

**OHITI AHU WHENUA TRUST  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
21 November 2020**

**CHAIRPERSONS REPORT**

*Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini  
Our strength doesn't come from ourselves alone,  
Our strength derives from the many*



Tēnā koutou katoa,

Nau mai haere mai and welcome to the 2020 Annual General Meeting of the Ohiti Waitio 1E3A Ahu Whenua Trust.



First and foremost I want to acknowledge the passing of our loved ones during this year. On the 18th June 2020, we farewelled our former long time serving Chair of the Trust, Padudi Tawehi (Boy) Kemp. Boy was of Ngāi Tamanuhiri, Ngāti Kahungunu and Ngāti Tuwharetoa descent and was born in Gisborne to Moana Nui a Kiwa Kemp and Kararaina Hineato Walker on February 25, 1948. Boy married Kate Ngarangione on Valentine's Day, February 14, 1970 and this year they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. We share our condolences with Kate and the whānau and with all of our whānau here who have lost a loved one throughout the year. Please accept our condolences and heart felt love for each of you.

Although our report today reflects the financial year 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, I want to commend each of you for coping through this current year of uncertainty as we experienced a world pandemic and a country Alert Level 4 - lock down. COVID-19 continues to affect us as we adjust to the things we have learned through these difficult times. I want to acknowledge each of you for staying safe in your homes and looking after yourselves and your whānau.

**Unite  
against  
COVID-19**



We are owners of land located at on Ohiti Road, Crownthorp and is 105.6382 ha. This is a freehold block that was established as an Ahu Whenua Trust by Orders of the Maori Land Court. This block is administered by the Ohiti Waitio 1E3A Ahu Whenua Trust on behalf of the land owners.

There are several land owners listed collectively in these blocks (this includes individuals and whānau trusts), however this list is ever changing when beneficiaries pass away and whānau succeed to the blocks of land or alternatively trusts break up and go back to individuals. All of these changes occur through the

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Māori Land Court and the Trust accesses the updated information from the Māori Land Court each time we distribute the dividends to the owners. However, we have experienced issues with Māori Land Court updating their data in a timely manner as well as owners having no contact information at all. There is difficulty in receiving updated contact information for some of the owners because people generally move without updating information. These are mainly families who are disconnected and perhaps have moved away from New Zealand. Nonetheless, these whānau members have unclaimed monies waiting for them to claim. To claim monies, there are a number of things that need to be done.

The trust also administers tertiary grants to recognise the pursuit of academic excellence, knowledge and qualifications of our land owners and their descendants.

### **TRUSTEES**

The Trustees of the Ohiti 1E3A Trust is made up of four elected trustees, myself Kathleen Kireka, Olivia Thompson, Timoti Gemmell and Ruth Wong. Ruth is also our secretary and treasurer.



### **LAND LEASE**

The land is currently in a 9 year lease agreement with 'Apatu Farms Limited'. The lease commenced on 1 July 2012 and will end 30 June 2021. The collective rental received each year as per the lease agreement is 106,000 plus GST. Payments are received twice a year. After expenses are paid the surplus is distributed to the land owners accordingly as per the Māori Land Court information of land ownership.

### **FINANCES & BUDGET**

Each year the trust works to a budget and monitors the trusts expenses. The main expenses are discussed by the Trustees and financial statements are reported to the land owners at the AGM. Our Accountant through Robert Kale is Mayberry Accounting Limited and the Financial Statements have been provided for the year ending 31 March 2020. I acknowledge Robert Kale who has been the trusts Secretary, Treasurer and Accountant for many years. Robert is reporting the Financial Statements as part of our Agenda.

### **APATU FARMS LIMITED & WHENUA UPDATE**



The whenua is in great shape with 'Apatu Farms Limited'. The Farm that started over 40 years ago by the late Ken Apatu is now run by his sons Mark and Paul. Our lease agreement stipulates the full agreement of the lease. The main use of the Ohiti land is growing vegetation. At the moment Onions have been sown.

Check the website

<https://www.apatufarms.co.nz/opportunities/>

### **ACCESS TO GO ONTO THE WHENUA**

The land is leased and is therefore in the care of the leasee. If whānau want to go onto the whenua, we need to let the

leasee know and seek permission for safety purposes.

## TERTIARY GRANTS

The recipients of the 2019-2020 Tertiary Grants were, Eve Kireka and Shaarai Harris. We congratulate each of these taurira on their continuous educational pursuits.

This current year recipients were Jalen Gemmell, Marnie Baker, Brandon Harrison, Dante Steffart, Eve Kireka and Leilani Wong. This is the most recipients we have had since the inception of tertiary grants. Please keep an eye out for when scholarships open. If we have your contact details, we can keep in touch with you.



## COMMUNICATIONS

The Trust is keen to get contact information for all of the land owners and their descendants to keep in touch with everyone on an as need basis when opportunities arise from time to time. Opportunities include employment, health and wellbeing, environment, housing and other general pānui that may interest whānau. Social media, email, facebook and texting portals are a much easier and faster way to communicate, however postal addresses are also key for important documents that need to be posted out. A database is being compiled with this information and will be kept confidential for the purposes of the trust only. See at the foot of each page of this report the Trusts email and postal detail.

## ASPIRATIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

2020 was a year that had us all excited about new things, but a World Pandemic took us by surprise and affected us all differently. We are mindful of our whānau trials and needs. We join you in these challenges. However, COVID-19 also brought with it some good learnings on how we should continue to work together as a whānau and look out for one another. We have seen whānau return home and I believe that pattern will continue in the coming years.

At our 2021 AGM we will hold the triennial election for two positions on the Trust Board as per the Trust Deed that was formed in 2015. In 2018 the first trustee election was held where two positions remained and two went up for election. In 2021 the other two positions will go up for election. Nominations will open prior to the next AGM.

We continue to earnestly search for our land owners. We need your help to find them so they can be informed and involved.

**Please stay safe and well whānau. This is my report.**

Tēna koutou, tēnā koutou, tēna koutou katoa.

**Kathleen Kireka – Chairperson**

**Trustee - Chairperson - Kathleen Kireka**

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