the only avenue that Oparure whānau have used to give feedback on the review.

There wasn't a high number of responses to the invitation to give feedback. This could be due to:

- People have used other avenues to provide their feedback.
- There is quite a lot of wariness, mistrust and suspicion of Council, and Councils in general. Māori communities have had lots of negative experiences of Councils, over many years. People are uncertain about engaging, do not want to engage or do not see the point of engaging.
- People have other more pressing priorities.

- The kaupapa requires some research and thinking through of the options. People need time and understanding to work through it. Some may feel that they are not informed enough to make a good decision.
- People prefer other communication channels e.g., face to face, wānanga, other social media.

Having said that those who did respond were experienced kaitiaki of marae, whenua Māori (Māori land) and/or te taiao (the environment) and had some experience of Council processes in Waitomo or in other districts.

Feedback

Option 1 Status Quo (Committee comprised of 3 Councillors including the Mayor).

There wasn't a lot of support for the status quo. In fact, the consensus was that the status quo needed to change. Kaupapa Māori issues are relevant across a wide range of areas, and the current set up of a single committee comprised of 3 Council members representing general wards, while a step in the right direction, was seen as insufficient to deal with this.

Option 2 Māori Wards

There wasn't a lot of support for this option.

Whānau were concerned that representatives appointed under the Māori Ward approach would be appointed on popularity, not necessarily their skills, knowledge and expertise to do the job well.

Whānau were concerned that one or two representatives would be insufficient to deal with the wide range of kaupapa relevant to Māori issues. They were also concerned that these representatives would be seen as the 'authoritative voice' for all Māori in the district, rather than elected representatives of a section of the Māori community.

Māori Wards do not recognize the status of collective entities such as hapū and whānau.

Whānau were concerned that the Māori Ward approach would set the Māori Ward Councillors up to fail. The issues are broad and big. The battle against colonised ways of thinking is too big for one or two representatives to carry. Whānau questioned how the Māori community would organize themselves for a Māori Ward approach. There is some wariness around the options proposed, as they do not come from a tikanga Māori world view.

Some whānau felt that a Māori Ward approach could damage the prospect of having more than 1 Māori representing hapū/iwi/Māori voice. That the one/two Māori Ward Councillors would be perceived as the ones to 'deal with Māori issues', and other Councillors would not need to. However, the obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi apply to all Councillors not just those who represent Māori Wards. All Councillors have an obligation to be educated and informed.

Option 3 Committee comprised of Māori community representatives

This was the most preferred option across those who provided feedback.

From experience in other districts, the committee approach where members are selected, and the terms of reference determined by the Māori community has been effective. The committee approach has resulted in people with skills and knowledge contributing to decision-making. Representatives are vetted according to their skills, knowledge and expertise. This places them into a good position to contribute knowledgeably and skillfully to the issues, and decision-making. This capability has had a positive influence in changing negative attitudes towards Māori and Māori issues within Council.

The Council needs to be aware that any committee would not replace the status of manawhenua of a particular area to speak for their interests. Manawhenua of an area, a place, a wāhi tapu, a waterway, a Coastline, have absolute right to speak for their interests. This includes landowners of Māori lands in an area; people who have whakapapa connection to wāhi tapu; hapū, whānau. People who do not necessarily reside in the Waitomo District. There are many owners of Māori land in the Waitomo District who do not live in the district. Council needs to understand that manawhenua of a particular place or site may not sit on the Committee.

We note that the committee is a Council creation, not a tikanga Māori one. So, figuring out how best to represent Māori collectives such as hapū, whānau, marae, papakāinga is always going to be a challenge. The design of the committee needs to be considered carefully, with clear terms of reference. Who should advise on a particular issue will depend on what the issue is, and where it is located. The composition of the committee needs to be an on-going conversation. Preliminary thoughts are that it needs to take into account Māori communities throughout the district, both rural and urban, both resident and non-resident, marae, hapuu, whānau, papakāinga.

Option 4 Māori Wards and Māori Committee.

Whānau are aware of this approach working well in other regions; and it provides for different Māori representation in different ways. On the one hand Councillors who are elected to represent each Māori Ward, who have the right to vote in decision-making. On the other hand, a committee of Māori representatives who advise Council, but don't have the right to vote.

