



NGĀTI APAKURA

Tēnā tātou e te whānau whānui o Ngāti Apakura,

Paeheretia te rangi, paeheretia te whenua, paeheretia te pou herenga waka, te pou herenga tāngata o te motu. Ko te Arikinui Kuiini Nga wai hono i te po ki tōnā ahurewa tapu, ko tātou ngā toronga whakapapa o tuawhakarere ki a tātou, pai mārire ki a tātou katoa.

Apakura Rūnanga Trust would like to acknowledge the Koroneihana of our Arikinui, Kuiini Ngā Wai Hono i te Pō, taking place this week at Tūrangawaewae Marae. We acknowledge our Arikinui as she continues to carry forward the legacy and responsibilities of the Kiingitanga, and the enduring kaupapa of kotahitanga that has brought our people together across generations.

As Ngāti Apakura, we acknowledge our own enduring whakapapa and relationship with the Kiingitanga, and join with our whanaunga across the motu in marking this important occasion.

Hohou i te Rongo

Hohou i te Rongo is not a Treaty settlement, it's our reconciliation kaupapa built specifically for Ngāti Apakura based around the events of Rangiaowhia. It's focused on affirming who we are as a people, our identity, culture, language and history, strengthening our relationships with huānga, and laying the groundwork to rebuild trust with the Crown and local government.

For many of our whānau especially those who grew up away from the marae, or who only found out later in life that they were Apakura, this journey is also about restoring something that was quietly lost after 1864: the ability to say who you are without hesitation. That's the heart of why we're asking whānau to be part of this, not just to watch it happen.

Hohou i te Rongo – the Reconciliation process

Ngāti Apakura's reconciliation process addresses the harm caused by the Pāhuatanga, the 1864 invasion of Rangiaowhia. It is built around three pillars: restitution, restoration and reconciliation.



The Three Pillars

1. Restitution

the Crown acknowledges the wrongdoing and apologises for the harm caused; the Anglican Church has separately purchased land to support reconnection to Rangiaowhia.

2. Restoration

recognition of the intergenerational impacts: disconnection from ancestral land, loss of taonga, ecosystem degradation, and erosion of mana motuhake.

3. Reconciliation

a Crown commitment to rebuild the relationship with Ngāti Apakura and work toward shared prosperity and peace.

Our Journey So Far

Year	Milestone
2014	Apakura Rūnanga Trust established.
2018	Te Waha ā Tuāra komiti formed to advance reconciliation; Waitangi Tribunal finding supports the case for redress.
2019	Te Waha ā Tuāra begins engagement with the Crown.
2020	Treaty Negotiations Minister Andrew Little visits Rangiaowhia; the Crown commits to developing a reconciliation package.
2021	Phase 1 research and iwi engagement begins.
2023	Apakura Rūnanga Trust receives its reconciliation mandate. The Anglican Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki, with Te Hui Amorangi, begins the process of returning land at Rangiaowhia.
2024	Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Paul Goldsmith accepts the mandate and negotiations move into a formal phase. 4.7 hectares at Rangiaowhia is returned to Ngāti Apakura and Ngāti Hinetū.
Sept 2024 – Sept 2025	Iwi engagement and scoping of the reconciliation package.
Oct 2025 – present	WE ARE HERE: Reconciliation package development underway.
Forthcoming	Package agreement and Crown apology.

Next Steps

The haerenga from here runs through a few clear stages:

1. **Finish negotiations of the reconciliation package with the Crown,**
2. **Ministerial and Cabinet decisions confirming the offer,**
3. **Drafting the full Deed of Settlement,**
4. **Endorsement Hui: The point where registered uri formally vote on whether to accept the package offered by the Crown,**
5. **Ngāti Apakura Whakanuia: To mark the outcome together.**

Exact hui dates and venues are still being finalised, and we'll share those the moment they're locked in, on our Facebook page and in upcoming pānui.

What is the Endorsement Hui?

The Endorsement Hui is where you get the final say. It's the point where registered uri vote kanohi ki te kanohi (in person) and online, on whether to accept the package after hearing it explained and asking your pātai. Without that vote, it's just the Board and the Crown having worked something out. With it, it becomes something our whānau have actually agreed to. No vote, no deed.

What is a Deed?

A Deed is the final legal document where the Crown and Ngāti Apakura put in writing exactly what's been agreed, what the Crown is acknowledging, what's being provided, and what both sides are committing to. It only gets signed once whānau have had their say through the Endorsement Hui, so it's the last step in this haerenga, not the first.

