

Māori Party Interim Rules

*Kia rangatira te tū a Te Pāti Māori
hei rōpū whakatinana i ngā rau wawata
o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki.*

1. Name

- 1.1 The name of the organisation shall be the “Maori Party”.
- 1.2 The Maori Party shall be an incorporated society operating as a political party for the purposes of the Electoral Act 1993.
- 1.3 The registered office of the Maori Party shall be determined by the National Organising Committee.

2. He Kupu Whakataki

The Māori Party is unique in the political landscape of New Zealand, in that it was established by Māori, for Māori and of the Māori people.

Its leaders have expressed the desire to operate in ways that are consistent with kaupapa and tikanga Māori, a unique and fundamental characteristic. The Māori Party does not intend to operate like any other political party. The tikanga Māori nature of the party is an essential part of the justification for its existence.

There is an obvious need for the Party to develop a policy base to guide its decision-making. However, the potential to move away from tikanga Māori and take on board other philosophies and ideas is great. Mātauranga Māori can inform and guide the Māori Party in its policy development and decision-making. Mātauranga Māori need not be limited to personnel policies and practices, but rather be applicable in the whole *modus operandi* of the organisation.

Mātauranga Māori can be the foundation for our contemplations, developments and future directions. For far too long, mātauranga Māori has been consigned to the marae and we may be accused of having perpetuated the idea that it serves no purpose and has no relevance outside the marae environs.

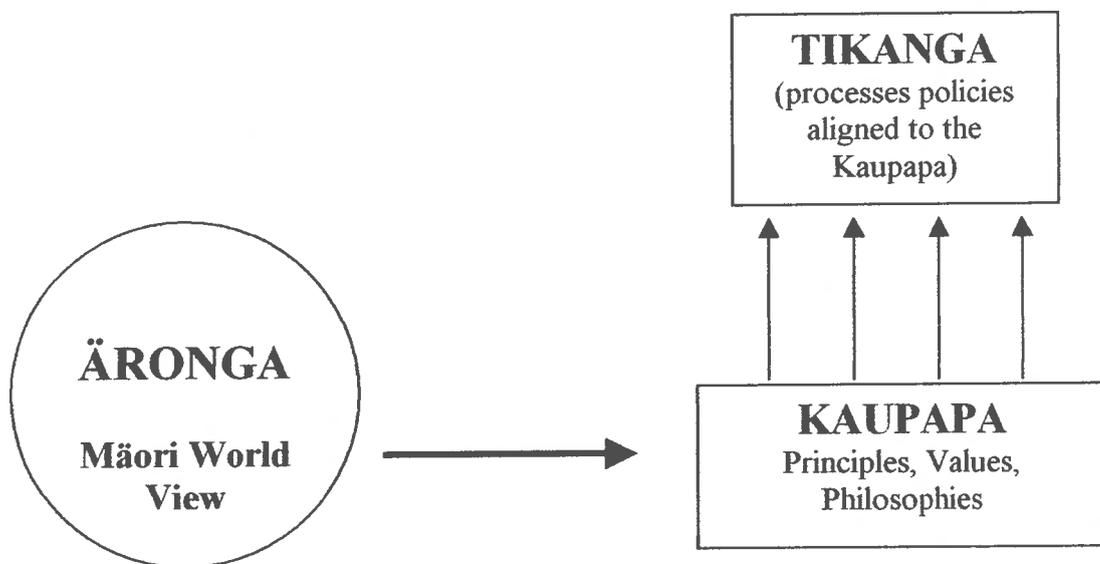
The Maori Party will validate Maori knowledge, its language and customs, and such knowledge will underpin all policies and practices of the Party, which will be beneficial to Maori and to the nation.

The interim rules of the Party have been assessed and reconfigured to fit within a kaupapa / tikanga Māori framework. This has been achieved on the basis that mātauranga Māori is the relevant and appropriate knowledge to provide the framework for the wide range of activities Māori are engaged in today.

The name ‘Maori Party’ is in itself therefore a mandate for the Party to base all policies and practices within mātauranga Maori in the first instance, and delivering to the needs and aspirations of Maori in these modern times as well.

3. Te Waihanga i te Kaupapa

In order to detail the tikanga Māori basis of the Party's activities, it is necessary to make the connection between Tikanga, Kaupapa and World View. Through Pūrākau, Karakia, Mōteatea, Whakatauki and Whakapapa, and many other kaupapa, our World View is described and a set of Kaupapa are drawn from which the culture is founded. These are the bedrock, the foundation of the culture. Growing from within the kaupapa are our tikanga, just like a tree springs from Papatūānuku. The tikanga are actions, methods, processes, policies etc that are aligned and consistent with the foundation Kaupapa. All tikanga Māori can find their bases in Kaupapa.



In the case of the Party, the above model can act as the conceptual framework for the development of a tikanga Māori political party. We will need to demonstrate how the tikanga of the Māori Party are consistent with Kaupapa Māori, which themselves are consistent with the Māori World View.

The expression and application of these foundation Kaupapa are the tikanga Māori of this organisation. The tikanga are the processes, policies, decisions that grow from the Kaupapa. This is a set of tikanga that will develop over a period of time. Further to this the idea of Ture Whakahaere can be introduced that deals with the rules and regulations that are consistent with the tikanga of the Party.

4. Ngā Kaupapa o Te Pāti Māori

The following Kaupapa, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori World View and will assist us in developing and maintaining as a tikanga Māori organisation. In addition examples of tikanga consistent with the Kaupapa are outlined. These Kaupapa can be framed as

the objectives of the organisation, with various tikanga covering policies, operations and organisational structures emanating from these Kaupapa. The other rules stated in the Interim Rules paper of the Party can be presented under the heading Ture Whakahaere.

4.1 Manaakitanga

We must endeavour to express manaakitanga, or mana enhancing behaviour towards others, be they political allies or opponents, Māori and non-Māori organisations, taking care not to trample another's mana. In our relationships with others we are aware of mana, our own and theirs. We act in a mana enhancing way, by expressing manaakitanga.

4.11 Tikanga

- ◆ to be recognised by Māori as the political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori;
- ◆ to engage in a mana enhancing way with iwi and hapū and other Māori organisations;
- ◆ to promote a just and equitable society without poverty or discrimination with equitable access to quality healthcare and education, effective social services and justice, quality housing and meaningful work for all New Zealanders;
- ◆ to be generous with our staff in terms of salaries, research grants, professional development, work spaces, leave etc;
- ◆ to ensure that members agree to work together to support Party objectives and to treat each other with respect and are expected to act with integrity in their party work. Conflicts that arise from time to time shall be resolved at the soonest opportunity by those involved.

4.2 Rangatiratanga

Rangatiratanga is the expression of the attributes of a rangatira including humility, leadership by example, generosity, altruism, diplomacy and knowledge of benefit to the people. The Māori party acknowledges the rangatiratanga of individuals, whānau, hapū and iwi in its activities. We understand the importance of *walking the talk*, following through on commitments made, manaakitanga, integrity and honesty.

4.21 Tikanga

- ◆ to recognise and acknowledge the authority of iwi and hapū in their respective rohe;
- ◆ to nurture and develop rangatira attributes within the organisation;
- ◆ to ensure that the activities of the parliamentary team, leaders and the organization as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira;
- ◆ to recognise and to support the activities of iwi and hapu, and any individual or group, who create and develop expressions of tino rangatiratanga for Maori in these times;
- ◆ to promote Māori self-determination, te tino rangatiratanga through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team;
- ◆ to enhance the partnership between Kāwanatanga and Tino Rangatiratanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi;
- ◆ that The Māori Party National Organisation is the supreme decision-making body of the Māori Party.

4.3 Whanaungatanga

The people are our wealth. This system of kinship, including rights and reciprocal obligations (utu) that underpin the social organisation of whānau, hapū and iwi should be part of the life of this organisation. Whanaungatanga is about being part of a larger whole, of the collective. Interdependence with each other rather than independence is the goal.

4.31 Tikanga

- ◆ to contribute to the survival of Māori as a people;
- ◆ to promote respect for all cultures and ensure all New Zealanders have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua and Te Tiriti o Waitangi;
- ◆ to recognise and promote relationships between iwi, hapū, Māori organisations and the Party;
- ◆ to promote the principles of inter-dependence and collective arrangements in accord with kaupapa Maori, as opposed to individualism and separation.

4.4 Kotahitanga

Ehara taku toa i te toa taki tahi. Engari he toa taki tini.

My strength is not drawn from that of the individual. But that of the multitudes.

The Māori Party develops and maintains a unity of purpose and direction, avoiding approaches and decisions that lead to division and disharmony. A commitment by the organisation through oneness of mind and action would be the expression of Kotahitanga. All are encouraged to make their contribution, to have their say. The collective would then determine what is best and appropriate for the organisation.

4.41 Tikanga

- ◆ to maintain and enhance the unity of Māori displayed during the Hikoī 2004.
- ◆ to consistently work for unity among Māori people and protecting this against traditional divide and rule tactics of the Crown,
- ◆ to establish a parliamentary team that can work together and are committed to speaking with a single voice on behalf of Māori
- ◆ prioritising the development of unity within the organisation
- ◆ to promote harmonious relationships between Māori and non-Māori in accordance with the Treaty of Waitangi,
- ◆ to promote the peaceful resolution of conflicts and the eradication of poverty exploitation and injustice within New Zealand and internationally.

4.5 Wairuatanga

An emphasis on the fostering of wairuatanga and understanding there is a spiritual existence in addition to the physical. We are intimately connected spiritually to our environment, our maunga, awa, moana and marae, all of which have their own wairua. The wairua of a person

requires nourishment as regularly as the tinana, and the forms of nourishment differ among people.

4.51 Tikanga

- ◆ to encourage and promote the notion of a Māori World View that includes our spiritual identity and connection with the land,
- ◆ to breakdown secular and non-secular divisions and promote a unified and holistic approach to life.
- ◆ to develop a wairua nourishing and nurturing environment within the organization
- ◆ to promote of the importance of orange wairua for Māori well being and health

4.6 Ūkaipötanga

The importance of tūrangawaewae, te hau kainga, to ground ourselves to the land and home. Ūkaipō are the places we find ourselves, our strength, our energy. Having a place where you belong, where you count, where you are important and where you can contribute is essential for Māori wellbeing. As a whole person with your identity intact, you can make your contribution.

4.61 Tikanga

- ◆ to ensure that Party is of the Māori people but for all people;
- ◆ to assist Māori to establish and maintain their connections to their ūkaipō.
- ◆ to develop arrangements that foster a sense of importance, belonging and contribution within the organization,
- ◆ to develop a parliamentary team that will take their advice and guidance from Māori in the first instance
- ◆ to improve Māori participation and understanding of the political process and the place of Māori within the New Zealand political structure

4.7 Pükengatanga

Te Ako, Te Pupuri, Te Waihanga, teaching, preserving and creating mātauranga Māori and having a recognised ability in these areas is a reflection of Pükengatanga. This would not be to the exclusion of mātauranga drawn from other traditions, but our traditions should be the priority and the focus.

4.71 Tikanga

- ◆ to promote kaupapa Maori pathways and matauranga Maori pathways for Māori that are of benefit to the people and lead to their advancement; (return – use of kohanga, kura, wharekura, wananga, hui a rohe)
- ◆ to make provision for research and development that leads to the advancement of Mātauranga Māori;
- ◆ to ensure the survival of the people as Māori;
- ◆ to elect competent candidates as parliamentary representatives and who are able to demonstrate kaupapa Māori in action;
- ◆ to appoint competent individuals or committees to compile policy consistent with kaupapa / tikanga Māori.

4.8 Kaitiakitanga

Kaitiakitanga embraces the spiritual and cultural guardianship of our world views and our environments. Kaitiakitanga is inherited through our tribal (whakapapa) lines.

Preserving and maintaining the Party so it can continue to fulfil its functions and duties is the essence of this Kaupapa. This Kaupapa has several facets including:

- a) appropriate financial management,
- b) accountability to ourselves first, to the Crown and its agencies second

One aspect of kaitiakitanga is tangatatiaki, which involves the welfare of our people. The dollar is but one aspect of Kaupapa, however it is not being promoted as the paramount consideration in the life of a tikanga Māori organisation, nor the primary motivator to action.

4.81 Tikanga

- ◆ to ensure that the financial management practices of the Party are consistent with the Kaupapa of the organisation;
- ◆ to encourage an extensive recording programme to collect and archive mātauranga Māori kōrero of our kaumātua;
- ◆ to promote the achievement of wellness and well-being for Māori;
- ◆ to foster and promote sustainable management and growth of the economy so as to provide a stable and secure environment for future generations;
- ◆ to create a clean, safe and healthy environment by promoting the protection and restoration of our natural environment.

4.9 Whakapapa

To recognise whakapapa as the diagnostic ingredient linking groups and individuals to waka, iwi, hapu, whanau and to marae.

This is the foundation of the Māori World View. As a people we trace our descent from Te Kore, to Te Pō and eventually through to Te Ao Mārama, where we are grounded to Papatūānuku and look upwards to Ranginui. Māori descriptions of the creation, conception to childbirth, the growth of a tree and the acquisition of knowledge are all whakapapa based recitals. Whakapapa is also a tool utilised in analysing and synthesising information and knowledge.

4.91 Tikanga:

- ◆ to encourage the view that all Māori are related towards developing co-operation and unity,
- ◆ that The National Organising Committee guide the work of the Māori Party and make decisions on its behalf until the inaugural Māori Party National Hui
- ◆ that the Party organization shall be divided into seven regions, with each region governed by a regional committee
- ◆ that local groups may be approved or established by the appropriate Regional Committee
- ◆ to utilise whakapapa as an analysis and synthesis tool within the research activity of the Party

4.10 Te Reo

The importance of Maori language to the Maori Party is expressed in the following whakatauki:

*Ki te kore tatou i korero Maori, ka ngaro te reo,
Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro nga tikanga.
Ka ngaro nga tikanga, ka ngaro tatou i te Ao.*

Ko te reo i kai pupuri i te Maoritanga.

Accelerating the revival of te reo Māori is a central focus of the Māori Party. As such, te reo Māori has been identified as a kaupapa of the Party and its revival central to all of its activities. Te reo Māori is the medium through which we as Māori, articulate our World View. The survival of our people as Māori will no doubt be enhanced if te reo Māori survives. We simply will not be able to maintain our uniqueness as a people without it.

4.101 Tikanga

- ◆ to ensure the revitalisation and enhancement of te reo Māori;
- ◆ to develop and take opportunities for spoken Māori to be used in all activities;
- ◆ to render in Māori all official documents and papers of the Party eg the constitution and policy statements;
- ◆ to safeguard the status of Maori as the tangata whenua language of New Zealand, and to promote its status as a national language of New Zealand;
- ◆ to provide all staff with the opportunity to become capable speakers and writers of te reo through classes and experiential learning.

5.0 The following tikanga that emerge from within the Kaupapa addressed provide a basis for determining the directions of our Party

- 5.1 To develop policies and practices to promote and validate the role of Maori as tangata whenua throughout New Zealand society.
- 5.2 To promote educational programmes for all New Zealanders about the essential nature of tangata whenua and its spiritual, cultural and historical significance as a first nations legacy from Maori, and its place as the appropriate foundation upon which to build a nationhood for all New Zealanders.
- 5.3 To promote the validations of Maori knowledge as a relevant and appropriate knowledge for New Zealand in these times.
- 5.4 To promote the development and the growth of Maori language both as the indigenous language only to New Zealand, but also as the appropriate language to carry Maori knowledge and contemporary Maori customs.

- 5.5 To promote the growth and development of the Maori people in all spheres of livelihood within New Zealand so that Maori can anticipate a future of living in good health, in reasonable prosperity, with te reo Maori me ona tikanga, fully intact, according to their aspirations.
- 5.6 To recognise and promote the Treaty of Waitangi between Maori and the Crown as the founding document, prescribing the bicultural relationship between Maori and Pakeha.
- 5.7 To promote 'tino rangatiratanga' amongst Maori and 'good government' for all New Zealanders, in accord with the articles of the Treaty of Waitangi.
- 5.8 To promote harmonious relationships amongst all New Zealanders.
- 5.9 To promote a New Zealand nationhood based upon a knowledge of a shared New Zealand heritage and an understanding and celebration of cultural difference.
- 5.10 To promote policies and develop a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is still important.
- 5.11 To develop a full range of policies to foster sustainable management and growth of the economy and to provide all New Zealanders with the 'genre de vie' of their aspirations.
- 5.12 To develop our Party Manifesto and to implement policies and practices towards meeting the health, welfare, social, educational, sporting and recreational needs of all New Zealanders.
- 5.13 To provide clean and safe surroundings promoting care for the protection and restoration of our natural environment.
- 5.14 To provide opportunities to encourage bi-literacy in our society.

