

APPENDIX I

**STATEMENT OF CLAIM**

**APPLICATION TO CONVENE URGENT HEARING OF  
WAITANGI TRIBUNAL ON BEHALF OF  
NGA TAUIHU O NGA WANANGA ASSOCIATION**

**COMPRISING**

**Te Wananga o Aotearoa – 6 North Island Campuses**

*Represented by*  
Chief Executive and Tumuaki  
Rongo Herehere Wetere ONZM  
of Ngati Maniapoto,  
the eighth largest Tribal Iwi in Aotearoa  
Mo Te Waka o Tainui

**Te Wananga o Raukawa – Otaki**

*Represented by*  
Chief Executive and Tumuaki  
Professor Whatarangi Winiata FCA, Bcom, MBA, PhD  
of Ngati Raukawa Ki Te Tonga,  
Ngati Toa Rangatira  
Mo Tainui Waka

**Te Wananga o Awanuiarangi – Whakatane**

*Represented by*  
CEO and Tumuaki  
Himiona Nuku MA Dip Tchg  
Mo Mataatua Waka

Te Tauihu o Nga Wananga believes we have been misled and marginalised by government *inaction* and *indifference*.

We believe that the *Crown is in clear Breach of the Treaty of Waitangi*. Its policies continue to marginalise Maori and seriously threaten the viability of Wananga Maori and Maori initiatives in Education. Maori failure to participate on an equal footing with non Maori will lead to disparities in education, which ultimately affect all New Zealanders.

Maoridom *cannot afford to stand still whilst ineffective* Crown policies continue to proliferate horrific statistics for Maori in Aotearoa.

The Crown confiscated Maori land within the Maniapoto Rohe at Alexandria, Pirongia, 10 000 acres to help set up the University of Auckland in the 1860s.

Maori assets have been stripped by Crown action to benefit the majority culture in New Zealand without regard to equity of opportunity for Tangata Whenua in education.

Maori who have retained some land have made it freely available for education purposes all around New Zealand in the vain hope that Maori educational opportunity and participation would not be subjected to disadvantage.

### **Our claim against the Crown is**

That having formerly approved Wananga status for each of the three Wananga under the 1990 Education Amendment Act:

- The crown has failed to resource these three Wananga on a similar basis as other Tertiary Institutes.
- The crown has failed to resource Te Wananga o Aotearoa, Te Wananga o Raukawa and Te Wananga o Awanuiarangi on an equitable basis compared to other Tertiary Education Institutes.

Based on 1994 figures:

- Crown investment in Universities, Polytechnics, Schools of Education stood at \$1.75 billion – Wananga Maori – Nil.

Evidence will be presented showing that by any measurement Maori have been and are still being seriously disadvantaged by education funding policies of the Crown.

Evidence will show that following a meeting with Wyatt Creech, Minister of Education who had made a substantial grant to Manawatu Polytechnic's \$44 million new campus development in 1996. He agreed to consider a grant application on behalf of Wananga Maori in February 1997. After following all the requirements of the Ministry of Education, Te Wananga o Aotearoa as a test case lodged its completed Application for Capital Grant, 3 April 1997.

To assist the Ministry of Education, a further concluding submission was made in May 1997.

Repeated assurances were made by Ministry of Education staff that provision for Wananga particularly Te Wananga o Aotearoa would be in the 1998 budget round.

Minister of Education, Wyatt Creech fuelled the hopes of Te Tauihu o Nga Wananga when we met in Wellington in November 1997 to discuss the Green Paper on Tertiary Education and made the statement that, had funding provision been made available by the Coalition Government in 1997, Wananga establishment grants would have been funded.

Meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Hon Winston Peters 5 May 1998 acknowledged no capital budget in 1998/99 for Wananga.

Exploratory notes – initial announcement of Wananga's status for Te Wananga o Aotearoa and Raukawa was made by Dr Lockwood Smith at the Annual Pokai at Waahi Marae in October 1993. His public press release stated Wananga Maori would be the peers of Universities, Polytechnics and Schools of Education in New Zealand.

To achieve this recognition and status of Wananga Maori, required substantial costs and personal commitment from both Te Wananga o Aotearoa and Te Wananga o Raukawa without any Crown capital resourcing available, even to this day.

The Crown has clearly made funds available to several Polytechnics and Universities since 1990 and ignored many representations by Wananga Maori for similar resourcing.

Government policy has effectively controlled the development of Wananga which has forced Te Wananga o Raukawa to be funded for 284 EFTS places rather than the actual full time enrolments of 443 this year.

In 1997, Raukawa carried 30% unfunded EFTS. No other Tertiary Institution in New Zealand has made this level of commitment to Maori participation at Tertiary level.

This shows the absolute commitment that Maori Wananga has made to address under representations for Maori at Tertiary level.

This application is lodged with the full support of the Chair of Nga Tauihu o Nga Wananga, Turoa Royal MA, MEd Admin, Dip Tchg.

Signed on behalf of Wananga Maori Association

Rongo H Wetere  
Te Tumuaki