I am happy to be contacted by email or phone (021) 267-0167 if you have any questions about this feedback.

Nākū, nā

Mārama Henare-Waho

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Saturday, 16 September 2023 11:31 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Roimata Harmon

Organisation

Te Whare Hauāuru ki Uta

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Postcode

3900

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

Yes

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Kia Ora, Our Whare, Hauāuru ki Uta, would like to thank the Council members for coming to the hui at our Marae to discuss this important kaupapa of Māori Representation at Council. As half of our population in the Waitomo District are Māori, it is important to us that we are able to participate in the decision making process around the many important issues in our rohe Māori Wards: Have a seat at the table with a voice and voting rights Fair representation consistent with Te Tiriti o Waitangi and principles . We would like to explore a more appropriate term than "wards" A committee with Māori representation: An opportunity for all hapu to be represented Ability to discuss all relevant issues and bring matters to Council attention Both advantages and disadvantages. Despite calling a separate hui to discuss this kaupapa, the time frame still has not allowed us adequate time to discuss this matter to the extent in which it deserves. So, whilst we have selected option 4 for the purpose of this submission, we would like to support any submissions made from individual Marae within our Whare , whether they have chosen the same option or a different option. However, we all agree that Māori Representation at Council is important and that we must participate to ensure that our interests and viewpoints are heard across all areas of Council. We would like a representative from our Whare to speak to this submission. Ngā manaakitanga, Te Whare Hauāuru ki Uta.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 4:09 am
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Melaina Huaki

Organisation

Te Runanga o Ngāti Mahuta

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address


[REDACTED]

Nawton Hamilton

Postcode

3200

Email


I wish to speak to Council about my submission

Yes

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Our runanga represents a Māori community, Māori Land owners however no one on WDC looks like us, speaks for us or understands how we do things. We have 3 people from our hapū who are councillors on two councils within the Tainui waka region. These 3 provide great examples of how and why Māori Ward seats are important and can work. Having Māori wards in WDC will contribute to building capability, capacity and competency within the region which ensures that equitable outcomes for Māori are met. Having committees with Māori representatives alongside the Māori ward seats will grow Te Ao Māori and Matauranga Māori understanding within council. This will also meet the obligations of article 2 of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. My recommendation is to have minimum 2 seats and at least 1 Māori per committee that is selected by Mana Whenua and Mātāwaka.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Friday, 15 September 2023 9:53 am
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Organisation

Phone

Address

Postcode

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Any council member should be elected

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 9:29 am
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Isaiah wallace

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] te kuiti

Postcode

3910

Email


I wish to speak to Council about my submission

Yes

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Kiaora katoa I have chosen option 4 as I think having a Māori ward and Māori committee will simply have more Māori voices for our community. Waitomo district is made up of a number of hāpu or sub tribes of Maniapoto and that the Māori committee be made up of representation of these hāpu. And the Māori ward be made up of generally elected people. Kia pai Te Rā nāku iti nei Isaiah Wallace

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 9:56 am
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Ross Smith

Organisation

N/A

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

Otorohanga Road

Postcode

3974

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Personally, I don't like having the options limited to 4 preselected options. This is not a representation of true consultation (and a request to know what people think). As to this matter, all of the population should have a "one person, one vote" input into the dealings of their government bodies. Race should not factor into the structure of decision-making entities. All should have equal access and equal opportunity for input. Set-asides (quotas) for particular people based a on tenuous racial make-up is ultimately decisive and will ultimately lead to an increasing disruption in societal cohesion. We are Kiwis and that is all. All of us. No preferences should be given to any racial demographic.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 11:11 am
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Roimata Harmon

Organisation

Te Kauae Marae

Phone

[REDACTED]


Address

[REDACTED]