6.0 Membership

- 6.1 The Maori Party is an inclusive and broad political movement and accepts membership from any New Zealanders who:
 - work to support the Maori Party kaupapa and tikanga;
 - act within the Maori Party Interim Rules;
 - abide by lawful decisions made in accordance with the Maori Party Interim Rules;
 - pay the appropriate membership fee;
 - and who is not a member of a competing political party as determined by the National Organising Committee.
- 6.2 Any New Zealander of at least 13 years of age may make application to join the party. A person may apply to join directly to the Secretariat on an official membership form or through a Regional Committee or local group.

- 6.3 The applicant shall be advised in writing by the Secretariat of the acceptance of their membership. Commencement of membership for the purpose of clause 6.5 and 6.6 shall take effect from the date of the acceptance of the application form.
- 6.4 On acceptance, financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in party membership meetings and to stand for party internal office-holders positions.
- 6.5 After one month's financial membership any member shall be entitled to vote in local candidate and local list recommendations.
- 6.6 The financial term of party membership is three years.
- 6.7 Any person whose membership application is deferred will be advised in writing and given the right to petition the next meeting of the National Organising Committee. The National Organising Committee may decline a membership application that the committee believes does not meet the criteria outlined in clause 6.1. The applicant shall be advised in writing of the decision. The application may appeal that decision at the next National Organising Committee meeting where the decision shall be final.

7.0 National Organising Committee

- 7.1 The National Organising Committee is to guide the work of the Maori Party until such time as permanent national bodies have been established and officers elected under a constitution approved by the inaugural Maori Party National Hui.
- 7.2 *Authority of the National Organising Committee:*
Until the Inaugural Maori Party National Hui, the National Organising Committee has delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the party organisation in accordance with the Maori Party Interim Rules.
- 7.3 Officers of the Maori Party Organising Committee shall be elected at the initial meeting of the Maori Party in Auckland on Sunday May 23rd 2004.
- 7.4 The National Organising Committee membership shall include the:
- President;
 - Co-Leaders;
 - Three electorate Representatives from each electorate;
 - Treasurer;
 - General Secretary;
 - Other co-opted members.
- 7.5 Until the Inaugural National Hui a quorum of the committee shall consist of the President, at least one Co-Leader and three other members.
- 7.6 Where any of the Officer positions becomes vacant the position(s) shall be filled by the National Organising Committee.

- 7.7 National Organising Committee members shall have full participation and rights and receive one vote each.
- 7.8 Wherever possible the National Organising Committee decisions shall be made by consensus but, where appropriate, decisions shall be made by a majority vote of National Organising Committee members present.
- 7.9 In the absence of a National Organising Committee and Executive Committee comprising the President and Co-Leaders shall act in the place of the National Organising Committee.
- 7.10 The list ranking shall be decided by the National Organising Committee.

8.0 Regional Organisation

- 8.1 The Party Organisation shall be divided into regions based on the Maori electorate boundaries as set by the Electoral Representation Commission.
- 8.2 Party Organisation in each region shall be governed by a Regional Committee.
- 8.3 The Regional Committee shall be responsible for:
- Organising the selection of the Maori electorate candidate and other electorate candidates in their region;
 - Receiving the list of nominations for list candidates, and organising the selection of list candidates in their electorate; and prioritising their recommendations to the National Organising Committee;
 - Planning political, educational and organisational activity.
 - Organising and supporting campaign committees to contest elections.
 - Discussing issues and giving guidance to their representative on the National Organising Committee.
 - Meeting financial and organisational targets and obligations.
 - Ensuring that each local organisation in their area is functional.
 - Speaking on behalf of the Maori Party organisation within their area.
 - Other party matters as delegated by the National Organising Committee or the National Hui.
- 8.4 The Regional Committee membership shall include the:
- Chairperson who shall convene and chair meetings of the committee.
 - Vice-Chairperson.
 - Secretary.
 - Treasurer.
 - Representatives from each local organisation within the region, on a basis of one representative for every 50 financial members or part thereof up to a maximum of five per group.
- 8.5 The Regional Officers shall be elected by the Regional Committee.

- 8.6 The Regional Committee shall meet at least once every two months.
- 8.7 All Regional Committee members shall have full participation and rights and receive one vote each.
- 8.8 Wherever possible the Regional Committee decisions shall be made by consensus but, where consensus can not be reached then decisions shall be made by a majority vote of Regional Committee members present.
- 8.9 A quorum shall be a majority of Regional Committee members.

9.0 Local Organisation

- 9.1 Local groups may be approved or established by the appropriate Regional Committee or the National Organising Committee.
- 9.2 Each local group shall elect a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Regional Committee Representative(s) and other representatives as authorised by the group.
- 9.3 Where any of the local office positions becomes vacant the position(s) shall be filled by election of the group at the next meeting.
- 9.4 Local groups should meet at least once every month.
- 9.5 Local groups must give at least seven days notice of any meeting to local financial members with notice of the business of the meeting.
- 9.6 Wherever possible local group decisions shall be made by consensus but, where consensus can not be reached then decisions shall be made by a majority vote of members of the local group present.
- 9.7 Where a local group representative is unable to attend a Regional Committee meeting the local group may appoint another representative to attend in their place.
- 9.8 Any National Organising Committee or Regional Committee member or their authorised nominee has the right to attend and address a local group meeting.
- 9.9 Local groups shall meet their financial responsibilities and make financial records available to the Regional Committee or National Organising Committee.
- 9.10 Local groups shall supply copies of meeting minutes, records and notices to the Regional Committee secretary and/or National Organising Committee secretary or their nominated agent upon request.
- 9.11 Local groups shall regularly forward membership applications and fees to the national office, along with changes to current membership details.
- 9.12 Local groups shall maintain an accurate record of local finances and meet their agreed financial responsibilities to the regional and national bodies of the party.

- 9.13 Local groups have the right to submit policy, constitutional and other remits from their meetings, for consideration at the Maori Party National Hui.
- 9.14 Local groups have the right to be represented on Regional Committees and at National Hui subject to operating a functioning group and meeting relevant registration or other fees.

10.0 National Hui

10.1 There will be an annual national hui which will be a forum to hear concerns from the branches, discuss key issues, receive reports on the Maori Party's performance, promote Maori leadership and endorse a national strategy/plan.

10.2 The National Organising Committee shall organise the Maori Party National Hui on 11 July, 2004.

10.3 The Maori Party National Hui shall:

- Vote on the Maori Party Constitution;
- Elect such national officers as are required by the constitution;
- Approve the National Organising Committee reports;
- Any other matters as approved by the National Organising Committee.

10.4 Representation:

- *Delegates:* Each electorate will have a maximum of ten delegates with voting and speaking rights. Delegates will be determined by the members of the various whanau, hapu, iwi and Maori organisations at the regional level, prior to the commencement of the national hui.
- *Attendees:* All financial members not appointed as delegates are entitled to attend the Hui as non-voting attendees.

10.5 Decision-Making:

- The National Organising Committee shall notify in writing all financial members of the Maori Party National Hui's location, date, time, proposed agenda and any registration fees at least 14 days in advance of the National Hui.
- The National Organising Committee shall provide copies of the proposed Party Constitution and Policy Framework to all Regional Committee and Local Group chairpersons and secretaries at least 14 days in advance of the National Hui.
- Local groups wishing to submit constitutional or policy remits must do so in writing to the Party Secretary at least 7 days in advance of the National Hui. Any amendments or remits must be signed by a local officer confirming that the remit was approved at a meeting.

- All resolutions shall be determined by accredited voting delegates present, each of whom has one vote.
- All conference decisions shall be made by 66% vote of those voting representatives present unless otherwise determined by the conference.
- Where conference delegates are required to elect office holders a Single Transferable Voting system as approved by the National Organising Committee shall be used.

11.0 Policy Process

- 11.1 The National Organising Committee may appoint individuals or committees to compile draft policy.
- 11.2 The National Organising Committee shall recommend a policy formation process to the conference.

12.0 Candidate Selection Process

- 12.1 Where the writs for a parliamentary general or by-election are issued before the inaugural Maori Party National Hui, the National Organising Committee shall select candidates by a majority vote of its members. The Committee may also consult directly with members, regional committees and local groups as it sees fit.
- 12.2 The National Organising Committee will prepare a candidate selection report to the National Hui.

13.0 Grievance Procedures

- 13.1 All members agree to work together to support the Party Objectives and to treat each other with respect and are expected to act with integrity in their party work. Conflicts that arise from time to time shall be resolved at the soonest opportunity by those involved.
- 13.2 In rare occasions disciplinary action may however be brought against a member who:
- Refuses to comply with the Interim Rules
 - Improperly deals with any party funds
 - Wilfully undermines the party's objectives, or
 - In any other way wilfully brings the party or its members into public disrepute.
- 13.3 A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the President. The President shall, in the first instance, try to resolve the matter with the individuals concerned or refer the matter to the appropriate body for resolution.

- 13.4 If this procedure is inappropriate, or has not resolved the matter, the President shall refer the complaint to the National Organising Committee. The National Organising Committee may settle the matter itself or establish a grievance committee of between one and three members.
- 13.5 Any grievance committee established shall, throughout an enquiry, observe the principles of natural justice, and in particular:
- must make available promptly to the parties involved full details of the nature of the enquiry and of allegations made; and
 - must give any party against whom allegations are made notice of at least 14 days of a hearing. Any member being interviewed by the grievance committee shall be entitled to have a representative of their choosing present.
- 13.6 The Grievance Committee shall communicate its findings and reasons for them in writing to the National Organising Committee and to the parties. It shall in the case of a grievance recommend a remedy, or in the case of a charge, a penalty, if any. Such penalties may include a censure, suspension or expulsion from the party.
- 13.7 The National Organising Committee shall by resolution adopt, modify or reject the recommendation. The decision of the National Organising Committee shall be final and binding on all members.
- 13.8 If a member facing a charge has to travel to appear before the Grievance Committee, he or she shall meet such costs.
- 13.9 If the Grievance Committee finds that any complaint or charge has been made maliciously, or that no case has been made out for it, the National Organising Committee may make the member/s bringing such complaint or charge, liable for all or part of the costs of the enquiry, including those of the member/s facing the charge, by resolution to that effect voted for by a majority of the members of the National Organising Committee.

14.0 Alterations of Rules and Standing Orders

- 14.1 These rules shall not be amended, altered, or rescinded except by a resolution of the National Organising Committee passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Committee members or by a resolution passed at the Maori Party National Hui by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the persons present and entitled to vote.

15.0 Dissolution Clause

- 15.1 The National Organising Committee, at a meeting called in accordance with the Standing Orders, may resolve that the Maori Party be dissolved as from the date to be named in the resolution, and may also by such resolution direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of the Maori Party after its dissolution.
- 15.2 Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose and held not earlier than 30 days after the date on which the first resolution was passed the Maori Party shall be dissolved.

15.3 A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of the Maori Party shall upon dissolution be transferred to such political or other organisations having objects similar to those of the Maori Party within New Zealand as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or in default as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the National Organising Committee.

māori

PARTY

21/12/04

*Kia rangatira te iā a te Pāti Māori
hei rōpū whakatānana i ngā rau wawatu
o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki.*

CONSTITUTION and RULES

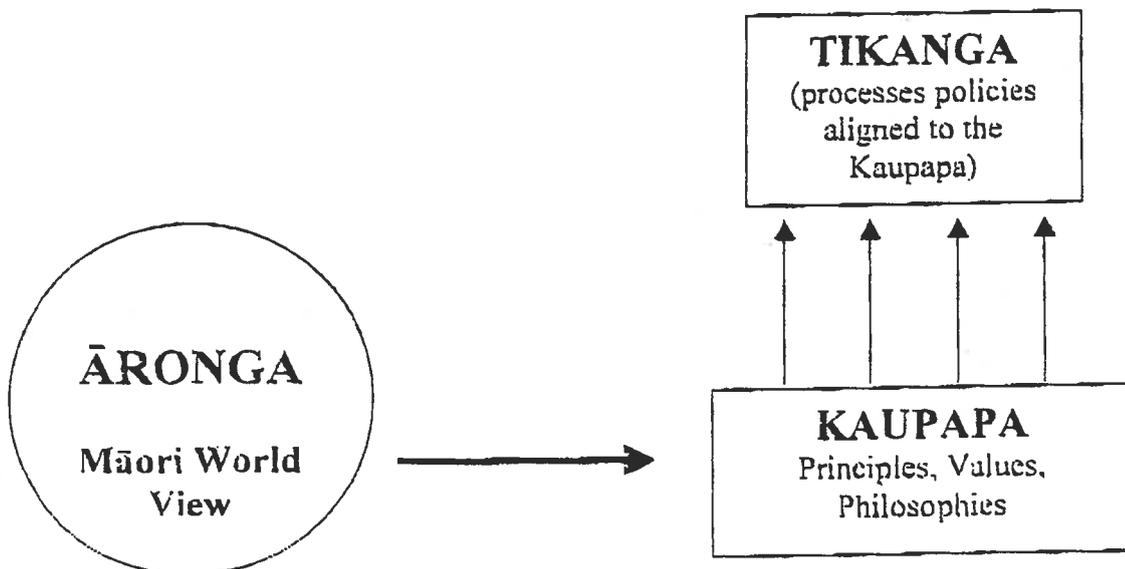
He Kupu Whakataki

The MĀORI PARTY is born of the dreams and aspirations of tangata whenua to achieve self-determination for whānau, hapū and iwi within their own land; to speak with a strong, independent and united voice; and to live according to kaupapa handed down by their ancestors.

The vision for the MĀORI PARTY will be based on these aspirations, for they speak to us of whānau whose wairua is strong and vibrant; who have fully developed their spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical well-being; and who are confident, secure and pro-active in all aspects of the social, cultural, economic and political life of this great country of ours.

Te Waihanga i te Kaupapa

The Māori view of the world is described through pūrākau, karakia, mōteatea, whakatauki, whakapapa and many other puna kōrero. Kaupapa Māori is the foundation of Māori culture and is derived from this Māori World View. Growing from within the Kaupapa are our Tikanga, like trees spring from Papatūānuku. The Tikanga are the policies, practices and organizational structures of the Party that are aligned and consistent with the foundation Kaupapa and will benefit not only Māori, but all those people who lay claim to this country as their homeland.



To achieve its Vision, the MĀORI PARTY's existence will be based on Kaupapa Māori, the foundation principles of the Māori World, and the bedrock from which we frame the objectives of the Organisation. The MĀORI PARTY will demonstrate Tikanga, consistent with Kaupapa Māori.

Ngā Kaupapa o te Pāti Māori

The following Kaupapa and Tikanga, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori World View and help us define and maintain the Party's focus and structure. These Kaupapa can be framed as the objectives of the organisation, with various Tikanga covering policies, operations and organisational structures emanating from these Kaupapa.

1. Manaakitanga

Manaakitanga is behaviour that acknowledges the mana of others as having equal or greater importance than one's own, through the expression of aroha, hospitality, generosity and mutual respect. In doing so, all parties are elevated and their status is enhanced, building unity through humility and the act of giving. The Party must endeavour to express manaakitanga towards others, be they political allies or opponents, Māori and non-Māori organisations, taking care not to trample mana, while clearly defining our own.

Tikanga of the MĀORI PARTY derived from Manaakitanga

- i. to be recognised by Māori as a political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori;
- ii. to ensure that relationships between the Party and whānau, hapū, iwi and other Māori organisations are elevating and enhancing;
- iii. to promote a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is still important.
- iv. to ensure that members agree to work together, treat each other with respect and act with integrity in their party work.
- v. to involve all peoples in the process of rebuilding our nation based on mutual respect and harmonious relationships.

2. Rangatiratanga

Rangatiratanga is the expression of the attributes of a rangatira including humility, leadership by example, generosity, altruism, diplomacy and knowledge of benefit to the people. As an organisation, the importance of *walking the talk*, following through on commitments made, integrity and honesty is demonstrated. As a people, rangatiratanga is reflected in the promotion of self-determination for Māori, and an expression of the rights defined by Mana Atua, Mana Tūpuna and Mana Whenua.

