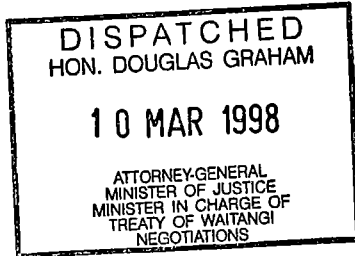




Office of the
**Minister in Charge of Treaty of Waitangi
Negotiations**

Te Tari o Te
**Minita Nōna te Mana Whakarite Take e pā ana ki
Te Tiriti o Waitangi**



COPY

Mr William Shuki Savage
Chair Raupatu Claims Committee
Te Runanga o Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau
PO Box 334
KAWERAU

Dear Mr Savage

I am writing to inform you that on Monday, 9 March 1998, Cabinet agreed to accept the Deed of Mandate submitted by you and your fellow negotiators to represent Te Runanga o Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau beneficiaries in direct negotiations with the Crown for settlement of their historical Treaty claims. As Cabinet has accepted your mandate, the second instalment of claimant funding for mandating will be paid immediately.

Cabinet noted that Wai 62 Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau is a cross-claim to Wai 46 Ngati Awa and discussions to resolve the cross-claim will shortly get underway. I understand there is still some disagreement between Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau and Ngati Awa as to the status of the hapu of Umutahi, or Te Tawera-Umutahi, based at Matata. No doubt this issue will need to be addressed in discussions on cross-claim issues. Constructive resolution of these outstanding matters will be pivotal to the Crown's ability to reach a full and final settlement with either group. I look forward to being informed of progress on these matters.

Cabinet also noted that officials from the Office of Treaty Settlements are currently preparing a submission on claimant funding for Wai 62, Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau and a Crown Negotiating Brief for the Tuwharetoa ki Kawerau claim. It is pleasing to see progress is being made.

Yours sincerely

Douglas Graham
Minister in Charge of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations