

## Office of Hon Christopher Finlayson

Attorney-General

Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

2 3 NOV 2010

Mr Brian Stanley Chairman Te Maru o Rereahu Trust Maraeroa C Office PO Box 376 TE KUITI

Tēnā koe Mr Stanley

Thank you for providing us with a copy of your deed of mandate. We write to confirm the Crown's recognition of the mandate of the Te Maru o Rereahu Trust (the **Trust**) to represent the descendants of the original owners of the Maraeroa A and B blocks as defined by the Native Land Court in the late nineteenth century in Treaty settlement negotiations with the Crown.

The deed of mandate you have submitted demonstrates support for the Trust to complete negotiations of the Maraeroa A and B block settlement. We have concluded that the Trust is an appropriate entity to represent the Maraeroa A and B claimant community in negotiations with the Crown.

Regarding submissions on your deed of mandate, the Raukawa Settlement Trust queried the inclusion of two Wai claims (Wai 389 and Wai 443) in the claimant definition in your deed of mandate. We understand that you have discussed this issue with Raukawa and encourage you to continue these discussions. We will also contact the Raukawa Settlement Trust directly to discuss their submission.

In conclusion, we are pleased to recognise the mandate of the Trust to represent the Maraeroa A and B claimant community in negotiations for the settlement of their historical Treaty claims. Congratulations on attaining this milestone in your path to reaching settlement with the Crown.

Nā māua noa,

Hon Christopher Finlayson

Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

Christopha Sular

Hon Dr Pita Sharples / Minister of Maori Affairs