Tikanga of the MĀORI PARTY derived from Rangatiratanga

- i. to recognise and acknowledge the authority of whānau, hapū and iwi in their respective rohe:

- ii. to enhance the partnership between Kūwanatanga and Tino Rangatiratanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi;
- iii. to promote and validate the role of Māori as tangata whenua;
- iv. to promote Māori self-determination through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team;
- v. to acknowledge, nurture, support and reflect rangatiratanga within the Party and other Māori organizations;
- vi. to ensure that the conduct and activities of the parliamentary team, leaders and the organisation as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira.

3. Whanaungatanga

Whanaungatanga underpins the social organisation of whānau, hapū and iwi and includes rights and reciprocal obligations consistent with being part of a collective. It is the principle which binds individuals to the wider group and affirms the value of the collective. Inter-dependence with each other and recognition that the people are our wealth are hallmarks.

Tikanga of the MĀORI PARTY derived from Whanaungatanga

- i. to promote and contribute to the survival of Māori as a people;
- ii. to promote respect for all cultures and ensure all people have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua;
- iii. to encourage relationships between whānau, hapū, iwi, other Māori organisations and the Party that reflect inter-dependence;
- iv. to promote whanaungatanga as the model for good collective arrangements between different parties.

4. Kotahitanga

Kotahitanga is the principle of unity of purpose and direction. It is demonstrated through the achievement of harmony and moving as one. All are encouraged to make their contribution, to have their say and then together a consensus is reached. As a nation, the Party will promote harmonious relationships between all people.

Tikanga of the MĀORI PARTY derived from Kotahitanga

- i. to consistently work for unity among Māori people;
- ii. to avoid taking decisions and approaches that lead to division and disharmony within the organization;
- iii. to establish a parliamentary team that can work together and are committed to speaking with a single voice on behalf of Māori;
- iv. to promote harmonious relationships amongst all people;
- v. to promote nationhood based upon a knowledge of a shared heritage and an understanding and celebration of cultural distinctiveness.

5. Wairuatanga

This is reflected in the belief that there is a spiritual existence alongside the physical. It is expressed through the intimate connection of the people to their maunga, awa, moana and marae, and to tūpuna and atua. These connections are affirmed through knowledge and understanding of atua Māori and it must be maintained and nourished towards the achievement of wellness. It is central to the everyday lives of Māori people and is integral to the way Māori view the world.

Tikanga of the MĀORI PARTY derived from Wairuatanga

- i. to encourage, maintain and promote spiritual identity and connection with the land;
- ii. to break down secular and non-secular divisions and promote a unified and holistic approach to life;
- iii. to develop a wairua nourishing and nurturing environment within the organisation;
- iv. to promote the importance of oranga wairua for Māori well-being.

6. Mana Whenua

Mana Whenua is the principle which defines Māori by the land occupied by right of ancestral claim. It defines tūrangawaewae and ūkaipō, the places where you belong, where you count, where you are important and where you can contribute and is essential for Māori well-being. The places Māori find themselves, their strength, their energy are where Māori have mana whenua. Once grounded to the land and home, Māori are able to participate in society in general in a positive, productive manner.

Tikanga of the MĀORI PARTY derived from Mana Whenua

- i. to ensure that the Party is of the Māori people;
- ii. to assist Māori to establish and maintain their connections to their own land;
- iii. to develop arrangements that foster a sense ūkaipō, of importance, belonging and contribution within the organization;
- iv. to develop a parliamentary team that will take their advice and guidance from Māori in the first instance;
- v. to promote mana whenua as the basis for land management policies.

7. Kaitiakitanga

Kaitiakitanga embraces the spiritual and cultural guardianship of Te Ao Mārama, a responsibility derived from whakapapa. Kaitiakitanga entails an active exercise of responsibility in a manner beneficial to resources and the welfare of the people. It promotes the growth and development of the Māori people in all spheres of livelihood so that Māori can anticipate a future of living in good health and in reasonable prosperity. Preserving and maintaining the Party so it can continue to fulfil its functions and duties is implicit within this Kaupapa.

Tikanga of the MĀORI PARTY derived from Kaitiakitanga

- i. to encourage an extensive recording programme to collect and archive mātauranga Māori with kaumātua and other repositories;
- ii. to promote the achievement of wellness and well-being for Māori;
- iii. to foster and promote sustainable management and growth of the economy so as to provide a stable and secure environment for future generations;
- iv. to create a clean, safe and healthy environment by promoting the protection and restoration of our natural environment.

8. Mana Tūpuna / Whakapapa

Mana Tūpuna is that which defines who Māori are as people. It is the bridge which links us to our ancestors, which defines our heritage, gives us the stories which define our place in the world. Mana Tūpuna helps us know who we are, from whom we descend, and what our obligations are to those who come after us. This is achieved through the recital of whakapapa, tracing the descent from Te Kore, to Te Pō and eventually through to Te Ao Mārama. Whakapapa is also a tool utilised in analysing and synthesising information and knowledge.

Tikanga of the MĀORI PARTY derived from Mana Tūpuna / Whakapapa:

- i. to encourage the view that all Māori are related towards developing co-operation and unity,
- ii. to support endeavours by Māori to establish their iwi connections, find their place in the world and become positive contributors to wider society;
- iii. to promote whakapapa as an analysis and synthesis tool within the research activity of the Party.

9. Te Reo

*Ki te kore tātou e kōrero Māori, ka ngaro te reo.
Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro ngā tikanga.
Ka ngaro ngā tikanga, ka ngaro tātou ki te Ao.
Ko te reo te kaipupuri i te Māoritanga.*

Te Reo Māori is the cornerstone of all that is Māori. Accelerating the revival of te reo Māori is a central focus of the Māori Party. Te reo Māori is the medium through which Māori explain the world. The survival of the people as Māori and the uniqueness of Māori as a race will be enhanced through the maintenance of te reo Māori.

Tikanga of the MĀORI PARTY derived from Te Reo

- i. to ensure the revitalisation of te reo Māori;
- ii. to promote wider recognition of te reo as the first and official language of the country;
- iii. to promote the development and growth of the te reo Māori both as the indigenous language of this country, but also as the appropriate language to carry Māori knowledge and contemporary Māori customs;
- iv. to promote mātauranga Māori pathways that are of benefit to the people and lead to their advancement;
- v. to provide for research and development that leads to the advancement of mātauranga Māori and ensures the survival of the people as Māori;
- vi. To provide opportunities to encourage bi-literacy in our society.

Rules

1. Name

- 1.1 The name of the party shall be the "Māori Party" (the Party).
- 1.2 The Party shall be a political party and shall forthwith seek registration in terms of S.63 of The Electoral Act 1993.
- 1.3 The registered office of the Māori Party shall be determined by the Executive Council.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 To adhere to the Kaupapa set out above.
- 2.2 To ensure the election of competent persons as parliamentary representatives.

3. Membership

- 3.1 The Māori Party is an inclusive and broad movement and accepts membership from any person who supports the Party's objects, is at least thirteen years old; and pays the membership fee set by the Party in Annual National Hui.

4. Party Structure

- 4.1 The Party has an Executive Council ("the Council") which provides the Party leadership.
- 4.2 The Council comprises the following –
 - President
 - Co leaders (2)
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Person selected by the Rohe as Council members (one delegate for each rohe)
 - Other persons co-opted by Council
- 4.3 All decisions of the Council shall be by consensus (Consensus being defined as "the view of the majority").

5. Rohe

- 5.2 Each Māori electorate shall be a Rohe. Further rohe may from time to time be accepted by the Party Executive Council.

- 5.3 Each Rohe shall have a Rohe Committee which shall be responsible for all party activities in the Rohe.
- 5.4 The composition of the Rohe Committee shall be as determined by Annual Hui of the Rohe financial members.
- 5.5 The activities and business of each Rohe shall be organised as each rohe decides and at all times be consistent with the Party's objectives.
- 5.6 All decisions of the Rohe Committees shall be by consensus (as defined in 4.3 above).
- 5.8 Each Rohe shall hold an Annual General Hui of financial members.
- 5.9 At each Annual General Hui, the Rohe Council member shall be selected.

6. Annual National Hui

- 6.1 The party shall annually hold a National hui at a place and time approved by the Council. The business of this meeting shall be:
 - (a) Receiving of Council, Rohe, and any other reports
 - (b) Receiving the year's audited financial reports
 - (c) The amendment, cancellation or addition of any party rule.
 - (d) The consideration and acceptance of policies prepared by the Council or Rohe Committees.
 - (e) Receiving, considering and acting upon any other recommendations from the Council or Rohe Committees.
 - (f) Such other matters necessary for the carrying out of Party activities.
- 6.2 All decisions of the annual Hui shall be by consensus (as defined in 4.3 above).

7. Policy

- 7.1 The Council and Rohe Committees may from time to time submit policies to the Annual National Hui of the Party

8. Candidate Selection

- 8.1 Candidates shall be selected as set out in the First Schedule below.

9. Alteration of Rules

- 9.1 These rules may be amended, altered or rescinded by resolution of the Annual National Hui of the Party.

10. Resolution of differences

- 10.1 All members agree to work together to support the Party Objectives and to treat each other with respect and are expected to act ethically and with integrity in their party work. Differences that may arise from time to time shall be resolved at the earliest opportunity by those involved.
- 10.2 Disciplinary action may be brought against a member who:
- Refuses to comply with the Party Rules
 - Improperly deals with any party funds
 - Wilfully undermines the party's objectives, or
 - In any other way wilfully brings the party or its members into public disrepute.
- 10.3 A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the President. The President shall, in the first instance, try to resolve the matter with the individuals concerned.
- 10.4 If this procedure is inappropriate, or has not resolved the matter, the President shall refer the complaint to Council. The Council may settle the matter or refer the complaint to the next general meeting of the Party.

11. Dissolution Clause

- 11.1 An Annual National Hui of the Party may resolve that the Party be dissolved as from the date to be named in the resolution, and may also by such resolution direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of the Māori Party after its dissolution.
- 11.2 Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose and held not earlier than 30 days after the date on which the first resolution was passed, the Party shall be dissolved.
- 11.3 A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of the Māori Party shall upon dissolution be transferred to such political or other organisations having objects similar to those of the Māori Party within New Zealand as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or in default as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the Executive Council.

FIRST SCHEDULE

1. Candidates for Electorate Seats

- 1.1 There shall be a Hui of the Rohe to select a candidate at which all financial members of the Party present entitled to vote for the candidate at a general election are entitled to participate ("the participants").
- 1.2 The candidate selection hui may, if there is a consensus, select the candidate.
- 1.3 Failing a consensus being reached the participants may appoint delegates who shall have the power to select the candidate. If the delegates reach a consensus, subject to clause 1.6 hereunder, the person selected shall be the candidate.
- 1.4 Failing a consensus being reached by the delegates, the candidates' names are to be forwarded to the Council to make a selection.
- 1.5 Where either the candidate selection hui or its delegates have reached a consensus as to who should be the candidate, this person's name shall be submitted forthwith to the Council.
- 1.6 The Council must within seven days of receipt of a candidate's name either confirm or, if in the opinion of the Council the nomination requires further consideration, the Council shall meet with the rohe and resolve a way forward.

2. Candidates for List Seats

- 2.1 All nominations for the party list shall be party members
- 2.2 The Council shall invite nominations for the list from rohe committees
- 2.3 The Council shall invite nominations from the wider party membership
- 2.4 The Council shall select and prioritise nominees for the final party list.

CONSTITUTION

***Kia rangatira te tū a Te Pāti Māori
hei rōpū whakatinana i ngā rau wawata
o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki.***

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga

HE KUPU WHAKATAKI

The Maori Party is born of the dreams and aspirations of tangata whenua to achieve self-determination for whānau, hapū and iwi within their own land; to speak with a strong, independent and united voice; and to live according to kaupapa handed down by our ancestors.

The vision for the Maori Party will be based on these aspirations, for they speak to us of whānau whose wairua is strong and vibrant; who have fully developed their spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical well-being; and who are confident, secure and pro-active in all aspects of the environmental, social, cultural, economic and political life of this great country of ours.

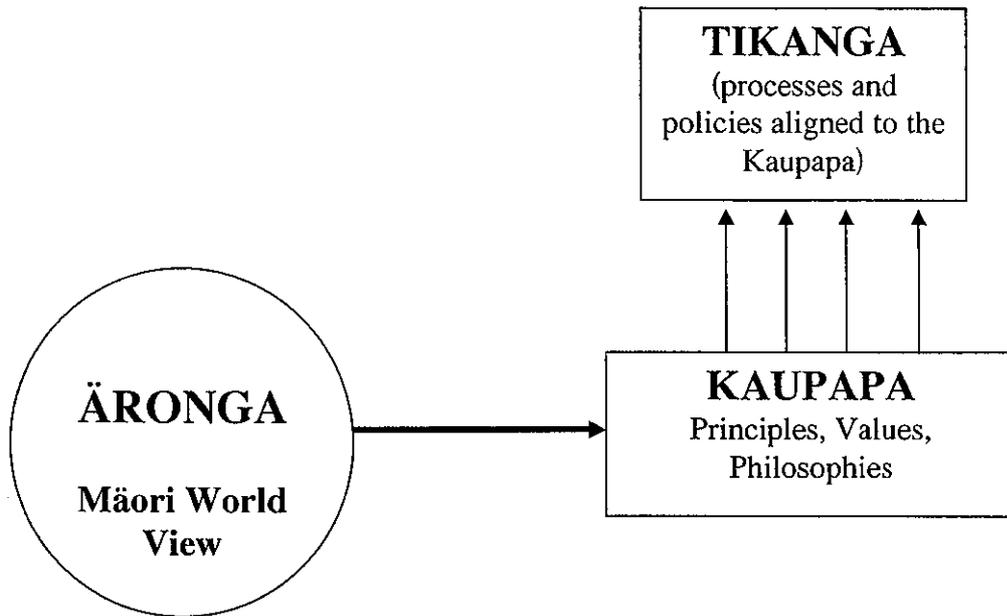
The MĀORI PARTY is for all citizens of this country. Its

- founding was an initiative of Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea, for the benefit of all citizens of this land
- policies and practices derive from kaupapa tuku iho that are values that provide for the wellbeing of all and are in a constant state of enrichment and refinement as insights are gathered from new experiences and discoveries
- vision is of a nation of cultural diversity and richness where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenua-tanga by Māori, Te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea and
- commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation and to its whakapapa is steadfast.

TE WAIHANGA I TE KAUPAPA

The Maori view of the world is described through pūrākau, karakia, mōteatea, whakataukī, whakapapa and many other puna korero. Kaupapa Maori is the foundation of Maori culture and is derived from this Maori world-view. Growing from within the kaupapa are our tikanga, like trees spring from Papatūānuku. The tikanga are the policies, practices and organisational structures of the Party that are aligned and consistent with the foundation kaupapa and will benefit not only Maori, but all those people who lay claim to this country as their homeland.

To achieve its vision, the Māori Party's existence will be based on kaupapa Māori, the foundation principles of the Māori world, and the bedrock from which we frame the objectives of the organisation. The Maori Party will demonstrate tikanga, consistent with kaupapa Māori.



NGÄ KAUPAPA O TE PÄTI MÄORI

The following **kaupapa** and **tikanga**, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori world view and help us define and maintain the Party's focus and structure. These kaupapa can be framed as the objectives of the organisation, with various tikanga covering policies, operations and organisational structures emanating from these kaupapa.

1. Manaakitanga

Manaakitanga is behaviour that acknowledges the mana of others as having equal or greater importance than one's own, through the expression of aroha, hospitality, generosity and mutual respect. In doing so, all parties are elevated and our status is enhanced, building unity through humility and the act of giving. The Party must endeavour to express manaakitanga towards others, be they political allies or opponents, Māori and non-Māori organisations, taking care not to trample mana, while clearly defining our own.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Manaakitanga

- i. to be recognised by Māori as a political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori;
- ii. to ensure that relationships between the Party and whānau, hapu, iwi and other Māori organisations are elevating and enhancing;
- iii. to promote a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is still important.
- iv. to ensure that members agree to work together, treat each other with respect and act with integrity in their party work.
- v. to involve all peoples in the process of rebuilding our nation based on mutual respect and harmonious relationships.

