

CROWN/MĀORI RELATIONS HUI NOTES

Date of hui: 28 March 2018

Venue: Minister’s Office, 7.2 Beehive

Attendees: Hon Kelvin Davis, Minister for Crown/Māori Relations
Deborah Mahuta-Coyle, Senior Ministerial Advisor to Hon Kelvin Davis
Te Rau Kupenga, Crown Facilitator

BusinessNZ

Kirk Hope, Chief Executive
Vaughan Renner, President

Government officials: Benesia Smith, Specialist Advisor, Crown/Māori Relations Unit, Ministry of Justice
Hollie Smith, Specialist Advisor, Crown/Māori Relations Unit, Ministry of Justice

These notes represent a broad overview of the key points raised by participants at the hui.

Main issues and opportunities raised

- *Treaty of Waitangi in business* - The Sustainable Business Council Division is already considering how to operationalise the Treaty of Waitangi into business models (e.g., driving governance and providing a platform for relationship with iwi / Māori).
- *Engaging with Māori* - BusinessNZ and Federation of Māori Authorities has a longstanding Memorandum of Understanding. BusinessNZ engage with and have a network of over 80,000 businesses, Māori businesses are not specifically identified.
- *Advancing the national conversation* – to talk about success, growth, development of communities and businesses:
 - build a different framework that’s not based on treaty settlements nor conflict and dependence
 - build a consensus of understanding about New Zealand’s history, the Treaty and the Crown/ Māori relationship going forward
 - Drive the relationship from a ‘growth’ approach (and not dependency) for Māori / Māori business, which also grows prosperity for all New Zealanders
 - Communities of dependency hold the most opportunity, as businesses can drive better social outcomes through Māori business and all businesses.

What is the perception of Crown/Māori Relations currently?

- Some New Zealanders see the Treaty settlement process as fixing the relationship, as providing redress for wrongs, and that there is no need for any further work on a Crown/ Māori relationship after a Treaty settlement has been agreed.
- Public communications by the Crown reinforces this messaging and it's misleading. The conversation and communications need to change to widely discuss Treaty breaches, the content of the settlement, and the future – that the Crown/Māori relationship is ongoing.
- Businesses realise that iwi engagement is a key part of their future – capacity and capability is mixed but growing.
- Businesses that work within the Resource Management Act have potentially more capacity and capability as they have had to engage with and develop relationships with iwi.

Ngā uara: Values

Feedback on the values was invited:

- *Partnership* – the concept of this value is worthwhile. Would be helpful if you were able to more clearly articulate the behaviours you expect to engender (e.g., what are both partners going to do differently? What does it mean for someone on the ground?)
- *Participation* - shows an openness to work together going forward, and interpreted as enabling. This value is supported.
- *Protection* – This value is not supported as the concept of the value has a negative connotation, implies paternal behaviour, not mutual respect. A partnership would have a natural outcome of 'protection', does not need to be stated. We are concerned that the proposed value Alludes to dependence of Māori on the Crown for the Crown to
- *Recognition of cultural values* – this is a necessary value in a partnership
- *Use mana enhancing processes* - Partnership and respect, it's a two-way street. Yes - such processes should underpin the Crown/Māori relationship.

Crown/Māori Relations portfolio feedback invited

- BusinessNZ is supportive in principle.
- What does success look like? The relationship is collateral to economic development, they need to work in the same direction.

AGREED ACTIONS:

1. BusinessNZ to compile some current examples of how businesses are operating with the Treaty of Waitangi.
2. BusinessNZ offer to support in terms of engaging with their constituency to attend regional hui.
3. Draft notes to be reviewed by BusinessNZ before publicly posting online.