

## NAU MAI HAERE MAI!

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### Info Days/Evenings Details

DATES	TIME
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Whakatāne Campus, Main Reception,
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	13 Domain Road
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	<b>PARKING</b>
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Available via Entry A, corner of Francis St and Domain Rd.
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	



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## NEWS

# Hapu protest

Karūa Aramoana  
 Staff reporter

MORE than a decade ago they were included in the settlement with Tūhoe, this year they feature in Whakatāne's – but Te Upokorehe say they belong to themselves.

Or at least that was the message on signs at a protest outside the Whakatāne Maori Trust Board on Friday morning. More than 50 members of Te Upokorehe gathered outside the building to protest against being included in the agreement in principle that prefaces Whakatāne's treaty settlement.

The agreement in principle, signed on August 18, outlines an offer by the Government of \$100 million to settle Whakatāne's treaty grievances. It includes Te Upokorehe as a hapu of Whakatāne, effectively wiping out Te Upokorehe's ability to have its claims heard.

Kaumātua Wallace Aramoana said Te Upokorehe was a tribe of its own, and not a sub-tribe of Whakatāne or Tūhoe.

"With the Crown pushing all these things we have never been listened to. They have no taringa (ears). We want to be able to have our stories and history recognised and accepted but we have been pushed to the side and told we are not an iwi."

"We were an iwi in 1840 and 1860 and we were known to the Government and Crown as an iwi then but now they push us under the umbrella of other tribes."

The protest involved members of the tribe holding banners that contained key messages and singing songs to maintain the peaceful aspect of the demonstration.



Te Upokorehe kaumātua and mokopuna also took their message into the Whakatāne Maori Trust Board offices, by placing rocks from each of their five hapu, and marae, next to a sign that read "My future is on the rocks".

Afterwards Te Upokorehe kaumātua met with the Whakatāne Maori Trust Board chairman, Robert Edwards, to talk about why they felt compelled to protest.

Mr Aramoana said the Whakatāne Maori Trust Board had been ignorant of Te Upokorehe's iwi status.

"Te Upokorehe are an



IWI OR HAPU: Te Upokorehe gather on St John Street in protest. 05941/008

## Hapu not an iwi says

TE UPOKOREHE is a sub-tribe of Whakatāne, according to Graeme Riesterer.

The Whakatāne Pre-Settlement Claims Trust chairman said history and genealogy showed Te Upokorehe should be included in the tribe's settlement.

"Based on our history and whakapapa Te Upokorehe has long been a recognised hapu of Whakatāne and has been included as a hapu of the Whakatāne Maori Trust Board since its inception."

Mr Riesterer said members of Te Upokorehe would receive the benefits of the settlement, along with the rest of Whakatāne.

"The proposed Whakatāne treaty settlement is for the entire Whakatāne iwi, which includes all our hapu and whānau.

"Together we have the opportunity to build a prosperous future for Whakatāne, and we want all our uri to be a part of this."

Te Upokorehe is a part of Whakatāne and is part of the Whakatāne Pre-Settlement Claims Trust. As such it would be wrong for them to be excluded from any settlement.

Mr Riesterer said Whakatāne Maori Trust Board chairman Robert Edwards, who was also a member of the pre-settlement trust, met with representatives from the group who protested on Friday.

He said Mr Edwards had passed on the message from the group to the pre-settlement trust.

"Whakatāne Pre-Settlement Claims Trust would welcome the opportunity

## NEWS

# inclusion in agreement



SAME ISSUES: Members of Te Upokorehe protest last Friday. Photo: Louis Klassen 05941/076



YOUNG AND OLD: Te Mauri Andre Keno, 4, was one of the Te Upokorehe mokopuna at the protest. 05941/013

## chairman

meet with those who turned up on Friday, and we hope to do so soon.

The Whakatāne Pre-Settlement Claims Trust continues to meet with our Whakatāne uri (descendants), through name and hapu hui.

"The trust includes representation from the hapu and two of the three Te Upokorehe Marae.

"We have held meetings with two Te Upokorehe Marae, however Rōmatua Marae has yet to accept our invitation to meet.

"Our door is always open and we are receptive to meeting with anyone who has an interest in the Whakatāne settlement process and discussing where they see themselves in the process."

to negotiate on behalf of the tribe. Mr Aramoana said the Crown and the courts that determined Te Upokorehe was a hapu of Whakatāne and it's time this was put right."

Mr Aramoana said he was looking forward to an inquiry by Waitangi Tribunal into the treaty grievances of groups in the North-Eastern Bay of Plenty area.

Already, the Waitangi Tribunal has granted an urgent hearing into issues surrounding the Whakatāne's treaty settlement negotiations following an application by 18 groups, which opposed the Whakatāne Pre-Settlement Claims Trust's assertion that it held a mandate

to negotiate on behalf of the tribe. Mr Aramoana said the Crown and the courts that determined Te Upokorehe was a hapu of Whakatāne and it's time this was put right."

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A descendant of Mokomoko, Karūa Mokomoko was at the protest and said her family opposed the agreement in principle because it did not include an accepted record of the historical grievances.

"Their settlement is all about the money and it is now about the historical grievances – it is about everything else and it is not about righting all of these wrongs."

Ms Mokomoko said her family had their own claim and it was about what happened to their ancestors in 1865.

"This settlement includes our claim but it has not been an inclusive process."

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