



18 February 2021

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Maru postpones Deed of Settlement signing event at Tarata Domain

Ensuring the safety of kaumatua, kuia, whānau and the wider Taranaki community has prompted the decision to postpone a key Ngāti Maru milestone event. The signing of their Deed of Settlement - Te Hiringa Taketake.

Hundreds of whānau, central and local government officials, and invited guests had intended to attend the momentous event to be held on Saturday 27 February at Tarata Domain.

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Maru Trustees said the decision to postpone the event was extremely difficult, however with the latest Covid-19 community cases in Auckland and the potential for more, the right decision was taken by Trustees.

“We have taken a cautionary approach as there is nothing more important than protecting whakapapa. Also as hosts of this event, it is our responsibility to look after the safety of all guests not just from Taranaki but across the country.”

With the ongoing uncertainty around Covid-19 Levels still looming, Trustees and Negotiators will travel to Wellington to sign with the Crown on behalf of the iwi to keep the process moving.

The Trustees acknowledge there will be no final settlement until all of Ngāti Maru come together on its whenua as Ngāti Maruwharanui Iwi.

“This will be in the form of a celebration at home once settlement has been achieved and Te Hiringa Taketake becomes law later this year,” says Trustees.

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