2. Rangatiratanga

Rangatiratanga is the expression of the attributes of a rangatira (weaving the people together) including humility, leadership by example, generosity, altruism, diplomacy and knowledge of benefit to the people. As an organisation, the importance of *walking the talk*, following through on commitments made, integrity and honesty is demonstrated. As a people, rangatiratanga is reflected in the promotion of self-determination for Māori, and an expression of the rights defined by Mana Atua, Mana Tupuna and Mana Whenua.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Rangatiratanga

- i. to recognise and acknowledge the authority of whānau, hapu and iwi in their respective electorate;
- ii. to enhance the relationship between Tino Rangatiratanga and Kāwanatanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi;
- iii. to assert and confirm the role of Maori as tangata whenua;
- iv. to promote Māori self-determination through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team;
- v. to acknowledge, nurture, support and reflect rangatiratanga within the Party and other Māori organisations;
- vi. to ensure that the conduct and activities of the parliamentary team, leaders and the organisation as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira.

3. Whanaungatanga

Whanaungatanga underpins the social organisation of whānau, hapū and iwi and includes rights and reciprocal obligations consistent with being part of a collective. It is the principle which binds individuals to the wider group and affirms the value of the collective. Whanaungatanga is inter-dependence with each other and recognition that the people are our wealth.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Whanaungatanga

- i. to promote and contribute to the survival of Māori as a people;
- ii. to promote respect for all cultures and ensure all people have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua;
- iii. to encourage relationships between whānau, hapū, iwi, other Māori organisations and the Party that reflect inter-dependence;
- iv. to promote whanaungatanga as the model for good collective arrangements between different parties

4. Kotahitanga

Kotahitanga is the principle of unity of purpose and direction. It is demonstrated through the achievement of harmony and moving as one. All are encouraged to make a contribution, to have their say and then together a consensus is reached. As a nation, the Party will promote harmonious relationships between all people.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Kotahitanga

- i. to consistently work for unity among Māori people;

- ii. to avoid taking decisions and approaches that lead to division and disharmony within the organisation;
- iii. to establish a parliamentary team that can work together and are committed to speaking with a single voice on behalf of Māori;
- iv. to promote harmonious and cooperative relationships amongst all people;
- v. to promote nation-hood based upon a knowledge of a shared heritage and an understanding and celebration of cultural distinctiveness.

5. Wairuatanga

This is reflected in the belief that there is a spiritual existence alongside the physical. It is expressed through the intimate connection of the people to our maunga, awa, moana and marae, and to tūpuna and atua. These connections are affirmed through knowledge and understanding of atua Māori and must be maintained and nourished towards the achievement of well-ness. It is central to the everyday lives of Māori people and is integral to the way Māori view the world.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Wairuatanga

- i. to encourage, maintain and promote spiritual identity and connection with the land;
- ii. to break down secular and non-secular divisions and promote a unified and holistic approach to life;
- iii. to develop a wairua nourishing and nurturing environment within the organisation;
- iv. to promote the importance of orange wairua for Māori well-being;

6. Mana Whenua

Mana Whenua is the principle which defines Māori by the land occupied by right of ancestral claim. It defines turangawaewae and ūkaipō, the places where you belong, where you count, where you are important and where you can contribute, Mana Whenua is essential for Māori well-being. The places Māori find ourselves, our strength, our energy are where Māori have mana whenua. Once grounded to the land and home, Māori are able to participate in society in a positive, productive manner.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Mana Whenua

- i. to ensure that the Party is of the Māori people;
- ii. to assist Māori to establish and maintain their connections to their own land;
- iii. to develop arrangements that foster the values of ūkaipō, of importance, belonging and contribution within the organisation,
- iv. to develop a parliamentary team that will take advice and guidance from Māori in the first instance;
- v. to promote mana whenua as the basis for land management policies.

7. Kaitiakitanga

Kaitiakitanga embraces the spiritual and cultural guardianship of Te Ao Mārama, a responsibility derived from whakapapa. Kaitiakitanga entails an active exercise of responsibility in a manner beneficial to resources and the welfare of the people. It promotes the growth and development of the Maori people in all spheres of livelihood

so that Maori can anticipate a future of living in good health and in reasonable prosperity. Preserving and maintaining the Party so it can continue to fulfil its functions and duties is implicit within this kaupapa.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Kaitiakitanga

- i. to encourage an extensive recording programme to collect and archive mātauranga Māori with kaumātua and other repositories of knowledge;
- ii. to promote the achievement of wellness and well-being for Māori;
- iii. to foster and promote sustainable management and growth of the economy so as to provide a stable and secure environment for future generations;
- iv. to create a clean, safe and healthy environment by promoting the protection, restoration and enhancement of mauri within our natural environments.

8. Mana Tupuna / Whakapapa

Mana Tupuna is that which defines who Māori are as people. It is the bridge which links us to our ancestors, which defines our heritage, gives us the stories which define our place in the world. Mana Tupuna helps us know who we are, from whom we descend, and what our obligations are to those who come after us. This is achieved through the recital of whakapapa, tracing the descent from Te Kore, to Te Pō and eventually through to Te Ao Mārama. Whakapapa is also a tool utilised in analysing and synthesising information and knowledge.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Whakapapa:

- i. to encourage the view that all Māori are related leading towards co-operation and unity,
- ii. to support endeavours by Maori to establish and maintain our whanau, hapu and iwi connections and continue our positive contribution to wider society ;
- iii. to promote whakapapa as an analysis and synthesis tool within the research activity of the Party.

9. Te Reo Rangatira

*Ki te kore tātou e kōrero Māori, ka ngaro te reo,
Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro ngā tikanga.
Ka ngaro ngā tikanga, ka ngaro tātou ki te Ao.
Ko te reo te kaupuri i te Māoritanga.*

Te Reo Māori is the cornerstone of all that is Māori. Accelerating the revival of te reo Māori is a central focus of the Māori Party. Te reo Māori is the medium through which Māori explains the world. The survival of the people as Māori and the uniqueness of Māori as a race will be enhanced through the maintenance of te reo Māori.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Te Reo Rangatira

- i. to ensure the revitalisation of te reo Māori;
- ii. to promote wider recognition of te reo as the first and official language of the country;
- iii. to promote the development and growth of the te reo Maori both as the indigenous language of this country, but also as the appropriate language to carry Maori knowledge and contemporary Maori customs;

- 3.4 On acceptance, financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in party membership meetings and to stand for party internal office-holders positions.
- 3.5 Any person who is a member of the Maori Party on the date at the opening of nominations, shall be entitled to participate in decision-making in local candidate and local list recommendations.
- 3.6 The registration fee entitles membership for three years.
- 3.7 The National Council may decline or cancel any membership that the Council believes does not meet the criteria outlined in clause 3.1. The applicant shall be advised in writing of the decision. The applicant may appeal that decision at the next National hui of the party where the decision shall be final.

4. Party Structure

- 4.1 The Party has an National Council ('the Council') which provides the Party leadership according to the kaupapa.
- 4.2 The Council comprises the following –
 - President and two Co-leaders (one female, one male) who shall hold office for three years and;
 - Up to four Council members selected by each Electorate (including rangatahi and both wahine and tane), or their substitute as determined by each Electorate. Each shall hold office for one year.
- 4.3 **Removal and Replacement**

An Electorate Council member can be removed from the Council by consensus of the Electorate Council. The election of the co-leaders to take place at the first AGM following a general election.
- 4.4 All decisions of the Council shall be by consensus (Consensus may be defined as "the view of the majority").

5. Electorate

- 5.1 Each Maori electorate shall be represented on the National Council. Further electorates may from time to time be accepted by the Party National Council.
- 5.2 Each Electorate shall have an Electorate Council which shall be responsible for all party activities in the Electorate.
- 5.3 Each Electorate shall hold an Annual Hui of financial members.
- 5.4 The composition of the Electorate Council shall be determined by the Annual Hui of financial members of that Electorate.
- 5.5 The activities and business of each Electorate shall be organised as each Electorate decides and at all times be consistent with the Party's kaupapa.

5.6 At each Annual Hui, three National Council members, and their substitutes shall be selected as defined in clause 4.2.

5.7 All decisions of the Electorate Council shall be by consensus (as defined in 4.4 above).

6. Annual National Hui

6.1 The party shall annually hold a National hui. Such hui shall be no later than the 1st November at a place and time approved by the Council. The business of this meeting shall be:

- (a) Selection of President and Co Leaders
- (b) Receiving of Council, Electorate, and any other reports
- (c) Receiving the year's audited financial reports
- (d) The amendment, cancellation or addition of any party rule.
- (e) The consideration and acceptance of policies prepared by the Council or Electorate Committees.
- (f) Receiving, considering and acting upon any other remits from the Council or Electorate Committees.
- (g) Such other matters necessary for the carrying out of Party activities.

All remits must first be passed by the Electorate committees who shall forward them to the National Council at least six weeks before the Annual Hui.

6.2 All decisions of the annual Hui shall be by consensus (as defined in 4.4 above).

7. Special National hui

The Council may call a special National hui at any time and shall, at the request of three electorates or by request of at least 200 financial members from each of three Electorates.

8. Candidate Selection

Candidates shall be selected as set out in the First Schedule below.

9. Alteration of Constitution

The Constitution may be amended, added to or rescinded by resolution of the Annual National Hui of the Party or a Special National hui convened for such purpose.

10. Resolution of differences

10.1 All financial members agree to work together to support the Constitution of the Party and to treat each other with respect and are expected to act ethically and with integrity in

their party work. Differences that may arise from time to time shall be resolved at the earliest opportunity by those involved.

10.2 Disciplinary action may be brought against a member who:

- refuses to comply with the Party Constitution;
- improperly deals with any party funds;
- in any other way wilfully brings the party or its members into public disrepute.

10.3 A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the relevant Electorate Council. If it cannot be resolved at this level, it shall be referred to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the National Council who shall act swiftly and with discretion to seek resolution of the matter; and that the dispute is resolved on the basis of the kaupapa of the Party.

10.4 The Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the National Council shall:

- Be elected by National Council
- Take office for three years only as per clause 4.2 but may be elected for a second term
- Be chaired by the President
- Meet as required and deemed by the President
- Not exceed five members
- Declare any conflicts of interest at the start of any meetings
- any vacancy that arises shall be filled by a National Council representative elected by a majority of the national council
- The quorum shall be three including the President or nominated Chair
- Nominate a new chair should the President declare a conflict of interest
- Direct the President to vacate the chair in the event that a complaint is leveled at the President
- All resolutions shall be reported to the National Council
- All complainants shall be advised of the outcomes

11. Position on National Council

The Electorate Committee shall determine the standard required for members to represent the electorate on the National Executive.

12. Dissolution Clause

- 12.1 An Annual National Hui of the Party may resolve that the Party be dissolved as from the date to be named in the resolution, and may also by such resolution direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of the Maori Party after its dissolution.
- 12.2 Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose and held not earlier than 30 days after the date on which the first resolution was passed, the Party shall be dissolved.
- 12.3 A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of the Maori Party shall upon dissolution be transferred to such political or other organisations having objects similar to those of the Maori Party within New Zealand as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or in default as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the National Council.

FIRST SCHEDULE

A. CANDIDATE SELECTION

Our candidate selection process shall be based on the principles of:

- whanaungatanga,
- mana whenua,
- manaakitanga,
- rangatiratanga,
- kotahitanga,
- wairuatanga,
- kaitiakitanga,
- mana tupuna/ whakapapa,
- transparency,
- fairness,
- participation,
- reasonable notice and
- inclusiveness.

B SELECTION PROCESS OVERVIEW

1 Candidates for Electorate Seats

- 1.1 There shall be hui of each electorate to select candidates at which all financial members who live within the boundaries of that electorate, shall be entitled to attend and to participate in the selection of the candidate provided they are members on the date that candidate nominations open. In the case of Maori electorates, financial members of Maori descent or on the Maori roll who live within the boundaries of that electorate are eligible to participate.
- 1.2 Clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the nominations closing date.
- 1.3 The candidate selection hui shall, if there is a consensus, select the candidate according to the circulated process.
- 1.4 Failing a consensus being reached, the financial members shall refer the matter to the Electorate Council who shall have the authority to select the candidate.
- 1.5 Where either the candidate selection hui or its delegates have reached a consensus as to who should be the candidate, this person's name shall be submitted forthwith to the National Council and the National Council shall immediately either confirm the nomination, or, if in the opinion of the National Council the nomination requires further consideration, the National Council shall meet with the Electorate and resolve a way forward.
- 1.6 Electorate Councils will ensure strict conflict of interest policies are established and complied with for the candidate selection processes to ensure neither selection processes nor prospective candidates improperly influence the selection process.

2. Candidates for List Seats

- 2.1 Electorate Councils shall determine and prioritise their **five** list nominations (which may include the electorate candidate) according to an agreed process
- 2.2 All nominations for the party list shall be party members of that Electorate
- 2.3 The Electorate Council will submit its prioritised list to the National Council.
- 2.4 The National Council will then prioritise the list according to an agreed process.

NGÄ KAUPAPA HERE

Wāhanga Tuatahi

NGÄ TIKANGA

*Kia rangatira te tū a te Pāti Māori
Hei rōpū whakatinana i ngā rau wawata
o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki*

HE KUPU WHAKATAKI

Kua ara ake te Pāti Māori nō roto i ngā moemoeā me ngā tūmanako o te tangata whenua kia riro atu ai te tino rangatiratanga mō te whānau, te hapū me te iwi i roto i ō rātou whenua; kia whai kaha, kia motuhake, kia kotahi te reo; kia ū anō hoki ki ngā kaupapa tuku iho i ngā tūpuna.

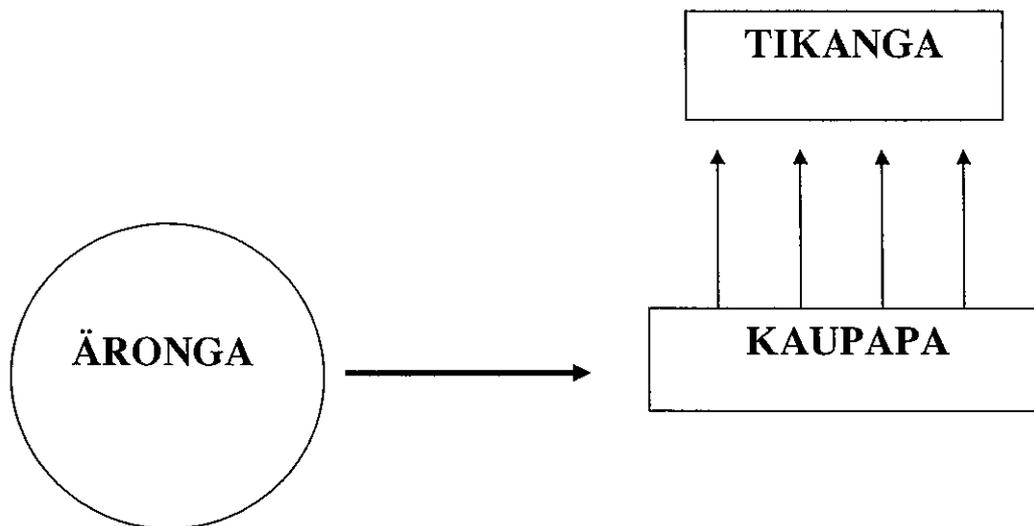
Ko tā te Pāti Māori, tāna e kite ai, he mea waihanga i runga i ēnei tūmanako, e whakaahua ana i te whānau e tino ora nei te wairua; kua whakatupuria ō rātou wairua, hinengaro, aronganui, tinana hoki; e pakari nei, e rangatira nei te tū a te iwi i roto i ngā take taiao, pāpori, tikanga-a-iwi, ōhanga, tōrangapū o tēnei whenua o tātou.