Postcode

3900

Email


I wish to speak to Council about my submission

Yes

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

Te Kauae Marae would like the BEST outcome for representation at Council level. This includes having a voice and being able to vote on key decisions that impact the wellbeing of our land and our people. Many of the issues raised at Council impact our whole community, we do not want to be divisive but to ensure our views are shared through our whānau/hapu lense. If Māori Wards provides this forum then we support them: * To allow direct input into decision making by Māori and voting rights on Council addressing obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi * So we have Māori representation from the community. * As an opportunity to create and maintain long lasting relationships, in true partnership for the betterment of our environment and people who live and connect to the rohe. *To ensure principles of partnership, participation, and protection underpin the relationship between the government and Māori under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. A committee with Māori representation: Developed in consultation with Whare within the District, to focus on the areas of importance such as taiao, hauora, whānau and have a say in the policies that shape and impact the areas important to us and our rohe. This could be a community based committee with representatives from across the district (with Māori representation) or a committee that specifically addresses the interests of Māori from a Māori world view, and could be made up of representatives from Whare across the district. The key to the success of this committee are the issues being heard and addressed in a fair and equitable manner. The committee considers all significant matters, and then makes appropriate recommendations for Council's consideration. We would like to ensure that our Iwi arrangements (JMA's, Environmental plans) are an important foundation for our relationships in future. Thus why

having a voice and the ability to vote through the Wards will be more effective. OPTION 5: Introduce "Pou" who have expertise to sit in on various committees and have voting rights similar to those incorporated at the Hamilton City Council and Waipa District Council. Waipa District Council: "Te Kanohi will bring a Māori world view to each Committee and will be a voice for mana whenua interests across the district. Representatives will have voting rights on their respective Committees, in accordance with the delegations of that Committee" Hamilton City Council: "The Maangai Maaori model contributes to the outcomes of He Pou Manawa Ora, by enhancing Maaori representation and visibility, and influencing how te ao Maaori is recognised. Maangai Maaori are nominated by key Maaori partners and stakeholders based on skill, knowledge and experience". This in conjunction with Māori Wards and/or a committee is the option 5 we suggest. SUCCESSION PLANNING (part of option 5) There is a massive opportunity to develop the Waitomo District Youth Council and create a meaningful space for all rangatahi/teenagers to have a say in issues that are relevant to them and their future. This could also allow them to forge the important relationships and connections with each other and the taiao that they live in so that when it is their turn to step into the decision making spaces, they have solid foundations to initiate the best outcomes for all of us. Thank you for your time you took to meet with our representatives from Te Whare Hauāuru ki Uta. Ngā manaakitanga, Te Kauae Marae

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 4:43 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Mary Tapu

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] Te Kuiti

Postcode

3910

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

I believe option 4 is right for the WDC area. This gives all marae in the area a voice to be heard via committee. Option 4 also provides a space at the council table, that have voting rights and ensures and enables the opportunity for actions to be embedded into policy

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

Ronald Takerei

Te Kuiti 3910

Maaori representation
at Council Review
2023

Waitomo District
Council

PO BOX 404, Te Kuiti
3941

haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz

17 September 2023

Reviewing Maaori representation at Waitomo District Council for 2023.

The submitter

1. I, Ronald Takerei, I'm a local and have lived within the Waitomo District Council area for most of my life. I attended Centennial Park Primary school and Te Kuiti High school.
2. I have spent most of my working life working within the Meat Processing Industry. I have worked at the three plants within the Waitomo District Council which are, Te Kuiti Meat Processors Ltd, Universal Beef Packers Ltd (UBP) and Crusader Meats New Zealand, Maniaiti/Benneydale.
3. I started as a labourer, became a butcher, promoted to a supervisor. (Te Kuiti and Benneydale) I then joined the mid management team at Te Kuiti Meat Processors Ltd as a Shift Co-ordinator and later joined the upper management team as the Compliance Manager.
4. My current position is as a casual Meat Inspector for AsureQuality Ltd.
5. I am also active, along with my family, within our Maaori communities through the many paa within the Waitomo District Council area and our Maniapoto area also known as the King Country.
6. I am also a re-elected Trustee for our Mandated Iwi Authority, Te Nehenehenui Trust, a Trustee for the Ngaati Maniapoto Maaori Pact Trust, and a representative to Te Whare Hauaauru ki Uta on behalf of Mirumiru paa ki Marokopa.