Rēhita mai - Make sure you're registered

Only uri aged 18 and over who are registered with Apakura Rūnanga Trust will be eligible to take part when Endorsement Hui dates are confirmed. If you're not registered yet, or you're not sure whether your details are up to date, now is the time to sort it. It's how we'll be able to reach you directly when dates are set, and it's the only way to make sure your voice counts.

This is also about more than one vote. Every whānau member who registers strengthens our tribal register - the record that shows who we are and where we are, which matters well beyond Hohou i te Rongo. If you have cousins, tamariki who've just turned 18, or wider whānau who've never registered, this is a good time to encourage them to do so.

Register here: <https://ngatiapakura.co.nz/rehitatanga-i-registration>



Historical Account



Pictured left to right: Harry Maki-Midwood, Moepatu Borell, John Tawhana Hetet, Danny Te Kanawa, Sybille Hetet, Orrin Kapua and Steven Wilson

Absent: Matua Tom Roa, Robert Joseph and Leah Bell

Since 2009, our Historical Account Working Group has given itself, freely and without reward, to one purpose: making sure the story of Rangiaowhia is told with truth and with aroha. These are volunteers who have carried this kaupapa for years. Combing through records, listening to kaumātua, and cross-checking kōrero, so that what is written is as close to the truth as we can possibly get. Over this past year that mahi has sharpened into its clearest form yet, shaping the events at Rangiaowhia, February 1864, into a document that can stand within the Hohou i te Rongo process.

We want to thank and acknowledge every member of the Historical Account Working Group for their tireless mahi in reaching this point. This has not been an easy piece of work, and they have carried it with humility and dedication. We also extend our sincere thanks to everyone who participated and contributed along the way - whānau, kaumātua, and all those who generously shared their kōrero, memories, and records to help gather the information needed to shape this account.

Pictured here: the Working Group at their final wānanga, working paragraph by paragraph through the draft, to ensure the account reflects, as closely and honestly as possible, the agreed record of Apakura interactions.

This wānanga marked the final opportunity for Working Group to comment before the draft moves forward: independent review by an eminent historian, final revisions, a further review in partnership with the Crown historian in October, and translation into Te Reo Rangatira.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

Upcoming Hui and Wānanga

Koroneihana 2026 is on at Tūrangawaewae from 30 August to 6 September.

Date: **30 August to 6 September 2026**

Pōwhiri: **Various please check official site for information**

Venue: **Tūrangawaewae Marae**

Te Paki o Matariki (the official invite) is below. We encourage all whānau to attend and commemorate Te Arikinui Kuini Nga wai hono i te po. 🙏

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/waikatotainui/>

Pōwhiri for Ariki Te Rangimaheu & Tumuaki Hone

Date: **Friday 9 October 2026**

Pōwhiri: **9:00am. Event finishes approx. 12:30pm.**

Venue: **Kahotea Marae**

Kaupapa: Ngāti Apakura will welcome Ariki Te Rangimaheu and Tumuaki Hone onto our whenua. It's a significant day for our iwi - a chance to connect, extend our manaakitanga and to share where things are at with Hohou i te Rongo.

Apakura Rūnanga Trust AGM

Date: **Saturday 10 October 2026**

Pōwhiri: **9:00am. Event finishes approx. 12:30pm**

Venue: **Kahotea Marae**

Kaupapa: NOTICE is hereby given that the 2026 Annual General Meeting of the beneficiaries of Apakura Rūnanga Trust (ART), being the members of Ngāti Apakura iwi, will be held on Saturday 10 October.

The Trust will;

- report on the operations/financials of the Trust during the preceding income year;
- present the Annual Report and undertake all other notified business;
- at the discretion of the Chairperson, undertake any other general business raised at this meeting

For catering purposes, please RSVP to admin@ngatiapakura.co.nz

Stay in the Loop

Kōrero with us on Facebook

Our Facebook page is where we're posting the day-to-day of this journey, the history behind Hohou i te Rongo, explainers on the package, and updates as they land. Following, sharing and commenting doesn't just keep you informed, it helps this information reach whānau who might not know about Hohou i te Rongo, including cousins who've drifted from the marae or only just found out they're Apakura.

Follow the Ngāti Apakura Facebook page and share posts with your whānau:

<https://www.facebook.com/ApakuraRunangaTrust/>

Subscribe to the Pānui

There's a lot to get through over the coming months, and not every whānau member is on social media. If there's anyone in your whānau who isn't already getting the pānui - parents, cousins or kaumātua, encourage them to subscribe so they don't miss the detail that matters over the next few months.

Ask whānau to subscribe: admin@ngatiapakura.co.nz

This is a big chapter for Ngāti Apakura, and it only carries the weight it should if whānau are part of it, informed, registered, and ready when the time comes to have your say.

Ngā manaakitanga

Apakura Rūnanga Trust

