

News

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Malcolm Rowson

Tuhoe Treaty settlement celebrated

TUHOE hosted the Crown at a Settlement Day ceremony in Taneatua to celebrate the recent passage of Tuhoe Treaty settlement legislation on Friday, with several thousand iwi members joining Crown representatives for the celebration.

Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Christopher Finlayson delivered the Crown's formal apology to Tuhoe for breaches of the Crown's obligations under the Treaty.

Mr Finlayson said it was an important part of the settle-



ment process for the Crown to acknowledge and apologise for

historic Treaty breaches.

"These historical breaches **UNDER COVER: Three-thousand people gathered at Te Kura Whare, above, for the apology and were sheltered from the elements by three massive marquees.** Photo D0996-414

included indiscriminate rāpātū, or land confiscation, wrongful killings, including executions, years of scorched earth warfare, the failure to implement the Urewera District Native Reserve Act 1896 and the exclusion of Tuhoe from the establishment of Te Urewera National Park" he said.

"Today, was a day to be remembered - a day to celebrate peace and a forward-looking future," Tuhoe Treaty negotiator and leader Tamati Kruger said.

The ceremony was attended by descendants of premier Richard Seddon, who in 1894 promised Tuhoe dominion over their lands.

Great grandson Tim Jerram, of Auckland, presented Tuhoe with a taiaha gifted to Seddon by Tuhoe rangatira Kereru,

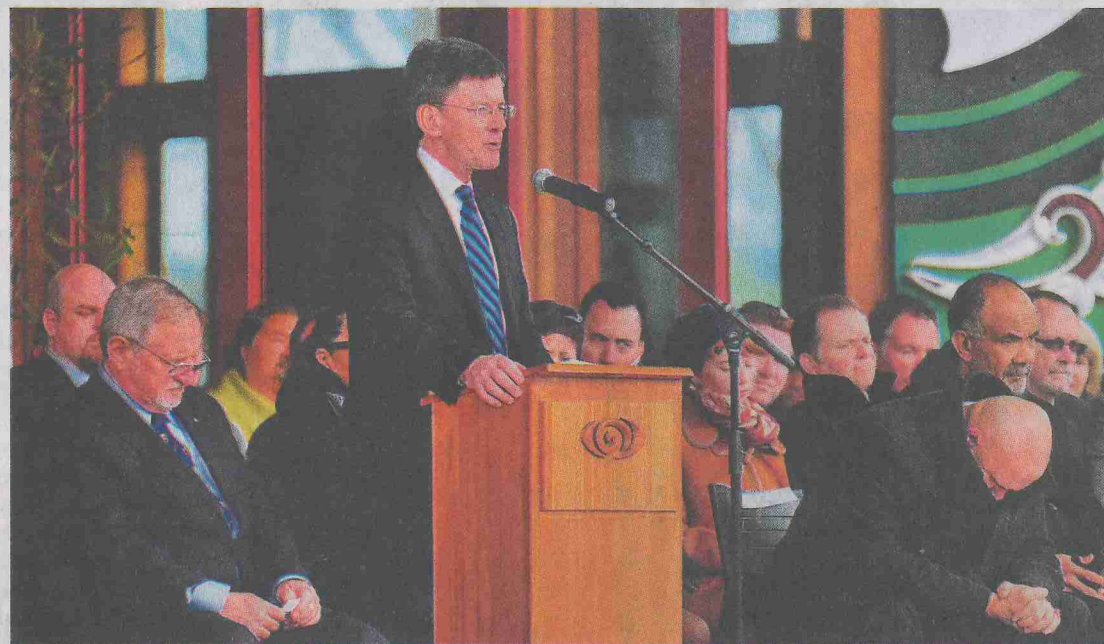
when the premier visited Te Urewera in 1894.

An historic flag that flew at the Tuhoe prophet Rua Kenana's Maungapohatu community was returned by the Auckland War Memorial Museum.

The flag was confiscated by Crown forces when they arrested Rua in 1916.

"The ceremony marks a turning point in the Crown-Tuhoe relationship.

"The focus has shifted from the settlement of historic Treaty grievances to co-operation between the Crown and Tuhoe on areas of mutual interest, exemplified by the new arrangements for the governance and management of Te Urewera, Mr Finlayson said.



WE'RE SORRY: Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Minister Christopher Finlayson apologises to Tuhoe on the Crown's behalf on Friday.

Photos Troy Baker D0996-153

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Continued from page one:

"I'm Krystal's mentor and significant other, we walk this journey together.

"With this one-on-one support, from someone who will