

developing maori capacity to contribute to decision-making

Rotorua District Council has a long standing history of working closely with Te Arawa as the confederated iwi of Rotorua District. A number of mechanisms have been developed for consultation and to involve Maori of the district in council decision-making processes. These mechanisms will continue to be developed and reviewed to ensure their effectiveness.

Te Arawa Standing Committee

This committee has representatives appointed and elected from Te Arawa iwi. The committee's terms of reference include "providing a Te Arawa perspective on all matters affecting Maori".

In July 2007 at a Te Arawa hui at Te Papaouru, Ohinemutu, it was decided that a review of Te Arawa Standing Committee would be conducted and this is scheduled for completion in 2009.



Te Arawa Standing Committee:

Back row (left to right): Hawea Vercoe, Peter Guerin (Chief Executive), Piki Thomas, Mayor Kevin Winters, Cr Bob Martin, Mauriora Kingi (Director Kaupapa Maori), Deputy Mayor Trevor Maxwell
Front row (left to right): Bella Tait (Policy Analyst), Jim Gray, Rene Mitchell, Piwaki Heke.
Absent: Toby Curtis

Te Pukenga Koeke O Te Arawa O Te Whare Taonga

Te Arawa Kaumatua Committee contributes to decision-making processes pertaining to the care, and repatriation of Te Arawa taonga from other museums, held at the Rotorua Museum.

Ngati Whakaue Gifted Lands Protocol

This is an agreement between the Rotorua District Council and Pukeroa Oruawhata Trust on behalf of the original owners of the Pukeroa Oruawhata Block (known as the City of Rotorua) and their descendants. Council gives effect to the protocol through consultation when there is a significant decision to change status of any affected reserve.

Iwi Consultation Group

The Iwi Consultation group meets to assess resource consent applications and advise Council accordingly with respect to the Resource Management Act 1991, and to provide Tangata Whenua contacts for consent matters.

Kauae Cemetery Committee

The Kauae Cemetery Committee trustees meet twice a year to work through operations, policies and procedures, including provisions for the burial of descendants of Ngati Whakaue.

Pukaki Trust

The Pukaki Trust meets to ensure the safe-keeping, conservation and maintenance of Pukaki, located in the council Civic Centre Galleria.

The Waka Taua Trust

The main function of this trust is to ensure that the Te Arawa Waka Taua, and the shelter that houses the waka, are both well maintained.

The Ngati Rangiteaorere Kahikatea Trust Consultative Group

This group has responsibility for setting priorities for work to fulfil the terms of Kahikatea Management Plans and approval of estimates.

developing maori capacity to contribute to decision-making **cont.**

Council's Kaupapa Maori Department

This department initiates, builds and maintains council relationships with Tangata Whenua and Maori as well as strengthening the organisation's ability to effectively engage with Maori through exposure to, and training in tikanga and te reo.

The department reviews and contributes to council policies and strategies that affect Maori and initiates, builds and maintains council relationships with Tangata Whenua and Maori.

Mana Whenua Funding Policy

In 2007 Council launched its Mana Whenua Funding Policy. The aim of the policy is to stimulate and encourage the sustainable development of unoccupied Maori land, whilst supporting the Local Government Act 2002 and Resource Management objectives.

Memorandum of Understanding

In November 2004, Council entered into a memorandum of understanding with Tuhourangi. The founding statements of the memorandum include: to establish and maintain processes to provide the opportunity for Tuhourangi to contribute to the decision-making of the council".

Further memoranda of understanding will be investigated and developed where appropriate.

Tangata Whenua and Maori Communications and Consultation Guide

In 2006 Council developed its Tangata Whenua and Maori Communications and Consultation Guide. This resource is updated annually and it enables staff to more effectively engage with Tangata Whenua and Maori, and improve Maori participation in council decision-making processes.

Rotorua Lakes Strategy Joint Committee

This joint committee, with representatives from Environment Bay of Plenty, Te Arawa Lakes Trust and Rotorua District Council, meets regularly to ensure a proactive strategic approach is taken to coordinating lakes water quality improvements in the district. This structure is enshrined in legislation as part of the Te Arawa Rotorua Lakes Settlement.

Maori involvement in the Arts

Tangata Whenua participate fully in arts projects, where proposed sites are owned by Maori (but managed by council) or where a site is adjacent to a location of significance to Tangata Whenua.

Further information:

Contact Rotorua District Council's Kaupapa Maori Personnel: Director Kaupapa Maori, Mauriora Kingi, or Policy Analyst/Maori Research Officer, Bella Tait.

