

21 February 2023

Katherine Raue

By email: fyi-request-21684-dbb3e3c6@requests.fyi.org.nz>

Tēnā koe Katherine,

Official Information Act 1982 – OIA2023020102

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), received on 31 January 2023 for information regarding the installation of the korowai in the atrium of Wellington Regional Hospital:

I request all information regarding the "traditional maori korowai" adorning the plinth in pride of place in the atrium of Wellington hospital, including all communication, and all information regarding consultation, sourcing, and installation of this hideous monstrosity, and the large plaque placed prominently in front of the piece of pounamu on top of the plinth.

The plinth, pounamu and korowai were installed just before the opening of the new Wellington Regional Hospital on March 19 2009. Despite an extensive search, no written record of the decisions regarding the purchase of the korowai have been found.

Most of the people who were involved in the decision to purchase the korowai are no longer employed by Te Whatu Ora. However, two ex-staff recollect that the decision to purchase a synthetic korowai and not to commission a taonga was influenced by two factors:

- The korowai is on public display and is therefore susceptible to handling and damage. Because it is synthetic, it is able to be dry cleaned.
- It was believed that a synthetic korowai offered more longevity.

Who created it?

I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as no document containing the information requested exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

The purchase was 14 years ago. The korowai has no label or anything to indicate who made it.

What consultation was undertaken? - please provide all information regarding the consultation, and all communication, undertaken in regard to the installation of this piece of synthetic fake fur that is referred to by Wellington Hospital as a "traditional maori korowai".

A copy of the minutes of the Māori Partnership Board with the relevant paragraph highlighted is attached to this response.

How much money was spent on the sourcing and installation of this cheap nasty piece of synthetic rubbish?

I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as no document containing the information requested exists or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

The purchase was made 14 years ago. We have been unable to find the specific record of how much it cost.

This request was made to specific staff at Wellington hospital months ago. Since then images of the "traditional korowai" and social media posts featuring images of it have been removed from the internet. I specifically request copies of these images and any other images of the "traditional maori korowai", and information regarding what type of feathers adorn the top of it.

Please see two photos attached as Appendices.

Photos featuring the korowai in the atrium of Wellington Regional Hospital have been posted on our social media pages several times over the years, including during September 2018 and January 2020.

The Capital & Coast and Hutt Valley Facebook pages were merged in late September 2022. To achieve this, one page (Capital & Coast DHB) was 'merged' into the other (Hutt Valley DHB), with the page being renamed 'Te Whatu Ora - Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley' to mark the change from DHBs to Te Whatu Ora. All posts from the old 'Capital & Coast DHB' page were automatically deleted as part of this process.

Photos featuring the korowai were not scrubbed from social media and some still exist on our Twitter page (<https://twitter.com/TeWhatuOraCCHV>)

If you have any questions, you can contact us at hnzOIA@health.govt.nz.

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public. Te Whatu Ora may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available on our website.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Jamie Duncan

Interim Lead – Hospital and Specialist Services

Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley

TeWhatuOra.govt.nz

Capital, Coast | Private Bag 7902, Newtown, Wellington 6342 | 04 385 5999
Hutt Valley | Private Bag 31907, Lower Hutt 5010 | 04 566 6999

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

MINUTES OF MEETING

Maori Partnership Board

11th March 2009



Venue: Te Taha Wairua
Level 1, Lotteries Commission Building
54 – 56 Cambridge Terrace, Wellington.

Date: Wednesday 11th March 2009

Present: Susan de Miguel (Chairperson), Peter Love, Jack Rikihana, Hilda Broadhurst, Jim Webber,

Attendants: Sam Jackson (Kaumatua), Leigh Andrews, Cheryl Goodyer on behalf of Riki Nia Nia.


Guests: Alan Mackintosh and Steering/Implementation Group


Apologies: Riki Nia Nia, Karen Coutts, Kayleen Katene & Herani Demuth (Deputy) for lateness.

Item / Time	Agenda Item / By Whom	Discussion Points	Planned Action
1 9.30am	Karakia		Sam Jackson
2	Minutes of Previous Meeting held - 11th February 2009	Noted and all agreed to be true and correct. <i>Peter Moved / Jim Second</i>	
3	Matters Arising	Nil	
3 9.45am	HIV Aids Project. Presentation from Alan Mackintosh and Steering/Implementation Group	Alan tabled numerous documents including Minutes of Steering/Implementation Group HIV Antenatal Screening Project, .Pamphlet in Te Reo- HIV Testing in Pregnancy. National Screening Unit Book. The team was seeking guidance on approaching maori communities and advised the HIV Antenatal Screening Project would go live, late April. See PowerPoint handout for notes of presentation.	Alan to provide statistics from the MOH website.