Mō ngā tāngata katoa te Pāti Māori:

- he mea waihanga te pāti e te Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiaētea, hei painga mō ngā tāngata katoa o tēnei whenua,
- i takea mai āna tikanga i ngā kaupapa tuku iho e ora ai te katoa, ā, e whakawhānuitia ana ēnei kaupapa i runga i ngā āhukatanga hou e rangona ana, e kitea ana e te iwi,
- e kitea ana tētehi whenua kī tonu i ngā iwi, i ngā tikanga rerekē e whakakotahitia ana e te kākano i ruia mai e Rangiaētea, e te tangata whenua
- e herea ana te pāti ki te Tiriti-o-Waitangi, te whakapūmautanga o tēnei tau tangata, e takina tonutia ana tōna whakapapa

TE WAIHANGA I TE KAUPAPA

E whakaahuangia ana te Āronga a te Māori ki tōna ao i roto i ngā pūrākau, karakia, mōteatea, whakataukī, whakapapa, otirā, ngā puna kōrero o te iwi. Ko ngā kaupapa Māori te pūtake o ngā tikanga Māori, tae noa ki te Āronga. E tupu ana ā tātou tikanga i roto anō i ngā kaupapa, pēnei me te rākau e tupu nei i runga i a Papatūānuku. E hāngai ana ngā tikanga, ngā whakahaere katoa a te pāti ki ngā kaupapa tuku iho hei oranga mō te Māori, otirā mō ngā tāngata katoa e kī ana, nō konei rātou.



Hei whakatutuki i tāna e kite ai, ka tū te Pāti Māori i runga i ngā kaupapa Māori, te pūtake o te ao Māori, te tūāpapa e puta ai ngā whāinga o te rōpū. Ka whakatinanatia ngā tikanga, e hāngai ana ki ngā kaupapa Māori.

NGĀ KAUPAPA O TE PĀTI MĀORI

Ehara i te mea e hora ake nei ngā kaupapa, ngā tikanga katoa, heoi anō, e hāngai ana ēnei ki te Āronga a te Māori ki tōna ao, nō konei ka mārāma ngā whāinga me te tū a te pāti. Ko ēnei kaupapa ngā whāinga matua, ka mutu, e piri ana ngā tikanga, ngā whakahaere me te āhua o te tū a te pāti.

1. Manaakitanga

Mā te tuku aroha, atawhai, whakaaro nui me te whakaute, tētehi ki tētehi ka whakanuia te mana o tētehi, anō, e rite ana, kei runga ake rānei tērā mana i tōu nā. Mā te akiaki tonu i te mana o tētehi, ka hāpaitia tō tātou, ka puta ko te kotahitanga i roto i te ngākau iti me te arohanui. Me whakapau te Pāti Māori i tōna kaha ki te tuku manaakitanga ki ētehi, ahakoa hoa, ahakoa hoa riri, rōpū Māori, rōpū tauwiwi, kia kua hoki ērā mana e takahia, engari ka whakapūmautia hoki tō tātou.

Ngā Tikanga a te Pāti Māori e takea mai nei i te Manaakitanga

- i. kia whakaengia ko te pāti nei he rōpū manaaki i ngā tūmanako o te Māori
- ii. ka whakapūmautia te manaakitanga i waenganui i te Pāti me ngā whānau, hapū, iwi tae noa ki ngā rōpū Māori
- iii. kia tika te tū a te hāpori whānui, kia kore ai e kitea te rawakore me te tūkino, kia waihangatia tētehi ao e manaakitia ana te tangata
- iv. kia mahi tahi ngā mema, kia horahia te manaakitanga, kia rangatira hoki te tū i roto i a rātou mahi mō te pāti
- v. kia uru mai ngā iwi katoa i roto i ngā mahi whakapakari i tā tātou noho, i runga i te whakaaro nui me te aroha

2. Rangatiratanga

Ko te pütake o te Rangatiratanga, ko ngā pūmanawa tonu o te rangatira, arā, ko te whakaiti, kia tū hei tauira, te manaakitanga, te whakaaro nui, te maioha me te whakamahi i tōna mātauranga hei oranga mō te iwi. Ka kitea i roto i te rōpū, te kōrero e hikoitia ana, he mana tō te kupu, te ngākau tapatahi me te pono. Mō te iwi, ko te rangatiratanga tō tātou mana motuhake, e whakaahuangia ana i roto i te Mana Atua, Mana Tupuna, Mana Whenua.

Ngā Tikanga a te Pāti Māori e takea mai nei i te Rangatiratanga

- i. kia whakaetia te mana o te whānau, hapū, iwi i roto i ō rātou rohe pōti
- ii. kia tika te noho tahi a te Tino Rangatiratanga me te Kāwanatanga e tohua ana i roto i te Tiriti o Waitangi
- iii. kia whakapūmautia te noho tangata whenua a te Māori
- iv. kia kōkiritia te tino rangatiratanga mā te whakatū huihuinga e puta ai ngā whakaaro me ngā tohutohu a te iwi ki te rōpū kei rō Paremata
- v. kia whakatupuria, kia manaakitia, kia tautokona te rangatiratanga i roto i te Pāti me ngā rōpū Māori
- vi. kia hāngai tonu ngā mahi me ngā whakahaere a te rōpū paremata, ngā rangatira me te rōpū whānui ki ngā pūmanawa o te rangatira

3. Whanaungatanga

Ko te Whanaungatanga te pütake o te whānau, hapū, iwi, ko te utu hoki tētehi āhukatanga ōna e pā nei ki te katoa. Hei konei ka herea te tangata ki te kāhui, e mana ai tōna tū. Ko te Whanaungatanga te taupuhipuhi, me te mōhio anō ko te tangata tonu tō tātou oranga.

Ngā Tikanga a te Pāti Māori e takea mai nei i te Whanaungatanga

- i. kia whakapūmautia te oranga tonutanga o te Māori hei iwi
- ii. kia whakanuia nga iwi katoa, kia mōhiohia hoki te wāhi ki te tangata whenua
- iii. kia kitea ai te taupuhipuhi i waenganui i te whānau, hapū, iwi, ngā rōpū Māori me te Pāti
- iv. kia tū te whanaungatanga me ōna āhukatanga hei tauira mō ngā rōpū katoa

4. Kotahitanga

Ko te whakaaro kotahi me te haere ngātahi te tikanga o te Kotahitanga. E whakaahuangia ana i roto i te noho-a-tahi me te mahi tahi. Ka tukua te tangata ki te āwhina, ki te kōrero, ka mutu ka puta te whakatau a te katoa. Ko te hiahia o te Pāti, kia pai te noho-a-tahi a te katoa.

Ngā Tikanga a te Pāti Māori e takea mai nei i te Kotahitanga

- i. kia whakapūmautia te kotahitanga i waenganui i ngā iwi Māori
- ii. kia kua e puta te ngākau wewehe i ngā whakataū, i ngā mahi ate Pāti
- iii. kia mahi tahi te rōpū paremata, kia kotahi hoki te reo mō ngā iwi Māori
- iv. kia nui te noho-aotahi i waenganui i ngā tāngata katoa
- v. kia puta te tū tahitanga i tēnei whenua i runga i te mōhio kua heke ngātahi tātou, ā, e kaha ana tātou ki te whakanui i ngā rerekētanga i waenganui i ngā iwi

5. Wairuatanga

Ko te wairuatanga tērā e whakatauirā ana i te ao wairua e tū tahi nei me te ao kikokiko. Mā te wairuatanga ka hono tātou ki ō tātou maunga, awa, moana, marae, tūpuna, atua tonu atu. Ka mau te hono nei i te mōhio me te māramatanga ki ngā atua Māori, ki te whāngai tika i ō tātou wairua hei oranga mō tātou. E kore te wairuatanga e ngaro i a tātou, ā, koia tonu tētehi wāhanga nui o te Āronga a te Māori ki te ao.

Ngā Tikanga a te Pāti Māori e takea mai nei i te Wairuatanga

- i. kia whakapakaritia te wairuatanga me te hono ki te whenua
- ii. kia turakina ngā wehenga i waenganui i te Hāhi me te Kāwanatanga kia kotahi ai te aronga
- iii. he oranga wairua tō ngā whakahaere a te rōpū
- iv. kia mōhiohia he mea nui whakahirahira te oranga wairua mō te Māori

6. Mana Whenua

Ko te take tupuna, he whenua heke mai i ngā tūpuna e nohoia ana e ngā uri. Koia ko te tūrangawaewae, ko te ūkaipō, nōu te whenua, ka whai wāhi koe ki reira, he wāhanga tōu i roto i ngā whakahaere. He oranga tō te Mana Whenua. I ō tātou whenua ka mōhio tātou ki a tātou anō, kei reira hoki tō tātou kaha, tō tātou māia, tō tātou Mana Whenua. Ma te hono ki te whenua, ka whai kaha tātou ki te whai i nga kaupapa-a-iwi whānui

Ngā Tikanga a te Pāti Māori e takea mai nei i te Mana Whenua

- i. kia taea te kī, nō te Māori te Pāti
- ii. kia āwhinatia te hunga e hiahia ana ki te tū i runga i ō rātou tūrangawaewae
- iii. kia whakawhānuitia ngā tikanga o te ūkaipō i roto i te rōpū
- iv. kia whakamahia te mana whenua hei arahi i ngā mahi ahu whenua

7. Kaitiakitanga

Ko te tiaki i te wairuatanga me ngā tikanga Māori i roto i Te Ao Mārama te tikanga o te Kaitiakitanga, he kawenga nui tēnei e puta nei i te whakapapa. Ko te hua o te Kaitiakitanga ko te oranga o ngā rawa, otirā o te iwi. Ka manaakitia te tupuranga mai o te iwi i roto i ā rātou kawenga katoa kia pūāwai mai te iwi, kia ora ai, kia whai rawa hoki. Ko te tiaki hoki i te Pāti tētehi wāhanga, e taea ai te whakatutuki i ngā whāinga nui.

Ngā Tikanga a te Pāti Māori e takea mai nei i te Kaitiakitanga

- i. kia whakahaeretia tētehi tū mahi e mau ai ngā kōrero a ngā pakeke, a ngā pātaka o te mātauranga Māori
- ii. kia whakawhiwhia, kia mau i te Māori te oranga nui
- iii. kia waihangatia mai tētehi kaupapa e ora ai ngā rawa, ngā taonga o te whenua hei oranga mō ngā uri whakatupu
- iv. Mā te tiaki, te whakaora, me the whakapakari i te Taiao ka ora tōna mauri

8. Mana Tupuna / Whakapapa

Mā te Mana Tupuna, mā te whakapapa ka mōhio tātou ko wai tātou. Ko ia tonu te tāwhiwhitanga ki ngā tūpuna, ki ngā kaupapa tuku iho, kia ngā pūrākau e whakatauirā ana i tā tātou noho ki tēnei ao. Mā te Mana Tupuna ka mōhio tātou ko wai tātou, nā wai tātou, e ahu ana tātou ki whea me ōna kawenga katoa. Ka puta ēnei āhuatanga i te taki whakapapa, tā tātou heke mai i Te Kore, ki Te Pō, ki Te Ao Mārama. He taonga anō te whakapapa hei wānanga i te kōrero, i te mātauranga

Ngā Tikanga a te Pāti Māori e takea mai nei i te Mana Tupuna / Whakapapa

- i. kia whānui te mōhio, he whanaunga katoa tātou te Māori, nō konā me kotahi tātou
- ii. kia kaha tonu te whakawhirinaki atu ki ō tātou whānau, hapū, iwi, kia pai ai tā tātou tū i tēnei ao
- iii. kia whakamahia tēnei taonga te whakapapa hei wānanga i te mātauranga

9. Te Reo Rangatira

Ki te kore tātou e kōrero Māori, ka ngaro te reo. Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro ngā tikanga. Ka ngaro ngā tikanga, ka ngaro tātou ki te ao. Ko te reo te kaupapuri i te Māoritanga. Nō konā, me whakapau te Pāti i tōna kaha ki whakaora, ki te whakawhānui i te reo Māori. Mā te reo Māori te ao e whakamārama. Ki te ora te reo, ka ora tātou te iwi Māori, hei iwi motuhake i tēnei ao.

Ngā Tikanga a te Pāti Māori e takea mai nei i te Reo Rangatira

- i. kia whakaorangia te reo
- ii. kia whānui te mōhio, he reo tūturu o te whenua nei te reo Māori
- iii. kia whakatupuria te reo Māori hei reo taketake nō tēnei whenua, māna tonu te mātauranga Māori me ngā tikanga Māori e kawē
- iv. kia whakapakaritia hoki te mātauranga Māori hei oranga mō te iwi Māori
- v. kia whakatūria tētehi pūtea hei whakatupu i te mātauranga Māori, e Māori tonu ai te iwi
- vi. kia manaakitia ngā kaupapa reo rua
- vii. kia manaakitia hoki ngā iwi i Aotearoa nei e whakaora ana i ō rātou ake reo.

CONSTITUTION

09/01/08

Kia rangatira te tū a Te Pāti Māori hei rōpū whakatīnana i ngā rau wawata o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki.

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga

HE KUPU WHAKATAKI

The Maori Party is born of the dreams and aspirations of tangata whenua to achieve self-determination for whānau, hapū and iwi within their own land; to speak with a strong, independent and united voice; and to live according to kaupapa handed down by our ancestors.

The vision for the Maori Party will be based on these aspirations, for they speak to us of whānau whose wairua is strong and vibrant; who have fully developed their spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical well-being; and who are confident, secure and proactive in all aspects of the environmental, social, cultural, economic and political life of this great country of ours.

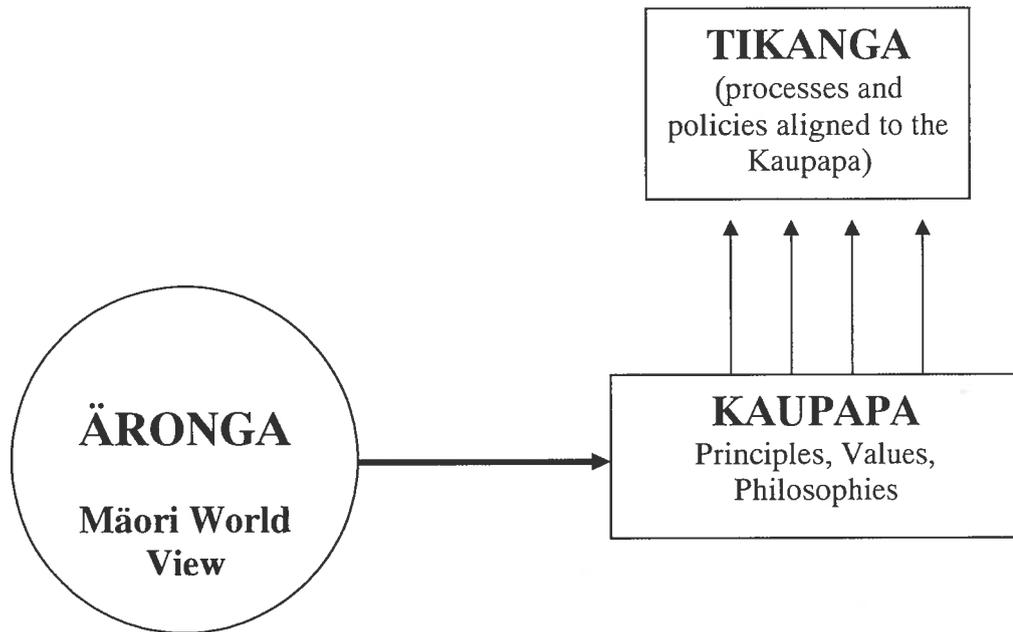
The MĀORI PARTY is for all citizens of this country. Its

- founding was an initiative of Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiatea, for the benefit of all citizens of this land
- policies and practices derive from kaupapa tuku iho that are values that provide for the wellbeing of all and are in a constant state of enrichment and refinement as insights are gathered from new experiences and discoveries
- vision is of a nation of cultural diversity and richness where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenua-tanga by Māori, Te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiatea and
- commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation and to its whakapapa is steadfast.

TE WAIHANGA I TE KAUPAPA

The Maori view of the world is described through pūrākau, karakia, mōteatea, whakataukī, whakapapa and many other puna korero. Kaupapa Maori is the foundation of Maori culture and is derived from this Maori world-view. Growing from within the kaupapa are our tikanga, like trees spring from Papatūānuku. The tikanga are the policies, practices and organisational structures of the Party that are aligned and consistent with the foundation kaupapa and will benefit not only Maori, but all those people who lay claim to this country as their homeland.

To achieve its vision, the Māori Party's existence will be based on kaupapa Māori, the foundation principles of the Māori world, and the bedrock from which we frame the objectives of the organisation. The Maori Party will demonstrate tikanga, consistent with kaupapa Māori.