7. I am representing a small minority of Maaori who believe that we do not require a Maaori ward within our Waitomo District Council area for the following reasons.
 1. There is no guarantee that the two elected representatives will represent any Maaori related issues to the best of their abilities.
 2. There is no guarantee that the best perceived candidates will be elected to the Waitomo District Council to represent Maaori related issues.
 3. The calibre of the two elected representatives may not have the necessary requirements and knowledge to address Maaori related issues within the wider Waitomo District Council Area.
 4. The two elected representatives may have the necessary requirements and knowledge to address Maaori related issues, however, may not have the skill set to address the needs of the rest of the community they serve.
 5. When it comes to making a decision on Maaori related issues, they may not receive a majority vote.
 6. Having a Maaori ward would limit who you can vote for. Those who are on the maaori electorate can vote for you and those who are on the general electorate cannot vote for you.
 7. Under the current legislation, a non-maaori can be elected to stand in a Maaori ward. Requires two signatures from anyone who resides in the Waitomo District Council area.
 8. If there is a change of Councillors, there is no guarantee that the Council Committee of Te Raangai Whakakaupapa Korero (TRWK) will address the maaori related issues to the best of their abilities as the previous Committee.
 9. Having a Maaori ward also creates a perception of unfairness with regards to the number of votes required in a Maaori ward, compared to a local or rural ward due to legalisation.
 10. Due to the current number of elected members to council, there will be two maaori seats, thus setting a low standard to achieve. The standard we should be aiming to achieve as Maaori is for six Councillors and a Mayor.
 11. We have a high population of maaori within the Waitomo District Council area and therefore do not require a Maaori ward.
 12. Due to the changes to the Resource Management ACT and that the role of a Council is not clear. We should be **all** concentrating on what that may look like and how we can prepare ourselves for these changes. Another reason we do not need a Maaori ward.
8. **Recommendation** – From these examples on why we believe we do not require a Maaori ward within the Waitomo District Council, we chose option 1: **Status Quo**. Maaori wards maybe more appropriate where the Maaori population is low.

9. Although the intent of maaori wards is to get more maaori participating in local council, in our view, this has caused a perceived negative effect to which this could be deemed, similar to apartheid and racist to other members of our community and country as a whole.
10. We also recommend the following: **A)** An education programme for our community with regards to voting in our local Waitomo District Council. Should be done at least a year in advance.
11. **B)** The ability to vote online
12. **C)** Improve the mail service. Especially in the rural areas, the voting packs in some rural areas arrived late, which resulted in having to deliver their vote to the required allocated drop off areas.
13. **These recommendations (A,B,C) are beyond the scope of our Local Council, however, should be raised with Central Government.**
14. I do wish to be heard with regards to this submission.
15. On a final note, we must acknowledge the Waitomo District Council on the way they conducted the review of Maaori representation at Council through engaging with maaori at the local marae, attending the different Whare (previously RMC) meetings, through the post (mailers) and a drop-in session.

Please note, these are my personal views and the view by others who share a similar viewpoint. These views may differ from the Mandated Iwi Authority, other Organisations, or marae that are in support of maaori representation at Council,

Naaku iti nei – Ronald Takerei

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 4:58 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Te Aomarama Anderson

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]


Address

[REDACTED] Te Kuiti

Postcode

3910

Email


I wish to speak to Council about my submission

Yes

Please select your preferred option

Option 2 - Māori Wards

Please explain why you have chosen this option

I strongly support the establishment of Māori Wards within the Waitomo District Council. Partnership under Te Tiriti o Waitangi is having Māori representation and decision making at all levels of council: operational and governance. Māori Wards are one part of what should be a multi-layered approach towards enacting Te Tiriti o Waitangi; Māori voice should be present at all levels of council. Beyond this, Māori Wards are reflective of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), an international rights-based instrument that sets out the minimum standards for the survival, dignity, wellbeing, and rights of the world's indigenous peoples. Waitomo District Council's previous decision of not establishing Māori Wards opposed this. Te Rāngai Whakakaupapa Kōrero (TRWK) committee is not an equal or equitable alternative for Māori Wards. Insisting that a committee created by council, a Western-centric system, and only consisting of elected council members, can effectively advocate for and advance Māori voice is offensive and undermining of Mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge), when it exists in all areas and matters of society. Māori do not need an intermediary, we deserve equal status at the decision making table located on our own whenua. Waitomo District Council needs the innovation that stems from Mātauranga Māori through honest and ethical partnership with Māori, to unlock the unrealised potential of our district. The Waitomo District Council is in a position to rectify its mistake and the shame it incurred by moving against the tide of humanity when it did not implement Māori Wards earlier. Establishing Māori Wards now is a step towards equality in local governance, and subsequently equitable outcomes for Māori and innovative solutions for all peoples.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 5:51 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Alannah Batger

