

19 December 2022

As you are aware, Rotorua recently elected its Mayor and Council, and Te Arawa elected its Te Tatau o Te Arawa Board to work in partnership with the Council for the 2022-2025 triennium. It is timely that the partnership between Te Arawa and Rotorua Lakes Council – reflected in the [Partnership Agreement \(Agreement\)](#) signed in December 2015 – is reviewed to reflect these changes in leadership and to ensure Te Tatau stays effective and continues to meet its mandated purpose and objectives.

As Chairman of Te Tatau o Te Arawa, I want to update you on the process Te Tatau has taken to review the Agreement and to request your support for the negotiating position we intend to present to the Council as we enter the review. We have set our negotiating position recognising that there is currently an absence of legislation that gives Te Arawa direct representation on to the Council (although we understand that this is a work in progress).

The process so far:

The changes we are seeking were developed from a hui with our people held at Te Ao Mārama on 29 November. This was followed by a working party going through the themes that emerged from that hui to form any recommended changes. These were then signed off by the Te Tatau Board.

Prior to entering the review with Council, Te Tatau asked for a further process of endorsement from key Te Arawa rūpū/trusts/entities to ensure opportunity for all Te Arawa sectors to be across what we are doing.

Agreement Review Points:

In addition to ensuring that each clause of the Agreement is still relevant and that better engagement with Te Arawa whānui is prioritised, the following have been agreed by Te Tatau to be key negotiation points:

Governance – input to decision-making:

▲ Te Tatau to appoint:

- **Two people to any Committee of the whole of Council**
- **One person to an external position on the Audit & Risk Committee**
- **One person to a director position on any Council Controlled Organisation (CCO)**
- **One person to any Resource Management Policy Committee, or if no such committee is established, a Te Tatau appointee is trained as a Resource Management Commissioner every year.**



- ▲ **Council to establish a Council Committee of the whole focused on the Te Arawa 2050 Vision.** This Committee could incorporate existing MOUs and Protocols and would operate in a similar way to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Komiti Māori.

Operational – elements to enhance Te Arawa engagement with Council:

- ▲ **Enable engagement by Te Tatau with Te Arawa on agreed kaupapa nui of Council.** If Council considered enhanced Te Arawa engagement can be better delivered by Council, Council should establish (and Te Tatau help choose) dedicated engagement role/s that could report to the re-established Te Arawa Partnership external facing role
- ▲ **Re-establish Te Arawa Partnership external facing role at a Tier 2 level** – with the resignation in 2021 of Arapeta Tahana from the Tier 2 level Ahurei role, Council did not recruit a replacement at Tier 2.
- ▲ **Te Tatau Manahautū to participate alongside Council Executive Team**

I look forward to your response.

Ngā mihi

Rawiri Waru
Chairman
Te Tatau o Te Arawa

