

A Protocol between TUHOURANGI and ROTORUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

Founding Statements:

Tuhourangi

The initiative for this protocol is founded in the understanding that Tuhourangi is intrinsically connected to our natural environment that is the whenua, waters, flora and fauna and how we engage with it, is crucial to our identity and our sense of place. Inclusive in this is our honouring of the places where our tipuna lived and in particular, those resources that are available to us to maintain our ahi ka anchoring our whakapapa to the landscape. These lands form our home, our place to return to and so provide us with what we need to sustain us as Tuhourangi. Wherever we are in the world, this is our turangawaewae.

Rotorua District Council

Rotorua District Council recognise their obligation to take into account the relationship of Tuhourangi and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water sites, wahi tapu, valued flora and fauna and other taonga.

Council also wishes to establish and maintain processes to provide the opportunity for Tuhourangi to contribute to the decision making of the Council

Purpose

This is an agreement between Rotorua District Council and Tuhourangi. The agreement seeks to form a basis of understanding on the principles and process of communication and collaboration for the benefit of the peoples of Tuhourangi and of the District of Rotorua in general.

Principles

- Tuhourangi and Rotorua District Council acknowledge the autonomy of both organisations; their right to develop and promote strategies and policies that reflect the views of those they represent. Effective communications and the practise of meaningful consultation will ensure a growing commonality of purpose will occur between Tuhourangi and Rotorua District Council.
- The parties agree that it is in their joint interests, and that of those they represent, to work together to develop a shared view of the future of Lake Tarawera, its surroundings, and other areas of Tuhourangi interest.
- With the intention of creating an atmosphere of "no surprises", the signatories agree they will communicate openly and honestly to give effect to matters to the benefit of both parties in an atmosphere of mutual respect.
- The parties to this protocol will determine their respective membership of a management committee to give effect to this protocol.
- The signatories agree that principles of manaakitanga, kaitiakitanga and rangatiratanga will underpin their relationship.
- The signatories acknowledge that they are committed to working strenuously and in good faith to resolve any disagreements that may arise.
- Tuhourangi and Rotorua District Council acknowledge this protocol as a living document and that any changes to it will be by mutual agreement.

Application

1. Tuhourangi and Rotorua District Council will seek opportunities to share perspectives and jointly develop processes to further a consistent vision for Lake Tarawera, its surroundings and other areas of Tuhourangi interest.
2. Tuhourangi and Rotorua District Council will meet regularly (at least quarterly) to foster an early and informed understanding of issues and assist a co-ordinated strategic response.
3. Tuhourangi and Rotorua District Council will identify and regularly update appropriate channels of communication between the hapu and Council.
4. Tuhourangi and Rotorua District Council will develop policy and make ongoing management decisions within their respective areas of responsibility with an understanding of this protocol and the vision, priorities and expectations of both organisations.

Signed by Tuhourangi representatives:

Wi Keepa Te Rangipuwhe Maika
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Wi Keepa Te Rangipuwhe Maika

Anaru Rangihuea
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Anaru Rangihuea

Kataraina Daniels
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Kataraina Daniels

Karen Walmsley
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Karen Walmsley

Te Ohu Mokai Wi Kingi
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Te Ohu Mokai Wi Kingi

Signed by Rotorua District Council representatives:

Kevin Winters
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Kevin Winters, Mayor

Trevor Maxwell
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Trevor Maxwell, Deputy Mayor

Peter Guerin
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Peter Guerin, Chief Executive

Charles Roberts
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Charles Roberts, Director Community Services

Mauriora Kingi
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Mauriora Kingi, Director Kaupapa Maori