NGÄ KAUPAPA O TE PÄTI MÄORI

The following **kaupapa** and **tikanga**, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori world view and help us define and maintain the Party's focus and structure. These kaupapa can be framed as the objectives of the organisation, with various tikanga covering policies, operations and organisational structures emanating from these kaupapa.

1. Manaakitanga

Manaakitanga is behaviour that acknowledges the mana of others as having equal or greater importance than one's own, through the expression of aroha, hospitality, generosity and mutual respect. In doing so, all parties are elevated and our status is enhanced, building unity through humility and the act of giving. The Party must endeavour to express manaakitanga towards others, be they political allies or opponents, Māori and non-Māori organisations, taking care not to trample mana, while clearly defining our own.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Manaakitanga

- i. to be recognised by Māori as a political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori;
- ii. to ensure that relationships between the Party and whānau, hapu, iwi and other Māori organisations are elevating and enhancing;
- iii. to promote a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is still important.
- iv. to ensure that members agree to work together, treat each other with respect and act with integrity in their party work.

- v. to involve all peoples in the process of rebuilding our nation based on mutual respect and harmonious relationships.

2. Rangatiratanga

Rangatiratanga is the expression of the attributes of a rangatira (weaving the people together) including humility, leadership by example, generosity, altruism, diplomacy and knowledge of benefit to the people. As an organisation, the importance of *walking the talk*, following through on commitments made, integrity and honesty is demonstrated. As a people, rangatiratanga is reflected in the promotion of self-determination for Māori, and an expression of the rights defined by Mana Atua, Mana Tupuna and Mana Whenua.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Rangatiratanga

- i. to recognise and acknowledge the authority of whānau, hapu and iwi in their respective electorate;
- ii. to enhance the relationship between Tino Rangatiratanga and Kāwanatanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi;
- iii. to assert and confirm the role of Maori as tangata whenua;
- iv. to promote Māori self-determination through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team;
- v. to acknowledge, nurture, support and reflect rangatiratanga within the Party and other Māori organisations;
- vi. to ensure that the conduct and activities of the parliamentary team, leaders and the organisation as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira.

3. Whanaungatanga

Whanaungatanga underpins the social organisation of whānau, hapū and iwi and includes rights and reciprocal obligations consistent with being part of a collective. It is the principle which binds individuals to the wider group and affirms the value of the collective. Whanaungatanga is inter-dependence with each other and recognition that the people are our wealth.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Whanaungatanga

- i. to promote and contribute to the survival of Māori as a people;
- ii. to promote respect for all cultures and ensure all people have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua;
- iii. to encourage relationships between whānau, hapū, iwi, other Māori organisations and the Party that reflect inter-dependence;
- iv. to promote whanaungatanga as the model for good collective arrangements between different parties

4. Kotahitanga

Kotahitanga is the principle of unity of purpose and direction. It is demonstrated through the achievement of harmony and moving as one. All are encouraged to make a contribution, to have their say and then together a consensus is reached. As a nation, the Party will promote harmonious relationships between all people.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Kotahitanga

- i. to consistently work for unity among Māori people;
- ii. to avoid taking decisions and approaches that lead to division and disharmony within the organisation;
- iii. to establish a parliamentary team that can work together and are committed to speaking with a single voice on behalf of Māori;
- iv. to promote harmonious and cooperative relationships amongst all people;
- v. to promote nation-hood based upon a knowledge of a shared heritage and an understanding and celebration of cultural distinctiveness.

5. Wairuatanga

This is reflected in the belief that there is a spiritual existence alongside the physical. It is expressed through the intimate connection of the people to our maunga, awa, moana and marae, and to tūpuna and atua. These connections are affirmed through knowledge and understanding of atua Māori and must be maintained and nourished towards the achievement of well-ness. It is central to the everyday lives of Māori people and is integral to the way Māori view the world.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Wairuatanga

- i. to encourage, maintain and promote spiritual identity and connection with the land;
- ii. to break down secular and non-secular divisions and promote a unified and holistic approach to life;
- iii. to develop a wairua nourishing and nurturing environment within the organisation;
- iv. to promote the importance of oranga wairua for Māori well-being;

6. Mana Whenua

Mana Whenua is the principle which defines Māori by the land occupied by right of ancestral claim. It defines turangawaewae and ūkaipō, the places where you belong, where you count, where you are important and where you can contribute, Mana Whenua is essential for Māori well-being. The places Māori find ourselves, our strength, our energy are where Māori have mana

whenua. Once grounded to the land and home, Māori are able to participate in society in a positive, productive manner.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Mana Whenua

- i. to ensure that the Party is of the Māori people;
- ii. to assist Māori to establish and maintain their connections to their own land;
- iii. to develop arrangements that foster the values of ūkaipō, of importance, belonging and contribution within the organisation,
- iv. to develop a parliamentary team that will take advice and guidance from Māori in the first instance;
- v. to promote mana whenua as the basis for land management policies.

7. Kaitiakitanga

Kaitiakitanga embraces the spiritual and cultural guardianship of Te Ao Mārama, a responsibility derived from whakapapa. Kaitiakitanga entails an active exercise of responsibility in a manner beneficial to resources and the welfare of the people. It promotes the growth and development of the Maori people in all spheres of livelihood so that Maori can anticipate a future of living in good health and in reasonable prosperity. Preserving and maintaining the Party so it can continue to fulfil its functions and duties is implicit within this kaupapa.

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- i. to encourage an extensive recording programme to collect and archive mātauranga Māori with kaumātua and other repositories of knowledge;
- ii. to promote the achievement of wellness and well-being for Māori;
- iii. to foster and promote sustainable management and growth of the economy so as to provide a stable and secure environment for future generations;
- iv. to create a clean, safe and healthy environment by promoting the protection, restoration and enhancement of mauri within our natural environments.

8. Mana Tupuna / Whakapapa

Mana Tupuna is that which defines who Māori are as people. It is the bridge which links us to our ancestors, which defines our heritage, gives us the stories which define our place in the world. Mana Tupuna helps us know who we are, from whom we descend, and what our obligations are to those who come after us. This is achieved through the recital of whakapapa, tracing the descent from Te Kore, to Te Pō and eventually through to Te Ao Mārama. Whakapapa is also a tool utilised in analysing and synthesising information and knowledge.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Whakapapa:

- i. to encourage the view that all Māori are related leading towards co-operation and unity,
- ii. to support endeavours by Maori to establish and maintain our whanau, hapu and iwi connections and continue our positive contribution to wider society ;
- iii. to promote whakapapa as an analysis and synthesis tool within the research activity of the Party.

9. Te Reo Rangatira

*Ki te kore tātou e kōrero Māori, ka ngaro te reo,
Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro ngā tikanga.
Ka ngaro ngā tikanga, ka ngaro tātou ki te Ao.
Ko te reo te kaupuri i te Māoritanga.*

Te Reo Māori is the cornerstone of all that is Māori. Accelerating the revival of te reo Māori is a central focus of the Māori Party. Te reo Māori is the medium through which Māori explains the world. The survival of the people as Māori and the uniqueness of Māori as a race will be enhanced through the maintenance of te reo Māori.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Te Reo Rangatira

- i. to ensure the revitalisation of te reo Māori;
- ii. to promote wider recognition of te reo as the first and official language of the country;
- iii. to promote the development and growth of the te reo Maori both as the indigenous language of this country, but also as the appropriate language to carry Maori knowledge and contemporary Maori customs;
- iv. to promote mātauranga Māori pathways that are of benefit to the people and lead to our advancement;
- v. to provide for research and development that leads to the advancement of mātauranga Māori and ensures the survival of the people as Māori;
- vi. to provide opportunities to encourage bi-literacy in our society.

1. Name

- 1.1 The name of the party shall be the 'Maori Party' (The Party).
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- 1.3 The registered office of the Maori Party shall be determined by the National Council.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 To acknowledge and fulfil the Kaupapa set out in this constitution.
- 2.2 To develop and implement the party policy manifesto consistent with the kaupapa.
- 2.3 To ensure the election of competent persons as parliamentary representatives.

3. Membership

- 3.1 The Maori Party is an inclusive and broad political movement and accepts membership from any persons who:
 - work to support the Maori Party kaupapa and tikanga;
 - act within the Maori Party constitution;
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 - and who is not a member of a competing political party as determined by the National Council.
- 3.2 Any Person of at least 13 years of age may make application to join the party. A person may apply to join directly to the Secretary on an official membership form or through an Electorate Committee. Any person of 13-16 years of age may become a *non-voting Junior member* of the Maori Party, for a gold coin membership fee for a three year membership; and at 17 years of age and over, members will enrol at a koha based membership for three years membership as adults with full voting rights.
- 3.3 The applicant shall be advised in writing by the Secretary or the Treasurer of acceptance of their membership. Commencement of membership for the purpose of clause 3.5 and 3.6 shall take effect from the date of the acceptance of the application form by the Secretary or Treasurer.
- 3.4 On acceptance, financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in party membership meetings and to stand for party internal office-holders positions.
- 3.5 Any person who is a member of the Maori Party on the date at the opening of nominations, shall be entitled to participate in decision-making in local candidate and local list recommendations.
- 3.6 The registration fee entitles membership for three years.
- 3.7 The National Council may decline or cancel any membership that the Council believes does not meet the criteria outlined in clause 3.1. The applicant shall be advised in writing of the decision. The applicant may appeal that decision at the next National hui of the party where the decision shall be final.

4. Party Structure

- 4.1 The Party has an National Council ('the Council') which provides the Party leadership according to the kaupapa.
- 4.2 The Council comprises the following –
Two Co-vice presidents (one female, one male) and two Co-leaders (one female, one male) who shall hold office for three years and;
Up to four Council members selected by each Electorate (including rangatahi and both wahine and tane), or their substitute as determined by each Electorate. Each shall hold office for one year.
- 4.3 Removal and Replacement
An Electorate Council member can be removed from the Council by consensus of the Electorate Council. The election of the co-leaders to take place at the first AGM following a general election.
- 4.4 All decisions of the Council shall be by consensus (Consensus may be defined as "the view of the majority").

5. Electorate

- 5.1 Each Maori electorate shall be represented on the National Council. Further electorates may from time to time be accepted by the Party National Council.
- 5.2 Each Electorate shall have an Electorate Council which shall be responsible for all party activities in the Electorate.
- 5.3 Each Electorate shall hold an Annual Hui of financial members.
- 5.4 The composition of the Electorate Council shall be determined by the Annual Hui of financial members of that Electorate.
- 5.5 The activities and business of each Electorate shall be organised as each Electorate decides and at all times be consistent with the Party's kaupapa.
- 5.6 At each Annual Hui, three National Council members, and their substitutes shall be selected as defined in clause 4.2.
- 5.7 All decisions of the Electorate Council shall be by consensus (as defined in 4.4 above).

6. Annual National Hui

- 6.1 The party shall annually hold a National hui. Such hui shall be no later than the 1st November at a place and time approved by the Council. The business of this meeting shall be:
- (a) Selection of Co Presidents and Co Leaders
 - (b) Receiving of Council, Electorate, and any other reports
 - (c) Receiving the year's audited financial reports
 - (d) The amendment, cancellation or addition of any party rule.
 - (e) The consideration and acceptance of policies prepared by the Council or Electorate Committees.
 - (f) Receiving, considering and acting upon any other remits from the Council or Electorate Committees.
 - (g) Such other matters necessary for the carrying out of Party activities.
- All remits must first be passed by the Electorate committees who shall forward them to the National Council at least six weeks before the Annual Hui.
- 6.2 All decisions of the annual Hui shall be by consensus (as defined in 4.4 above).

7. Special National hui

The Council may call a special National hui at any time and shall, at the request of three electorates or by request of at least 200 financial members from each of three Electorates.

8. Candidate Selection

Candidates shall be selected as set out in the First Schedule below.

9. Alteration of Constitution

The Constitution may be amended, added to or rescinded by resolution of the Annual National Hui of the Party or a Special National hui convened for such purpose.

10. Resolution of differences

10.1 All financial members agree to work together to support the Constitution of the Party and to treat each other with respect and are expected to act ethically and with integrity in their party work. Differences that may arise from time to time shall be resolved at the earliest opportunity by those involved.

10.2 Disciplinary action may be brought against a member who:

- refuses to comply with the Party Constitution;
- improperly deals with any party funds;
- in any other way wilfully brings the party or its members into public disrepute.

10.3 A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the relevant Electorate Council. If it cannot be resolved at this level, it shall be referred to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the National Council who shall act swiftly and with discretion to seek resolution of the matter; and that the dispute is resolved on the basis of the kaupapa of the Party.

10.4 **The Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the National Council** shall:

- Be elected by National Council
- Take office for three years only as per clause 4.2 but may be elected for a second term
- Be chaired by one of the Co-Presidents
- Meet as required and deemed by the Co-President
- Not exceed five members
- Declare any conflicts of interest at the start of any meetings
- any vacancy that arises shall be filled by a National Council representative elected by a majority of the national council
- The quorum shall be three including the Co-President or nominated Chair
- Nominate a new chair should the Co-President declare a conflict of interest

- Direct the Co-President to vacate the chair in the event that a complaint is leveled at that Co-President
- All resolutions shall be reported to the National Council
- All complainants shall be advised of the outcomes

11. Position on National Council

The Electorate Committee shall determine the standard required for members to represent the electorate on the National Executive.

12. Dissolution Clause

- 12.1 An Annual National Hui of the Party may resolve that the Party be dissolved as from the date to be named in the resolution, and may also by such resolution direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of the Maori Party after its dissolution.
- 12.2 Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose and held not earlier than 30 days after the date on which the first resolution was passed, the Party shall be dissolved.
- 12.3 A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of the Maori Party shall upon dissolution be transferred to such political or other organisations having objects similar to those of the Maori Party within New Zealand as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or in default as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the National Council.

FIRST SCHEDULE

A. **CANDIDATE SELECTION**

Our candidate selection process shall be based on the principles of:

- whanaungatanga,
- mana whenua,
- manaakitanga,
- rangatiratanga,
- kotahitanga,
- wairuatanga,
- kaitiakitanga,
- mana tupuna/ whakapapa,
- transparency,
- fairness,
- participation,
- reasonable notice and
- inclusiveness.

B. **SELECTION PROCESS OVERVIEW**

1 Candidates for Electorate Seats

- 1.1 There shall be hui of each electorate to select candidates at which all financial members who live within the boundaries of that electorate, shall be entitled to attend and to participate in the selection of the candidate provided they are members on the date that candidate nominations open. In the case of Maori electorates, financial members of Maori descent or on the Maori roll who live within the boundaries of that electorate are eligible to participate.
- 1.2 Clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the nominations closing date.
- 1.3 The candidate selection hui shall, if there is a consensus, select the candidate according to the circulated process.
- 1.4 Failing a consensus being reached, the financial members shall refer the matter to the Electorate Council who shall have the authority to select the candidate.
- 1.5 Where either the candidate selection hui or its delegates have reached a consensus as to who should be the candidate, this person's name shall be submitted forthwith to the National Council and the National Council shall immediately either confirm the nomination, or, if in the opinion of the National Council the nomination requires further consideration, the National Council shall meet with the Electorate and resolve a way forward.
- 1.6 Where the electorate is already served by a sitting Member of Parliament who wishes to stand again, the delegates (*National Council Executive Members for that electorate*) shall consult their electorate about the process that will be followed for confirming the MP for that electorate;

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- 1.7 Upon completing the consultation process, the delegates shall submit the name of the selected MP forthwith to the National Council, and the National Council shall immediately confirm the nomination;
 - 1.8 If in the opinion of the National Council, the nomination requires further consideration, the National Council shall meet with the Electorate to resolve a way forward.
 - 1.9 Electorate Councils will ensure strict conflict of interest policies are established and complied with for the candidate selection processes to ensure neither selection processes nor prospective candidates improperly influence the selection process.

2. Candidates for List Seats

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- 2.1 Electorate Councils shall determine and prioritise their **five** list nominations (which may include the electorate candidate) according to an agreed process
 - 2.2 All nominations for the party list shall be party members of that Electorate
 - 2.3 The Electorate Council will submit its prioritised list to the National Council.
 - 2.4 The National Council will then prioritise the list according to an agreed process.
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CONSTITUTION

***Kia rangatira te tū a Te Pāti Māori
hei rōpū whakatinana i ngā rau wawata
o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki.***

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga

HE KUPU WHAKATAKI

The Maori Party is born of the dreams and aspirations of tangata whenua to achieve self-determination for whānau, hapū and iwi within their own land; to speak with a strong, independent and united voice; and to live according to kaupapa handed down by our ancestors.