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED]

Waitomo Caves Waitomo

Postcode

3943

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 4 - Both Māori Wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have chosen this option

I have only chosen an option because it did not allow me to not choose. I would have preferred to have not chosen an option because I believe this decision should be made by our local Tangata whenua and I am very happy to support them in whichever option they choose.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 9:07 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Tim Stokes

Organisation

Phone

[REDACTED]

Address

[REDACTED] RD 8 Te Kuiti

Postcode

3988

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

We need to have equal opportunity for all. By creating separate Maori seats you would be dividing and segregating. Councilors need to be elected on their own merits not because race. Council should have a culture of Equal Employment Opportunity when employing. This means whenever they are employing someone there should be no partiality because of their culture, race, or gender. Shouldn't the election of councilors be the same?

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

From: Jenifer Graeme Reinhardt [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 9:38 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: Submission on Have your say.

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)

To whom it may concern-

My submission on Maori Representation at council

Why is it that both Central and Local Government treat part Maori as second -class citizens incapable of participating in today's society as equals.

Are they still of the mindset that because the natives were a stone-age people who were a thousand years behind European civilisation and whose main purpose in life was killing and eating their neighbours, they must now be pampered with rights and privileges denied the 85% of other New Zealanders.

Is it implied that those who call themselves Maori are hereditarily less intelligent and without character which would enable them to compete for positions on equal terms, in this case as councillors for Waitomo District Council.

After all Article Three of the English version of the Treaty Of Waitangi signed in 1840 states
..... *"and extends to the natives of New Zealand (there is no mention of the word "Maori " in the TOW) her royal protection and imparts to them all the rights and privileges of British subjects"*

We are all one people -

United we stand
Divided we fall

Graeme Reinhardt

HAVE YOUR SAY



Name: Graeme Reinhardt

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: [REDACTED] Benneydale

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y N

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo 2) Māori wards
 3) A committee with Māori representation
 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

See my submission.

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kōhiri 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

OPTION 3: A committee with Māori representation

A Māori committee is a formal council committee set up to represent Māori interests. If established, this committee would meet to specifically discuss issues relevant to Māori (whānau, iwi, and hapū).

This committee will include some elected members, but unlike the status-quo (TRWK committee), community members will also be appointed. Community members could be representatives from local Whare⁽¹⁾ who would enable broader representation and a greater diversity of Māori perspectives.

Māori committees provide input and expertise into council decision-making processes, in the same way that WDC's existing Audit and Risk Committee provides input into council decisions about risk and compliance.

(1) Whare within the District are made up of representatives of local marae. Whare meet to discuss issues of importance to those marae.

Advantages

Representation on this committee could strengthen Council's ability to consider Māori viewpoints.

Local iwi and hapū could determine the most appropriate people to sit on this committee, providing more diverse representation than Māori seats.

Disadvantages

These appointments won't have a seat at the Council table so do not have as much ability to influence decision making over all Council decisions.

It could be seen as undemocratic to have appointments to a Council committee who have voting rights.

136

HAVE YOUR SAY

Submission No. 058

Doc No. A688246



Name: Russell Aldridge

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y | N

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo
- 2) Māori wards
- 3) A committee with Māori representation
- 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

There are plenty of Educated Maori around now to stand for council. Most with a very good chance of being elected. There is no need to waste time + money trying to make it easy for for them. Waitomo Power Board tried to give Maniapoto a representative 35 yrs ago but it didn't work out.