		<p>Some points for Maori covered in the presentation and discussions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maori have low incident of HIV, but higher pregnancy rates. • A woman, who is HIV positive, is encouraged to NOT breastfed, which could affect whanau if they don't know the woman is positive. • If a woman is HIV positive she is allowed to take the placenta home. • Blood is not kept after the screening process – only the data is. • Maori mainly come into to contact with HIV through Bisexual Males and Pacific people coming in and out of NZ. • The government allows a small percentage of infected refugees to come into the country. They are normally couples or a family unit. • 14% live births are Maori. 24% terminations are Maori. <p>Peter Love said the data was inadequate and that would prefer to have Maori specific statistics or data.</p> <p>MPB supported the HIV Antenatal Screening Project; The Chair would follow up with a letter and asked to be kept informed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Herani Moved / Susan Second</i></p>	<p>Susan to write a letter of feedback to Alan.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>NRH Opening (debrief)</p>	<p>Susan thanked everyone for their support and participation in the NRH opening particularly KAG and then opened the floor for wider discussion.</p> <p>Some points that were made-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiata group was outstanding. • Maori Partnership Board should have been seated together on the paipai. • Whakawatea was well attended by our Maori Community. • Pounamu stand was beautiful although the piupiu was removed. Jack may get a synthetic one made for longevity. <p>Jack thanked MPB and Sam/KAG for their leadership and direction and advised of lots of positive feedback from other Kaumatua from outside the district.</p> <p>Susan suggested having a thank-you get together for key people (KAG/Waiata group) involved in opening, maybe a BBQ within the city. A weekday was the preferred choice.</p>	<p>Koha box and signage for Pounamu to be discussed at a later date.</p> <p>Letter to be written from the MPB to CCDHB congratulating them on attending our Whakawatea and opening the Hospital.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Herani Moved / Peter Second</i></p> <p>Susan to source venues.</p>

5	2009/2010 DAP for discussion	<p>Alison presented DAP to board last week.</p> <p>Susan confirmed DAP articulated MPB relationship with the C&C DHB, priorities and expectations as per letter to Sir John dated 19 December 2009.</p> <p>MPB accepted the draft 2009/10 DAP in principal subject to receiving finalised performance measures and budget and the relationship with DHB remaining constant. Also noted a further opportunity to feed into the final draft by May. The Board agreed to advise accepting the draft DAP by letter to DHB board Chair.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Jack Moved / Herani Second</i></p>	
6	Tu Kaha Conference – Final Report	<p>Received and discussed.</p> <p>Board supported recommendations on page 15.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Herani Moved / Kayleen Second</i></p>	
7	RAG-M Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee has met twice this year, and reviewed 6 proposals • Meeting dates for the year have been set. (consideration was given to sub committee dates, and ethics committee timetable) • Colleen Wineera who has to date provided advice to researchers is no longer available, hence the likelihood of an increase in the number of proposals received by RAGM • It was considered timely to review the membership of the RAGM committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MPB were asked for a replacement for Susan ○ Herani confirmed her continued participation ○ Suggestions were taken for another researcher to be on the committee <p>Jack proposed that Cheryl come on RAG-M as a representative of HHS as she has a link with researchers/ clinicians etc and has a detailed knowledge of the processes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Jack moved / Herani second</i></p>	<p>MPB canvassing members to replace Susan de Miguel to have a replacement before next meeting</p> <p>NEXT MEETING: 1st April 2009. 10am -12noon</p>

8	Priorities Hui (Discuss)	<p>Pipitea Marae has been booked for 10 June 2009.</p> <p>The Chair recommended the Communications Subgroup to meet to decide what will be the discussion topic and bring findings back to MPB hui on 8 April</p>	 <p>CSG hui: Wed 1st April 2009 12.30 – 2.30pm</p>
10	Other Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jim asked what was happening with DHB land in Paraparaumu. Jack Rikihana advised land had been ‘land banked’ until the Treaty Claim had been settled. 2. Jim advised of the new direct line van transport from Kapiti to Wellington Hospital which is staffed by 7 volunteer drivers put together by Southern Cross. The Van’s can carry wheelchairs. Problems are parking in the hospital and assistance for the elderly once they have been dropped off. Susan suggested that details be provided to Whanau Care Services to follow up. 3. Carving for Atrium A revised proposal was presented to MPB by Sam Jackson. The proposal has come down in price as there is no need for the extra carvers or overtime. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter suggested deferring a carving because of the economic climate and the current Ministry review and suggested looking at it again after the Ministry review is completed in June • The two main concerns were timing and the material. It was agreed that it was necessary to keep the process transparent and the extra time could be spent sourcing more quotes. <p>Susan thanked Sam for getting quote from Winiata. Sam Jackson expressed his disappointment at not moving with the current proposal.</p>	<p>Jim to get timetable for Cheryl so that Whanau Care can be down there to support patients when / if required.</p>
12.30pm Meeting Finished		Sam Jackson closed the meeting with a Karakia	
	Next Meeting:	<p>Date: Wed 8th April 2009 Time: 9:30am to 3:00pm Venue: Te Taha Wairua Level 1, Lotteries Commission Bldg 54 – 56 Cambridge Terrace, Wellington</p>	

Released under the
Official Information Act 1982