The vision for the Maori Party will be based on these aspirations, for they speak to us of whānau whose wairua is strong and vibrant; who have fully developed their spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical well-being; and who are confident, secure and pro-active in all aspects of the environmental, social, cultural, economic and political life of this great country of ours.

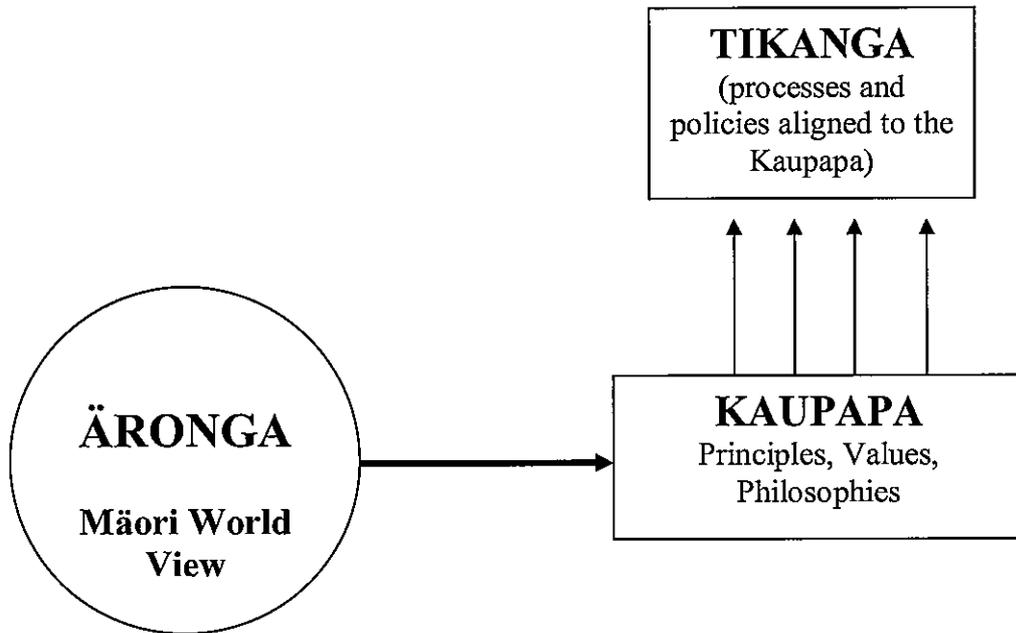
The MĀORI PARTY is for all citizens of this country. Its

- founding was an initiative of Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiaētea, for the benefit of all citizens of this land
- policies and practices derive from kaupapa tuku iho that are values that provide for the wellbeing of all and are in a constant state of enrichment and refinement as insights are gathered from new experiences and discoveries
- vision is of a nation of cultural diversity and richness where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenua-tanga by Māori, Te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiaētea and
- commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation and to its whakapapa is steadfast.

TE WAIHANGA I TE KAUPAPA

The Maori view of the world is described through pūrākau, karakia, mōteatea, whakataukī, whakapapa and many other puna korero. Kaupapa Maori is the foundation of Maori culture and is derived from this Maori world-view. Growing from within the kaupapa are our tikanga, like trees spring from Papatūānuku. The tikanga are the policies, practices and organisational structures of the Party that are aligned and consistent with the foundation kaupapa and will benefit not only Maori, but all those people who lay claim to this country as their homeland.

To achieve its vision, the Māori Party's existence will be based on kaupapa Māori, the foundation principles of the Māori world, and the bedrock from which we frame the objectives of the organisation. The Maori Party will demonstrate tikanga, consistent with kaupapa Māori.



NGÄ KAUPAPA O TE PÄTI MÄORI

The following **kaupapa** and **tikanga**, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori world view and help us define and maintain the Party's focus and structure. These kaupapa can be framed as the objectives of the organisation, with various tikanga covering policies, operations and organisational structures emanating from these kaupapa.

1. Manaakitanga

Manaakitanga is behaviour that acknowledges the mana of others as having equal or greater importance than one's own, through the expression of aroha, hospitality, generosity and mutual respect. In doing so, all parties are elevated and our status is enhanced, building unity through humility and the act of giving. The Party must endeavour to express manaakitanga towards others, be they political allies or opponents, Māori and non-Māori organisations, taking care not to trample mana, while clearly defining our own.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Manaakitanga

- i. to be recognised by Māori as a political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori;
- ii. to ensure that relationships between the Party and whānau, hapu, iwi and other Māori organisations are elevating and enhancing;
- iii. to promote a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is still important.
- iv. to ensure that members agree to work together, treat each other with respect and act with integrity in their party work.
- v. to involve all peoples in the process of rebuilding our nation based on mutual respect and harmonious relationships.

2. Rangatiratanga

Rangatiratanga is the expression of the attributes of a rangatira (weaving the people together) including humility, leadership by example, generosity, altruism, diplomacy and knowledge of benefit to the people. As an organisation, the importance of *walking the talk*, following through on commitments made, integrity and honesty is demonstrated. As a people, rangatiratanga is reflected in the promotion of self-determination for Māori, and an expression of the rights defined by Mana Atua, Mana Tupuna and Mana Whenua.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Rangatiratanga

- i. to recognise and acknowledge the authority of whānau, hapu and iwi in their respective electorate;
- ii. to enhance the relationship between Tino Rangatiratanga and Kāwanatanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi;
- iii. to assert and confirm the role of Maori as tangata whenua;
- iv. to promote Māori self-determination through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team;
- v. to acknowledge, nurture, support and reflect rangatiratanga within the Party and other Māori organisations;
- vi. to ensure that the conduct and activities of the parliamentary team, leaders and the organisation as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira.

3. Whanaungatanga

Whanaungatanga underpins the social organisation of whānau, hapū and iwi and includes rights and reciprocal obligations consistent with being part of a collective. It is the principle which binds individuals to the wider group and affirms the value of the collective. Whanaungatanga is inter-dependence with each other and recognition that the people are our wealth.

Tikanga of the Maori Party derived from Whanaungatanga

- i. to promote and contribute to the survival of Māori as a people;
- ii. to promote respect for all cultures and ensure all people have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua;
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Part 2

RULES

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- 3.4 On acceptance, financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in party membership meetings and to stand for party internal office-holders positions.
- 3.5 Any person who is a member of the Maori Party on the date at the opening of nominations, shall be entitled to participate in decision-making in local candidate and local list recommendations.
- 3.6 The registration fee entitles membership for three years.
- 3.7 The National Council may decline or cancel any membership that the Council believes does not meet the criteria outlined in clause 3.1. The applicant shall be advised in writing of the decision. The applicant may appeal that decision at the next National hui of the party where the decision shall be final.

4. Party Structure

- 4.1 The Party has a National Council ('the Council') which provides the Party leadership according to the kaupapa.

- 4.2 The Council comprises the following –
- a. Party President; two Co-Vice Presidents (one tane and one wahine) and ;
 - b. Up to four Council members selected by each Electorate (including rangatahi and both wahine and tane), or their substitute as determined by each Electorate. Each may hold office for three years.
 - c. There shall be a special general meeting immediately following the General Election to select the Party Leadership (two co-leaders, one female, one male). Those selected shall be in office for three years.
- 4.3 **Removal and Replacement**
An Electorate Council member can be removed from the Council by consensus of the Electorate Council. The election of the co-leaders to take place at the first AGM following a general election.
- 4.4 All decisions of the Council shall be by consensus (Consensus may be defined as “the view of the majority”).
- 4.5 That there be a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities for President and two Co-Vice Presidents and that these roles and responsibilities be ratified by National Council.
- 5. Electorate**
- 5.1 Each Maori electorate shall be represented on the National Council. Further electorates may from time to time be accepted by the Party National Council.
 - 5.2 Each Electorate shall have an Electorate Council which shall be responsible for all party activities in the Electorate.
 - 5.3 Each Electorate shall hold an Annual Hui of financial members.
 - 5.4 The composition of the Electorate Council shall be determined by the Annual Hui of financial members of that Electorate.
 - 5.5 The activities and business of each Electorate shall be organised as each Electorate decides and at all times be consistent with the Party’s kaupapa.
 - 5.6 At each Annual Hui, three National Council members, and their substitutes shall be selected as defined in clause 4.2.
 - 5.7 All decisions of the Electorate Council shall be by consensus (as defined in 4.4 above).
- 6. Annual National Hui**
- 6.1 The party shall annually hold a National hui. Such hui shall be no later than the 1st November at a place and time approved by the Council. The business of this meeting shall be:
 - (a) Selection of President, Co Vice Presidents and Co Leaders
 - (b) Receiving of Council, Electorate, and any other reports
 - (c) Receiving the year’s audited financial reports
 - (d) The amendment, cancellation or addition of any party rule.
 - (e) The consideration and acceptance of policies prepared by the Council or Electorate Committees.

(f) Receiving, considering and acting upon any other remits from the Council or Electorate Committees.

(g) Such other matters necessary for the carrying out of Party activities.

All remits must first be passed by the Electorate committees who shall forward them to the National Council at least six weeks before the Annual Hui.

6.2 All decisions of the annual Hui shall be by consensus (as defined in 4.4 above).

7. Special National hui

The Council may call a special National hui at any time and shall, at the request of three electorates or by request of at least 200 financial members from each of three Electorates.

8. Candidate Selection

Candidates shall be selected as set out in the First Schedule below.

The council may at any time determine the procedure for selection of candidates. And such determination shall be of immediate effect.

9. Alteration of Constitution

The Constitution may be amended, added to or rescinded by resolution of the Annual National Hui of the Party or a Special National hui convened for such purpose.

10. Resolution of differences

10.1 All financial members agree to work together to support the Constitution of the Party and to treat each other with respect and are expected to act ethically and with integrity in their party work. Differences that may arise from time to time shall be resolved at the earliest opportunity by those involved.

10.2 Disciplinary action may be brought against a member who:

- refuses to comply with the Party Constitution;
- improperly deals with any party funds;
- in any other way wilfully brings the party or its members into public disrepute.

10.3 A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the relevant Electorate Council. If it cannot be resolved at this level, it shall be referred to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the National Council who shall act swiftly and with discretion to seek resolution of the matter; and that the dispute is resolved on the basis of the kaupapa of the Party.

10.4 **The Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the National Council** shall:

- Be elected by National Council
- Take office for three years only as per clause 4.2 but may be elected for a second term
- Be chaired by one of the Co-Vice Presidents
- Meet as required and deemed by the Co-Vice President
- Not exceed five members
- Declare any conflicts of interest at the start of any meetings

- any vacancy that arises shall be filled by a National Council representative elected by a majority of the national council
- The quorum shall be three including the Co-Vice President or nominated Chair
- Nominate a new chair should the Co-Vice President declare a conflict of interest
- Direct the Co-Vice President to vacate the chair in the event that a complaint is leveled at that Co-Vice President
- All resolutions shall be reported to the National Council
- All complainants shall be advised of the outcomes

11. Position on National Council

The Electorate Committee shall determine the standard required for members to represent the electorate on the National Executive.

12. Dissolution Clause

- 12.1 An Annual National Hui of the Party may resolve that the Party be dissolved as from the date to be named in the resolution, and may also by such resolution direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of the Maori Party after its dissolution.
- 12.2 Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose and held not earlier than 30 days after the date on which the first resolution was passed, the Party shall be dissolved.
- 12.3 A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of the Maori Party shall upon dissolution be transferred to such political or other organisations having objects similar to those of the Maori Party within New Zealand as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or in default as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the National Council.

CANDIDATE SELECTION GUIDELINES FOR THE MAORI PARTY

A. Principles

Our candidate selection process shall be based on the principles of:

- Whanaungatanga Manaakitanga
- Rangatiratanga Kotahitanga
- Wairuatanga Kaitiakitanga
- Mana Whenua Mana Tupuna/ Whakapapa
- Transparency Fairness
- Participation Reasonable Notice
- Inclusiveness

B. SELECTION PROCESS OVERVIEW

1 Candidates for Electorate Seats

- 1.1 There shall be hui of each electorate to select candidates at which all financial members who live within the boundaries of that electorate, shall be entitled to attend and to participate in the selection of the candidate provided they are members on the date that candidate nominations open. In the case of Maori electorate seats, financial members of Maori descent or on the Maori roll who live within the boundaries of that electorate are eligible to participate¹.
- 1.2 Clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the **nominations opening date**.
- 1.3 The candidate selection hui shall, if there is a consensus, select the candidate according to the circulated process.
- 1.4 Failing a consensus being reached, the financial members shall refer the matter to the Electorate Council who shall have the authority to select the candidate.
- 1.5 Where either the candidate selection hui or its delegates have reached a consensus as to who should be the candidate, this person's name shall be submitted forthwith to the National Council and the National Council shall immediately either confirm the

¹ The Council has determined that the following interpretation of the Constitution will apply regarding 3.5 of the rules and 1.1 of the First Schedule. That sections 3.5 and B1.1 (First Schedule) be applied to express the kaupapa, especially whanaungatanga and kotahitanga.

nomination, or, if in the opinion of the National Council the nomination requires further consideration, the National Council shall meet with the Electorate and resolve a way forward.

- 1.6 Where the electorate is already served by a sitting Member of Parliament who wishes to stand again, the delegates (*National Council Executive Members for that electorate*) shall consult their electorate about the process that will be followed for confirming the MP for that electorate.
- 1.7 Upon completing the consultation process, the delegates shall submit the name of the selected MP forthwith to the National Council, and the National Council shall immediately confirm the nomination;
- 1.8 If in the opinion of the National Council, the nomination requires further consideration, the National Council shall meet with the Electorate to resolve a way forward.
- 1.9 Electorate Councils will ensure strict conflict of interest policies are established and complied with for the candidate selection processes to ensure neither selection processes nor prospective candidates improperly influence the selection process.

2. Candidates for List Seats

- 2.1 Electorate Councils shall determine and prioritise their five list nominations (which may include the electorate candidate) according to an agreed process.
- 2.2 All nominations for the party list shall be party members of that Electorate.
- 2.3 The Electorate Council will submit its prioritised list to the National Council. The National Council will then prioritise the list according to an agreed process (see section 13 of these guidelines).

3. Management of the candidate selection process

- 3.1 The Electorate Council will manage the candidate selection process. The Council shall appoint a Returning Officer for the receipt of nominations and to oversee the final selection process.
- 3.2 Disputes will be referred to the Electorate Council.
- 3.3 Electorate Councils should exercise discretion to ensure that the process is fair and transparent to guard against any perception of conflict of interest.

4. Candidate selection timelines

- 4.1 The selection process from the official minuted decision through to the formal announcement shall not be longer than eight weeks.
- 4.2 The date of selection shall be between three weeks and six weeks after close of nominations.

5. The Nomination Process

- 5.1 Candidates must be nominated by a ropu tuku iho (whanau, hapu, or iwi) or branch (or branches) who are representative of more than fifty financial members, and:
- have been fully paid up members of the Maori Party at the date nominations open, and
 - live within the boundary of the electorate
- 5.2 Nominations must be made on the prescribed form as authorised by the National Council.
- 5.3 Nominations shall be open for a three week period and must be received by the Electorate Secretary before 5.00pm on the day nominations close. A nomination sent by post or courier shall be deemed to have been lodged within the specified time frame if the date stamp on the envelope is before the close of nominations and is received within three days of the close of nominations. If any nominations fall into this category the envelope must be retained and attached to the nomination form.
- 5.4 Immediately after 5.00pm on the day nominations close the Electorate Secretary shall inform the National Secretary and branch secretaries of that electorate of the names of the persons nominated.
- 5.5 By 5.00pm on the fourth day after nominations close the Electorate Secretary shall advise the National Secretary and Branch Secretaries of that electorate whether any valid postal nominations have been received.

6. Eligibility to be Nominated to be a Member of Parliament for the Maori Party

Any person who is a fully paid up member of the Maori Party, is eligible to be nominated as a candidate if they are eligible to become Members of Parliament in accordance with the regulations set out in the Electoral Act.

7. Documentation required to accompany a nomination

All nominations must be accompanied with:

- The official nomination form
- A declaration for internal party purposes
- Resume and personal profile available for circulation
- Police Check²

8. Access to Membership data

Nominees are expected to recognise that the rangatiratanga of membership lists does not reside in any one member, but in all members, and decisions on the use of the membership list reside in all members.