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

From: info@waitomo.govt.nz
Sent: Sunday, 17 September 2023 8:34 am
To: haveyoursay
Subject: The Form 'Submission Form - Māori Representation at Council' was submitted

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Block sender](#)



Umbraco Forms

Form Results

Full Name

Organisation

Phone

Address

Postcode

Email

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

Please select your preferred option

Option 1 - Status-quo

Please explain why you have chosen this option

We should all have 1 vote, 1 say.

Need more help?

[Find our documentation here](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY 139

Submission No. 060

Doc No. A688246

Waitomo
District Council

Burmeister Trust

Name: MR C Burmeister

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: [REDACTED] RD6 TeKuiti

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? **Y | N**

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo 2) Māori wards
- 3) A committee with Māori representation
- 4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

Any person council to be elected

RECEIVED
15 SEP 2023
BY: Tabitha

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

HAVE YOUR SAY

140

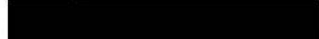
Late Submission No. 01

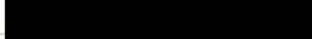
Doc No. A688534


Waitomo
District Council

Name: BRIAN GRIFFIN

Organisation/group (if applicable): _____

Address: 

Phone: 

Email: _____

Do you want to speak to Council about your submission? Y N

Please circle your preferred option:

- 1) Status-quo 2) Māori wards
3) A committee with Māori representation
4) both Māori wards and a committee with Māori representation

Please explain why you have made the above choice:

THE SYSTEM WE HAVE NOW SEEMS TO BE WORKING
FINE WHY CHANGE IT.

Please scan or take a photo of your submission and email to: haveyoursay@waitomo.govt.nz or post your submission to: PO Box 404, Te Kūiti 3941. Alternatively, you can visit our website to make an online submission - waitomo.govt.nz Submissions close 17 September 2023 with hearings scheduled for 4-5 October 2023.

RECEIVED

MAHOERUA
19 SEP 2023

WAITOMO DISTRICT
COUNCIL

What's the process??

141

Late Submission No. 01

This consultation document has been sent to households within the Waitomo District. We are seeking feedback and submissions from iwi, mana whenua, Māori and the general population.

Submissions are open until Sunday 17 September 2023.

Following the close of submissions, the Council will hold hearings for anyone wanting to speak to their submission.

This is not a vote, but your input is hugely important. Following the hearings, the Council will make a decision on Māori Representation for the next election.

Want to chat to us in person?

There will be a drop-in session on Thursday 17 August 2023 from 3pm-6pm at Railway Building 3 on Rora Street, Te Kūiti.



Frequent Questions

What is a Māori ward?

A Māori ward would be an electoral roll within the Māori population of the Māori ward.

Who votes in a Māori ward?

Anyone who is registered on the electoral roll within the Māori ward.

How many Māori seats would there be?

It is based on the Māori population, currently 141,000. Māori wards would be created based on the Māori population.

Who could stand for a Māori ward?

Anyone who is registered on the electoral roll within the Māori ward.

Read more



Te Piruru Papakainga Marae

62 SH 30, Te Kuiti

C/- Ngahuia Sheedy, [REDACTED] Te Kuiti

Tepirurupapakaingamarae@gmail.com

[REDACTED]

Waitomo District Council

Queen St

Te Kuiti

RE: Submission on Maaori Representation at Waitomo District Council

Kia ora

On behalf of Te Piruru Papakainga Marae we've discussed the options available and our preferred is option 4, Maaori Wards and Committee with Maaori representation.

We do not favour Maaori Wards on its own. Maaori Wards and a Maaori Committee must co-exist so, there is a maaori voice at the decision-making table, and a wider Mana whenua representation through a committee.

We propose the current committee, Te Raangai whakakaupapa koorero (Maaori relations committee) be dis-established and Mana whenua have a lead hand in designing what this space looks like.

We look forward to seeing positive changes for our iwi.

