

Submission Number: 26
Response ID: C18C/102387
First Name: Katherine
Last name: Peet
Organisation: Network Waitangi Otautahi Organising Group

To whom it may concern:

Please confirm your receipt of this submission from Network Waitangi Otautahi on the Environment Canterbury Representation Review.

You will note we wish to speak to this submission.

Yours faithfully,

Katherine Peet

on behalf of

Network Waitangi Otautahi Organising Group
Te Whakaruruhau ki Otautahi *Community House*
301 Tuam St\
Otautahi Christchurch 8011

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<www.nwo.org.nz>

Phone 64 3 365 5266

Environment Canterbury Representation Review Submission

Network Waitangi Otautahi is pleased to have the opportunity to submit on this Review as it fits exactly within our area of expertise

In particular we applaud the recognition of

- the role of papatipu runaka [Key point 7]
- and
- the Treaty of Waitangi as the framework for the relational role of those papatipu runaka as manawhenua [Key point 18].

Network Waitangi Otautahi has been involved in Treaty education for the past 40 years and we believe this proposal by Environment Canterbury should become a model for building social cohesion between Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti in the wider Canterbury area.

As a Third Sector Organisation we are in receipt of many independent views on society's responses to developments. We use this opportunity to report that the influence of mana whenua on many groups has led to conversations about values - *For us and our children after us... Mō tātou ā mō kā uri ā muri ake nei*. These, in turn, have enabled a context for collaboration for new alliances across the wider community focussing on future generations. In addition the leadership of mana whenua has called attention to place-based approaches which is clearly in support of ECan's role.

The Council's decision not to establish Maori constituencies at this time is another matter we wish to support. The introduction of simplistic representation of citizens of Maori descent would be likely to create a very unsafe space for those so elected. An agreed framework is needed, hence our support in this submission for the Council's recognition of the Treaty of Waitangi as the framework for the relational role of the papatipu runaka as the holders of mana whenua.

It is vital to support this role of papatipu runaka as we move towards a more comprehensive honouring of the Treaty today. The current government has committed to *Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the country's founding document* and this proposal is authentically building the social cohesion anticipated by the promises in the Treaty for all peoples. And vital to any initiative in this area is securing mana whenua involvement.

The Treaty, provides a basis for "rightness" and "justness" for all in this country. All the 5 aspects of the Treaty – the Preamble and four Articles - need to be taken together as a whole i.e.:

Preamble: Peace with justice for all

Article 1: Practising honourable KAWANATANGA

Article 2: Promoting TINO RANGATIRATANGA by tangata whenua

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

Article 4: Everybody's belief systems upheld

Te Tiriti o Waitangi, is a follow-on to the 1835 Declaration of Independence – He Wakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tireni.

We warmly affirm this support by Council of the kaupapa of the restoration of Tino Rangatiratanga by Maori and the establishment of honourable Kawanatanga by the Crown.

We recognise there is a need to develop appropriate enabling legislation to overcome the lack of compliance with the Local Electoral Act [Key point 15] and warmly support the Council's recognition for the proposal to be referred to the Local Government Commission.

We wish to speak to this submission.

Katherine Peet

organisers@nwo.org.nz

www.nwo.org.nz