

Te Rongopai Marae Rejuvenation Update:



*Hoki atu whakahaungia te Rongopai
i runga i te ngawarime te aroha
Te Kooti Rikirangi*

The last karakia and putting our Marae in a state of noa, was executed on 10 January 2021 by Ringatu Tohunga, Whitiaua Ropitini, supported by whānau who attended this service. 11 January 2021 is the beginning and the commencement of Te Rongopai Marae Rejuvenation and Development Plan.



In appreciation, to the Wi Pere Trustees, on behalf of our Trust Board and Committee, thank you so much for your support through these many years. It has not been an easy path, but we got there in 2021.

With crippling council laws, health and safety issues which are relevant now - there was no way that we could do short cuts. Thank you for your contribution of \$77,000.00. From this koha we reinvested into the feasibility reports for our Marae, and a significant milestone is the outcome we achieved.



To the beneficiaries and Whānau O Wi Pere - thank you for the support you all have shown or contributed. Our team have put photos on our Facebook page as an update of where we are on this journey.

We have good relationships on an external level. We pursued sound and professional guidance in relation to the Rejuvenation of our Marae, and there are a few organisations we need to acknowledge, from our Financial Portfolio - Graham and Dobson, Chris Torrie, Department of Internal Affairs (Nita Selena), Architects 44, Project Manager James Blackburne.



Strategic funding had been key in obtaining the funds necessary to commence Stage 1. For the Provincial Growth Fund, our team were shovel ready, which was timely as we were in the process of applying to Oranga Marae. Combining both funding proved to be successful, so achieving a higher rate of milestones for our Marae is progress going forward into the future. *NB: we have been successful in other areas of funding in the end of this financial year.*



From past restoration work and builds, the scope of employment has always been focused on whānau who on a voluntary basis or by their expertise, brought skills to our Marae.

This has been a challenge and often lead us into debate, however we have a balance. It is so appropriate that the rejuvenation of the Riria Mauaranui (Wharekai), is being led by principal builder, George Horsfall of Tairāwhiti Construction.

George has brought expertise and skill to our Marae, along with his brother Cass Horsfall, who is also part of his team. The progress we have seen has been amazing.



26 November 2020 first Provincial Growth Fund payment is \$286,350.00 (paid in increments, according to report being submitted for this financial year April 2020 - March 2021) the remainder monies of 30-20% again according to reports being submitted for April 2021 - March 2022.

27 January 2021 approved payment for Stage 1 \$1,573,879,65 inclusive GST. These two funding approved applications work consistently together as one project. The only separation is where the monies are derived from - Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) or Department of Internal Affairs (DIA).



Provincial Growth Fund is targeted at the following areas:

Stormwater upgrade and water collection

- Install larger spouting to all buildings
- Install additional downpipes
- Run all stormwater pipes underground to new water tanks
- Install new tanks (five in total) consolidated behind the wharepaku and wharenuī
- Separate wharenuī collection from general collection
- Build a small pump and filter shed
- Wharenuī water to be used for flushing toilets only
- Balance of water to have filters and UV treatment and used for all other uses
- Upgrade of the water supply system in the wharepaku including low flow showers, new cleaners sink and water tempering valves. The latter is a health and safety requirement to ensure that water at showers and taps is not too hot.



Provincial Growth Funding

Fire Sprinkler system:

The Marae has an existing Type 7 fire alarm system which protects the wharenuī. The project will see the existing system extended to protect the wharepaku and the wharekai, which are all connected to the wharenuī via a covered way.

The extension of the alarm system is critical to the next stage of projects planned for the marae, which include the upgrade of the current mezzanine floor of the wharekai.

For many years the mezzanine floor has been unable to be used due to a fire safety risk. The council has issued the marae a letter advising that until such time that all fire system issues are resolved, the mezzanine cannot be used.

The project will see the following work undertaken:

- New sprinkler supply tank
- New sprinkler pump and associated motor
- Extend sprinkler pipe work through to the wharepaku and wharekai
- Extend the smoke detection system through to the wharepaku and wharekai.



Oranga Marae Funding Stage 1:

The project is critical to the Marae and is part of a larger long-term project planned by the marae. The larger project which will see the following work undertaken: -

- Structural strengthening to the wharekai
- Fire rating to the wharekai mezzanine floor
- New stairs to the wharekai mezzanine
- Installation of additional egress points from the wharekai
- Upgrade of the marae toilets to be all low water use type
- Heating in kitchen and dining room
- Solar power
- Replacement of Wharekai windows and doors



We will be notifying whānau when and what is Stage 2 and 3, so watch this space.

Please whānau our Marae has been fenced off from the public, and is a designated site safe area with only authorised personnel permitted to enter.

Ngā mihi nui,

Te Rongopai Marae Trustees