Ngaa mihi

Ngahuia Sheedy

Trustee

Te Piruru Papakainga Marae

143
**TE WHARE KI
TOKANGANUI A NOHO**

Late Submission No. 03

Doc No. A692001

*Te Kuiti, Te Kumi, Oparure, Motiti, Tomotuki,
Tane Hopuwae, Te Piruru, Te Ahoroa, Mangarama*



03/10/2023

Waitomo District Council
Queen St
Te Kuiti

Re: Reviewing Maori Representation at Council

Te Whare ki Te Tokanganui-a-Noho has discussed the options for the inclusion of Maori wards. The majority preferred option four.

Thus, Te Whare ki Te Tokanganui-a-Noho stands to support option four to establish Maori wards and a Maori representative committee.

The Maori wards will allow decisions at a local level to guarantee tangata whenua have influence on the lands and area that they historically and will forever be connected too.

The Maori representative committee will allow grass roots level relationships and connection from council to marae, hapu and whanau. This will ensure that the work of the Waitomo District Council will be guided to reflect the people that it serves.

Ngaa mihi

Ngahuia Sheedy
Chairman
Te Whare ki Tokanganui-a-Noho

Kia ora katoa,

My name is Luke Moss and this is my submission to the Waitomo District council for the establishment of Maaori wards.

I stand to support option Four to establish Maaori wards and a Maaori representative committee.

Firstly, the Maaori wards will ensure that taangata whenua have influence on the lands that they historically and will forever be connected to. Secondly, the Maaori representative committee will allow grass roots level relationships and connection from council to marae, hapu and whaanau, to ensure that the work of the Waitomo district council will be guided to reflect the people that it serves. I have three points to support my submission:

Democracy works best:

The power of democracy can be explained by a famous quote by Abraham Lincoln "Democracy is the government of the people, by the people, for the people." And this quote is absolutely right, democracy is created by the people and thus creates the best result for the people. The problem is that the Waitomo district council was not created by all people, but in fact by the wider central government that initially was setup to remove the rights of Maaori, the complete opposite of democracy. In turn, Maaori within the king country have been unwillingly forced to relinquish their own government systems that they have used for hundreds of years to be apart of local council, thus has created a domino effect that see's Maaori underrepresented in our democratic system today. This is why Maaori wards need to be introduced as a mechanism to aid the underrepresentation of Maaori within the local council.

Inclusion not division:

There is a common misconception that introducing Maaori wards is creating division amongst the community between Maaori and non-maaori. Maaori wards will in fact achieve the complete opposite, they will create a space for Maaori to be finally **included** in a way that their ancestors initially set out within the tiriti. Not one culture overruling another but taangata tiriti and taangata whenua making decisions together. *If Maaori wards are a mechanism of inclusion, why do some feel that it will bring division?* Simply put, When a current system that favors yourself is about to change there can be an often untrue sense of unfairness and threat, this then creates a mindset of us-versus-them. Maaori wards will bring inclusion of people not division.

The status quo does not work:

It is evident that the current system does not work for Maaori as explained in my previous points, statistics with the district also support this statement. Within Te Kuuiti, Maaori make up 55% of the area's population. It should be noticeable within the population statistics of Te Kuuiti and our district that Maaori should be very visible within the current local council system. However, since the inception of the Waitomo district council in 1976, there have been

150 possible councilors that could be elected to the council, however there has been less than 10 Maaori counselors. This sets Maaori representation at 6.67% for the district within an area that is predominantly Maaori, this is not inclusive of previous entities such as the Te Kuiti Borough and the Waitomo County Council that would plummet this percentage further. If the status quo was working to have the best leaders within the district at the table, it would be prevalent that the percentage of Maaori representation would be higher than the current 6.67%. The current status quo does not work to fairly represent the district.

My concluding statement is that the creation of Maaori representation within governance is not a new concept, the Waitomo District Council is just lagging behind the rest of the country, as many councils were having this conversation over two years ago. Furthermore, it was in 1876 that Maaori seats were established within parliament to see fairer representation of Maaori within government decisions, exactly 100 years before the Waitomo district council was established.

The Waitomo District Council is not two years late to the party to discuss Maaori representation, nor 100 years too late, but in fact right on time! As the most important part of Maaori representation is that it is being talked about and that we hold tight to these conversations and decisions to create a better future for Tangata Whenua and Taanaga Tiriti.

Mauri ora,

Luke Moss