

CHARTER FOR KORONGATA MARAE

1 NAME

The organisation, premises and facilities shall be known as Korongata Marae, hereinafter referred to as “The Marae”.

2 LEGAL DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The Marae is a Maori Reservation pursuant to Section: 338 of Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993 (hereinafter referred to as “The Act”) set apart as a Maori Reservation for the purposes of a Marae and place of historic interest and a place for erection of Kaumatua housing for the common use and benefit of the Maori People.
- 2.2 This charter is in accordance with the regulations under the Act and is to be complied with at all times.
- 2.3 The Marae is located at 9 Maraekakaho Road, Bridge Pa. The Certificate of Title lists the total area as .5615 hectares.
- 2.4 The Marae is zoned a Maori Reservation.

3 MANAGEMENT

There shall be a Board of Trustees of the Marae, hereinafter referred to as “The Board”.

- 3.1 The Board shall comprise of a maximum of ten (10) and a minimum of seven (7) elected members. At least 80% of the Board shall be Tangata Whenua.
- 3.2 The Chairperson shall be appointed by the Board Members, who will serve for a period of three (3) years.
- 3.3 There shall be a Deputy Chairperson appointed by the Board members, who will serve for a period of up to three (3) years.
- 3.4 There shall be a Secretary appointed by the Board members, who will serve for a period of up to three (3) years.
- 3.5 All elected Board Members shall serve for a period of up to three (3) years, but may stand for re-election if so nominated.
- 3.6 Underpinning this structure all tuturu Maori Structures of Iwi, Hapu and Whanau. The special place of elders are acknowledged and that they are always present to offer guidance to the Board.

4 APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

- 4.1 All New Zealand citizens are eligible for appointment as a Trustee unless they are one of the following persons:
- (a) An undischarged bankrupt.
 - (b) A person who is subject to a Compulsory Treatment Order under Part II of the Mental Health Act 1992.
 - (c) A person convicted of any offence punishable by imprisonment for a term of six months or more, unless that sentence has been served or otherwise suffered the penalty imposed.
- 4.2 Nominations for Trustees will be accepted in writing on the day of the Annual General Meeting, or as such time and place that the Board may decide.
- 4.3 Nominations for Trustees will come from each block.
- 4.4 Nominators must have beneficial interest in specified block. The blocks are Korongata 1A, Korongata 1B, Korongata 1C, Korongata 2A, Korongata 2B1, Korongata 2B2, Korongata 2B3, Korongata 2B4, Te Awa O Te Atua 7A, Te Awa O Te Atua 7B2C.
- 4.5 All nominations must be seconded.
- 4.6 A nominee may not nominate or second him or herself.
- 4.7 Voting for election of nominees shall be by those present at a meeting and by a show of hands. Vacancies for the Board in any one-year shall be filled by the appropriate number of top polling nominees, subject to appointment by the Maori Land Court.
- 4.8 Elections of trustees shall be held at Annual General Meetings or at such time and place that the Board may decide. If the election of trustees is not at an Annual General Meeting, then there shall be a public notice in the local paper giving a minimum of one month's notice of the specially called meeting.
- 4.9 At any Annual or Special General Meeting called there shall be minimum quorum of five (5) trustees of the Marae present before any voting is allowed. Beneficiaries are permitted in these meetings, but cannot vote at Board meetings.

5 TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1 The Board shall safeguard the taonga and ensure that tikanga is observed at all times.
- 5.2 The Board shall be responsible for the efficient and effective running of the Marae.
- 5.3 All trustees have a duty to attend meetings called by the Chairperson. Trustees unable to attend meetings must tender their apologies to the Secretary (or representative prior to the meeting)

6 MEETINGS

- 6.1 The Board shall meet regularly, at any mutually agreed time, for the purposes of ongoing management of the Marae.
- 6.2 Annual General Meetings will be held within three (3) months of the end of the financial year. The purpose of the Annual General Meetings will be to present annual accounts, to elect new trustees if required, to present an account of the achievements of the year, to outline project objectives of the Board for the coming year, and to discuss any other business of the Marae as required by the meeting.
- 6.3 Notification of Annual General Meetings will be made through the local media one month prior to the meeting.
- 6.4 The Board may call special General Meetings at any one time as deemed necessary, for which one month's notice will be given. A Special General Meeting must be called if the number of Trustees falls below five (5) for whatever reason.

