
**MINUTE OF THE PANEL CONVENER IN RELATION TO NEXT
STEPS**

Correspondence Received Regarding Panel Appointment Process

[FTAA-2507-1085]

10 October 2025

[1] On 6 October 2025, I received an email and accompanying attachments from Mr Buddy Mikaere, submitted via the EPA. This correspondence is appended to this Minute for transparency.

[2] In response, I instructed the Application Lead to acknowledge Mr Mikaere's message and provide an update on the current status of the application, including matters addressed in Minute 3.

[3] The Application Lead acknowledged Mr Mikaere's correspondence and provided a general update on the application's progress, including the panel appointment process and upcoming procedural steps. His expression of interest was noted and shared with the Convener for consideration, in line with the requirements of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.

[4] Mr Mikaere was also provided with a link to the conference recording and assured that his engagement is valued, and that he will be kept informed of further updates.



Helen Atkins

Panel convener for the purpose of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Appendix

RE: Takitimu North Link - Stage 2 Panel Convener Conference - 1 October

From Buddy Mikaere [REDACTED]

Date Sun 2025-10-05 1:57 PM

To Daya Thomson [REDACTED]

Cc Mel Prescott [REDACTED]

 1 attachment (65 KB)

CV summary 200224.docx;

Kia ora – being overseas I am sorry I missed this meeting. Especially as much of the TNL work is taking place within our rohe. We think it would be advantageous to have Ngai Tamarawaho input to the panel and if it is not too late would be happy to put myself forward for such a role. I have attached my CV for consideration.

Nga mihi

Buddy Mikaere



Buddy Mikaere – Curriculum Vitae

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Education:

Matapihi School, Mount Maunganui College - UE; BA (First Class Honours) Canterbury

University; Dip. In Industrial Psychology, Victoria University

Competence and work experience:

Buddy Mikaere is a professional historian by qualification and specialises in Maori consultation and associated activities. For over thirty years he has facilitated Maori consultation for many development projects working closely with government departments, local government, large corporate companies, iwi entities and private clients. Since 1998 that has been mostly in the Resource Management area.

The work undertaken has been wide-ranging in nature but has largely revolved around infrastructure projects such as sub-divisions, marinas, wind farms, transmission and hydro-electric projects and similar. Apart from cultural issues, these projects have inevitably involved dealing with water, transport and amenity issues and values.

The larger scale projects have involved the design and implementation of consultation plans with associated follow-up and implementation of consent conditions, as necessary.

Buddy is regarded as the country's leading practitioner in his specialist area of expertise i.e. dealing with cultural issues arising from resource consent applications and has appeared as an expert witness on many occasions. He is often called upon to assist in the resolution of "difficult" cases.

Buddy works closely with many of the larger iwi groups and has an extensive network within the Maori world in both islands.

Prior to becoming engaged in consultancy work, Buddy had senior management roles in Industrial Relations and Human Resources; much of that with NZ Post Office/Telecom.

Buddy completed his Human Resources stint in Wellington as Departmental Advocate for the Post Office Appeal Board before moving to Christchurch to take up senior management roles with Firestone Tire and Rubber Company and Associated British Cables. With British Cables he had responsibility for the company's national HR resources and when the Company ownership transferred to Metal Manufactures in Australia he took on an advisory role in the Australian operations in Melbourne which had a multi-ethnic work force.

In 1990 he was appointed Director of the Waitangi Tribunal with the task of modernising the organisation and moving it into the IT age. This was achieved by reshaping the organisation into a flat hierarchy, gearing up with modern technology and complemented by an aggressive recruitment programme that sought out the very best graduates and other specialists. He was responsible for launching the research programmes that underscored the investigation of the raupatu (land confiscation) claims and the amalgamation of claims to assist in co-ordinating research and hearings. The result was a giant leap forward in the speed of claims processing enabling many claims to flow through to the settlement phase.

As a result, Buddy has an extensive understanding of Maori historical issues and practical experience gained through researching and writing several Tribunal research reports.

In 1997 Buddy was the founding Chairperson of the Maori Business Network – Tamaki Makaurau and was also a Ministerial appointee to the Board of the NZ Universities Academic Audit Unit. In more recent times (2011) he founded and was the initial Chair and (voluntary) CEO of the Tauranga Maori Business Association

Buddy has also served as an Adviser to the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology and as a Hearing Commissioner to the Far North, Taranaki and Gisborne District Councils and has completed seven years – three terms - on the Board of the World-Wide Fund for Nature.

Since returning to live in Tauranga and Coromandel Buddy, while maintaining his national client base; has created a "self-funded" consultancy where he is responsible for the environmental and development interests of Ngai Tamarawaho hapu of Ngati Ranginui, the Ngati Pukenga Iwi ki Tauranga runanga and a similar representative role for Ngati Pukenga ki Waiau in the Coromandel. For Ngai Tamarawaho this includes employment initiatives, housing developments, tourism development and assessing commercial opportunities. He also

represents Ngai Te Hapu of Motiti Island. In this role he led the fight against the dumping of the wreck of the MV Rena on Otaiti Reef at Motiti and was responsible for organising the Ngai Te Hapu case evidence and on-going liaison on wreck matters.

The environmental work for hapu and iwi has evolved into working closely with the three Tauranga Councils as a Te Rangapu Mana Whenua ki Tauranga Moana (Tauranga City Council) and Tangata Whenua Forum (Western Bay of Plenty District Council) representative. He currently sits on the Tauranga City Council Maori Committee. This work has expanded into advisory roles with Tauranga City Council's Civic Spaces projects and their Technical Advisory Group and an appointment as a member of the implementation Committee of the Western Bay of Plenty's Development planning group – Smart Growth. Buddy has served as a member of the Smart Growth Senior Leadership Group and has recently completed a stint as Chair of the Combined Tangata Whenua Forum for Smart Growth.

On behalf of Ngai Tamarawaho Buddy leads the way in the on-going development of the Pukehinahina/Gate Pa Reserve; the Te Ranga Reserve, the Kopurererua Wetlands, the Ngapeke 7 wetland and the Judea Industrial area wetland development projects.

Buddy is a member of the Board of the New Zealand String Quartet and on project completion has recently stepped down from the Board of the New Zealand War Memorial Museum who recently opened the New Zealand Liberation War Memorial Museum in northern France at Le Quesnoy.

He is Project Manager for the Pukehinahina Charitable Trust who have as a goal the development of the Te Ranga battle site in Pyes Pa and the building of the Te Putaake O Te Riri – the New Zealand Wars Centre - Pukehinahina Gate Pa. Under Buddy's leadership the Trust organised and ran the 2014 150th Commemoration of the Battle of Gate Pa. In partnership with fellow historian Lt Col Cliff Simons they wrote the best-selling account of the battle, *Victory at Gate Pa?*

He is a trustee and founding chair of He Iwi Kotahi Charitable Trust which is the organisation behind Waitangi Day celebrations in Tauranga Moana and other cultural events.

He is a trustee on the Papamoa War Memorial Community Trust which organises Anzac and Armistice Day at the Papamoa War Memorial every year.

His Events Management Company, Mana Taiao Events Management, organises Maori conferences with a business kaupapa and is also responsible for the annual Pink Ribbon Breast Cancer fund raiser in Tauranga and the White Ribbon observance as a fund raiser for Tauranga Women's Refuge.

Personal interests - include walking, reading, writing, chess and gardening.

Contact details:

[REDACTED].

Postal address: [REDACTED]