7 DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

- 7.1 The Chairperson may, if necessary, delegate Chairmanship of the Board to the Deputy Chairperson or if he/she is unavailable, to another trustee.
- 7.2 The Board may appoint sub-committees as necessary to oversee any aspect of the management of the Marae. Such sub-committees may comprise trustees and other beneficiaries.
- 7.3 The Board appoints the Marae committee to administer and oversee the day to day management of the Marae.
- 7.4 The financial accountability, records and accounts, is the responsibility of the Marae Committee and will from time to time, when advised by the Board allocate funds to the Board.

- 7.5 The Board appoints the Marae Committee to authorise activities on the Marae in accordance with Regulations nine (9) and ten (10) of the Maori Reservations Regulations 1994.
- 7.6 The Board appoints the Marae and Marae Maori Committee to apply for any and all funding and grants that may be available for the betterment of the Marae.

8 THE CHARTER

- 8.1 The Charter may only be amended at a Special Meeting or Annual General Meeting by a 75% majority vote of Trustees and other beneficiaries present.
- 8.2 The Charter shall be kept in the Marae Administration Office and may be inspected on request by any beneficiary.

9 TE WAWATA (VISION STATEMENT)

“Kia ma te Marae, hurihia to pohatu, whai iho ma te ahi ka ki te Marae e whakaatu” ‘Let the marae be clean, turn the stone over, then let the burning fire reveal it’
A clean Marae with no fire burning is worthless, but one supported by people and their cooking fires is of high value

10 NGA TIKANGA (VALUES)

10.1 Kawa

Kawa is described as a system of principles, laws and regulations which control human behaviour on formal occasions. It is also the ritual and customary procedures, that constitute the kawa or etiquette of the marae.

The kawa of any tribe is very important because it is akin to a law which must never be broken. In pre-European times and possibly even today, those who transgressed the kawa paid the penalty in some way or another. Ignorance of the kawa is no excuse for transgressions.

10.2 Paeke

Paeke is a kawa, or format for whaikorero. All the tangata whenua speak and then all the manuhiri speak. The very last speaker is always the tangata whenua, who will outline the next movement, inviting the manuhiri to come forward and hongu.

10.3 Karanga

This traditional ritual call of welcome is the first event to summon a group of people who are ready to enter the Marae. **Ka** meaning to ignite and **ranga** is to weave voices and feelings. The hosts who perform the karanga are called kaikaranga. The women who perform karanga on behalf of the manuhiri are called karanga whakautu.

It is in the karanga that one will hear much of the beauty of the language and experience some of the most moving moments of Maori experience.

10.4 **Language**

Central to all Maori culture is the quest of the language, Te Reo Maori. For without the language, there is no tangible manifestation of the culture to the uninitiated.

10.5 **Manuhiri**

All visitors to a marae are known as waewae tapu (people with sacred feet). Such visitors have to go through a formalised ritual to decontaminate them from their alien tapu. This ritual begins with the powhiri.

10.6 **Tapu and Noa**

Tapu means sacred and is described as religious or superstitious restriction. Noa, in direct contrast is common, or free from tapu or any other restriction.

10.7 **Manaaki**

Mana is integrity or prestige. Aki is to uplift. Manaakitanga is practiced in Maori culture to lift the integrity or prestige of the Marae.

10.8 **Hongi**

The act of hongiri or pressing noses implies that life comes from the gods. The hongiri is a solemn act between two individuals, as they embrace they share the essence and quality of each others being. It is also a sign of life and immortality and it symbolizes the action of the Gods in breathing into humans the breath of life.

10.9 **Kai**

Food is the true symbol of hospitality on the marae, and it is a long established custom, that directly after the visitors have been welcomed, they should be fed. The tapu has been lifted. The decontamination process is now complete because food is considered common (noa) and negates tapu. Manaakitanga is expressed to the manuhiri by serving cooked kai.

10.10 **Auahi Kore (Smokefree) and Alcohol Free**

Korongata Marae, including all areas pertaining to "The Marae" as a Maori Reservation pursuant to Section: 338 of Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993, is Auahi Kore, or Smoke Free and Alcohol Free.