Nominees may not have access to the electorate membership lists. They may request that the names on their nomination form be checked for accuracy before nominations close. No nominee or their agent may use branch or electorate membership lists they may have access to for the purpose of lobbying members to support their candidacy.

9. Eligibility to participate in the selection process for a candidate

9.1 All persons are eligible to participate in the selection of a candidate in that Electorate if they are:

- a) Financial members of the Maori Party at the date that nominations open and live within the boundary of that electorate;
- b) In the case of Maori electorate seats, those of Maori descent or on the Maori roll are eligible to participate (see footnote 1).

10. Conflict of Interest

Each nominee is expected to extend manaakitanga towards other people by acting in ways that are mana-enhancing. [This may include people standing down from party positions; or they may resign from these positions]. The Electorate Council and the National

² Nominees are to produce proof that a police check has been requested and are to provide a declaration of any convictions that may be listed in the police check report. The record is to be forwarded to the President and any further action shall be at his/her discretion.

Council must observe and document a process which safeguards the integrity of the overall selection process.

11. Candidate Selection Hui

- 11.1 The Electorate Secretary shall arrange for hui in such venues as deemed appropriate by the Electorate Committee. These hui will be held in the time period between close of nominations and the selection date for the candidate.
- 11.2 At the hui the following process shall be followed:
- a The Electorate Council shall appoint a chairperson prior to the hui.
 - b The process of the hui will be determined by the Electorate Council.
 - c The process of each hui will give each candidate an opportunity to speak; to be available to respond to questions; and enable those who nominated to speak in support of their nominee.
 - d Process will need to include returning officer, scrutineers, and key questions for all candidates across all hui.
 - e The Returning Officer, scrutineers and Chair will meet prior to each meeting beginning to ensure consistency of processes.
 - f The number of hui will be determined by each Electorate Council and should be well advertised and promoted.
 - g Selection of candidates will be on a ranked by preference basis (STV³) by each person eligible to participate in candidate selection.
 - h STV counting should be carried out with use of appropriate data entry and software.
 - i The result of each hui priority ranking will be recorded at the end of each roadshow hui.
 - j The outcome of the final candidate selection will be communicated to participants in a timely manner.
 - k The candidate selected in each electorate will be the candidate supported by the majority as established by the STV process.

³ www.stv.govt.nz has a summary of the Single Transferable Vote system. With STV you number the candidates in order of preference ('1' beside the candidate you like best, '2' beside your second choice etc). To get elected, candidates need to reach a quota of the votes

12. GENERAL ELECTORATE SEATS

- 12.1 In keeping with 5.1 of the Constitution the National Council may accept further electorates from time to time. In the event that the National Council is desirous of standing candidates in General Electorates the following process will apply:
- a The National Council will, after consultation with the relevant electorate council of the Maori electorate in which the general seat is located, assure itself that it is in the interests of the Maori Party to stand a candidate.
 - b The National Council will confirm that the general electorate council endorses the kaupapa of the Maori Party and accepts the electoral processes of the Party, adapted to their circumstances. The National Council will ensure that the Electoral processes are observed.

13 CANDIDATES FOR LIST SEATS

- 13.1 Electorate Councils shall determine and prioritise their five list nominations (which may include the electorate candidate), according to an agreed process.
- 13.2 Each ranked electorate list is submitted to the National Council.
- 13.3 The National Council identifies a set of criteria to be applied in determining priorities including:
- skills and expertise;
 - gender/age;
 - inclusiveness; (i.e. Pasifika, tauwiwi);
 - sector networks and credibility;
 - mana whenua.
- 13.4 The Council will determine what weighting applies to these criteria.
- 13.5 Having established a preliminary list based on the criteria specified in point 13.3; the Council may give consideration to other relevant factors before finalising the list.
- 13.6 The Council will reach agreement on ranking, and list accordingly. In the event that the Council should not reach consensus the decision will be made by the President, and co-leaders.
- 13.7 Electorate Councils will be advised of the final list at the earliest opportunity.
- 13.8 The list will be published, once all Electorate Councils have been informed.

14 EARLY ELECTION CANDIDATE SELECTION PROCESS

Where an early election is called, the National Council may decide to use the following process as an alternative to the process set out in the first schedule:

1. Where an early election is called where is less than three months to polling day, all current sitting Members of Parliament will be automatically selected to stand in their electorates for that election.
2. All other electorate candidate selections shall be completed on a date determined by the National Council
3. Where electorates are unable to complete their selection of candidates on the date determined by the National Council, the National Council shall have the authority to select candidates according to an agreed process.
4. A List committee shall recommend a candidate list to the national Council. The List committee shall consist of:
 - The Party President
 - The co-leaders
 - Seven members elected by the National Council on the nomination of each electorate
5. Nominees for the List committee must be Maori Party members.
6. With the exception of the co-leaders, nominees must not be party list candidates but can be electorate candidates.
7. The National Council shall determine the boundaries of each list area.
8. The List Committee shall complete its recommendations on a date determined by the National Council.
9. The List Committee will have the authority to interview potential list candidates where necessary.

10. The list committee will rank the candidates with the co-leaders placed at 1 and 2. The list Committee must take into consideration any criteria set by the National Council.
11. The List Committee shall recommend a final party list to the National Council.

Appendix One: Selection of Candidates by Maori Party Members

Section 71, Electoral Act 1993

Every political party that is for the time being registered under this Part of this Act, shall ensure that provision is made for participation in the selection of candidates representing the party for election as members of Parliament by –

- a) Current financial members of the party who are or would be entitled to vote for those candidates at any election; or
- b) delegates who have (whether directly or indirectly) in turn been elected or otherwise selected by current financial members of the Party;
- c) a combination of the persons or classes or persons referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

CONSTITUTION

***Kia rangatira te tū a Te Pāti Māori
hei roopū whakatīnana i ngā rau wawata
o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki.***

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga

HE KUPU WHAKATAKI

The Māori Party is born of the dreams and aspirations of tangata whenua to achieve self-determination for whānau, hapū and iwi within their own land; to speak with a strong, independent and united voice; and to live according to kaupapa handed down by our ancestors.

The vision for the Māori Party will be based on these aspirations, for they speak to us of whānau whose wairua is strong and vibrant; who have fully developed their spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical well-being; and who are confident, secure and pro-active in all aspects of the environmental, social, cultural, economic and political life of this great country of ours.

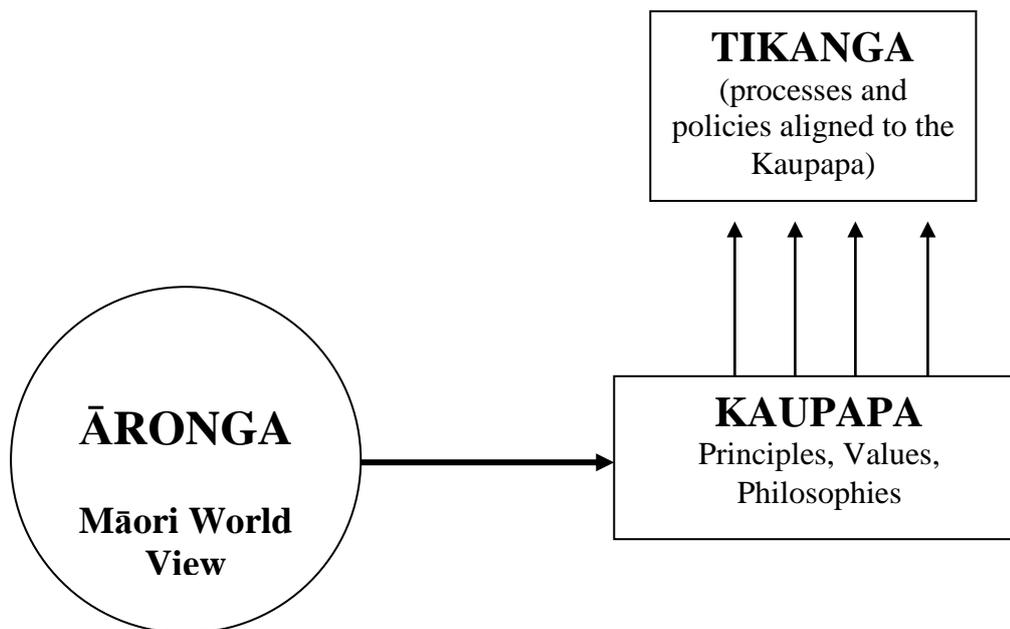
The MĀORI PARTY is for all citizens of this country. The Party's:

- founding was an initiative of Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea, for the benefit of all citizens of this land
- policies and practices derive from kaupapa tuku iho that are values that provide for the wellbeing of all and are in a constant state of enrichment and refinement as insights are gathered from new experiences and discoveries
- vision is of a nation of cultural diversity and richness where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenua-tanga by Māori, Te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea and
- commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation and to its whakapapa is steadfast.

TE WAIHANGA I TE KAUPAPA

The Māori view of the world is described through pūrākau, karakia, mōteatea, whakataukī, whakapapa and many other puna korero. Kaupapa Māori is the foundation of Māori culture and is derived from this Māori world-view. Growing from within the kaupapa are our tikanga, like trees spring from Papatūānuku. The tikanga are the policies, practices and organisational structures of the Party that are aligned and consistent with the foundation kaupapa and will benefit not only Māori, but all those people who lay claim to this country as their homeland.

To achieve its vision, the Māori Party's existence will be based on kaupapa Māori, the foundation principles of the Māori world, and the bedrock from which we frame the objectives of the organisation. The Māori Party will demonstrate tikanga, consistent with kaupapa Māori.



NGĀ KAUPAPA O TE PĀTI MĀORI

The following **kaupapa** and **tikanga**, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori world view and help us define and maintain the Party's focus and structure. These kaupapa can be framed as the objectives of the organisation, with various tikanga covering policies, operations and organisational structures emanating from these kaupapa.

1. Manaakitanga

Manaakitanga is behaviour that acknowledges the mana of others as having equal or greater importance than one's own, through the expression of aroha, hospitality, generosity and mutual respect. In doing so, all parties are elevated and our status is enhanced, building unity through humility and the act of giving. The Party must endeavour to express manaakitanga towards others, be they political allies or opponents, Māori and non-Māori organisations, taking care not to trample mana, while clearly defining our own.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Manaakitanga

- i. to be recognised by Māori as a political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori;
- ii. to ensure that relationships between the Party and whānau, hapū, iwi and other Māori organisations are elevating and enhancing;
- iii. to promote a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is still important.
- iv. to ensure that members agree to work together, treat each other with respect and act with integrity in their party work.
- v. to involve all peoples in the process of rebuilding our nation based on mutual respect and harmonious relationships.

2. Rangatiratanga

Rangatiratanga is the expression of the attributes of a rangatira (weaving the people together) including humility, leadership by example, generosity, altruism, diplomacy and knowledge of benefit to the people. As an organisation, the importance of *walking the talk*, following through on commitments made, integrity and honesty is demonstrated. As a people, rangatiratanga is reflected in the promotion of self-determination for Māori, and an expression of the rights defined by Mana Atua, Mana Tupuna and Mana Whenua.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Rangatiratanga

- i. to recognise and acknowledge the authority of whānau, hapū and iwi in their respective electorate;
- ii. to enhance the relationship between Tino Rangatiratanga and Kāwanatanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi;
- iii. to assert and confirm the role of Māori as tangata whenua;
- iv. to promote Māori self-determination through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team;
- v. to acknowledge, nurture, support and reflect rangatiratanga within the Party and other Māori organisations;
- vi. to ensure that the conduct and activities of the parliamentary team, leaders and the organisation as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira.

3. Whānaungatanga

Whānaungatanga underpins the social organisation of whānau, hapū and iwi and includes rights and reciprocal obligations consistent with being part of a collective. It is the principle which binds individuals to the wider group and affirms the value of the collective. Whānaungatanga is inter-dependence with each other and recognition that the people are our wealth.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Whānaungatanga

- i. to promote and contribute to the survival of Māori as a people;
- ii. to promote respect for all cultures and ensure all people have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua;
- iii. to encourage relationships between whānau, hapū, iwi, other Māori organisations and the Party that reflect inter-dependence;
- iv. to promote whānaungatanga as the model for good collective arrangements between different parties

4. Kotahitanga

Kotahitanga is the principle of unity of purpose and direction. It is demonstrated through the achievement of harmony and moving as one. All are encouraged to make a contribution, to have their say and then together a consensus is reached. As a nation, the Party will promote harmonious relationships between all people.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Kotahitanga

- i. to consistently work for unity among Māori people;
- ii. to avoid taking decisions and approaches that lead to division and disharmony within the organisation;
- iii. to establish a parliamentary team that can work together and are committed to speaking with a single voice on behalf of Māori;
- iv. to promote harmonious and cooperative relationships amongst all people;
- v. to promote nation-hood based upon a knowledge of a shared heritage and an understanding and celebration of cultural distinctiveness.

5. Wairuatanga

This is reflected in the belief that there is a spiritual existence alongside the physical. It is expressed through the intimate connection of the people to our maunga, awa, moana and marae, and to tūpuna and atua. These connections are affirmed through knowledge and understanding of atua Māori and must be maintained and nourished towards the achievement of well-ness. It is central to the everyday lives of Māori people and is integral to the way Māori view the world.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Wairuatanga

- i. to encourage, maintain and promote spiritual identity and connection with the land;
- ii. to break down secular and non-secular divisions and promote a unified and holistic approach to life;
- iii. to develop a wairua nourishing and nurturing environment within the organisation;
- iv. to promote the importance of oranga wairua for Māori well-being;

6. Mana Whenua

Mana Whenua is the principle which defines Māori by the land occupied by right of ancestral claim. It defines turangawaewae and ūkaipō, the places where you belong, where you count, where you are important and where you can contribute, Mana Whenua is essential for Māori well-being. The places Māori find ourselves, our strength, our energy are where Māori have mana whenua. Once grounded to the land and home, Māori are able to participate in society in a positive, productive manner.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Mana Whenua

- i. to ensure that the Party is of the Māori people;

- ii. to assist Māori to establish and maintain their connections to their own land;
- iii. to develop arrangements that foster the values of ūkaipō, of importance, belonging and contribution within the organisation,
- iv. to develop a parliamentary team that will take advice and guidance from Māori in the first instance;
- v. to promote mana whenua as the basis for land management policies.

7. Kaitiakitanga

Kaitiakitanga embraces the spiritual and cultural guardianship of Te Ao Mārama, a responsibility derived from whakapapa. Kaitiakitanga entails an active exercise of responsibility in a manner beneficial to resources and the welfare of the people. It promotes the growth and development of the Māori people in all spheres of livelihood so that Māori can anticipate a future of living in good health and in reasonable prosperity. Preserving and maintaining the Party so it can continue to fulfil its functions and duties is implicit within this kaupapa.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Kaitiakitanga

- i. to encourage an extensive recording programme to collect and archive mātauranga Māori with kaumātua and other repositories of knowledge;
- ii. to promote the achievement of wellness and well-being for Māori;
- iii. to foster and promote sustainable management and growth of the economy so as to provide a stable and secure environment for future generations;
- iv. to create a clean, safe and healthy environment by promoting the protection, restoration and enhancement of mauri within our natural environments.

8. Mana Tupuna / Whakapapa

Mana Tupuna is that which defines who Māori are as people. It is the bridge which links us to our ancestors, which defines our heritage, gives us the stories which define our place in the world. Mana Tupuna helps us know who we are, from whom we descend, and what our obligations are to those who come after us. This is achieved through the recital of whakapapa, tracing the descent from Te Kore, to Te Pō and eventually through to Te Ao Mārama. Whakapapa is also a tool utilised in analysing and synthesising information and knowledge.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Whakapapa:

- i. to encourage the view that all Māori are related leading towards co-operation and unity,
- ii. to support endeavours by Māori to establish and maintain our whānau, hapū and iwi connections and continue our positive contribution to wider society ;
- iii. to promote whakapapa as an analysis and synthesis tool within the research activity of the Party.

9. Te Reo Rangatira

*Ki te kore tātou e kōrero Māori, ka ngaro te reo,
Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro ngā tikanga.
Ka ngaro ngā tikanga, ka ngaro tātou ki te Ao.
Ko te reo te kaupupuri i te Māoritanga.*

Te Reo Māori is the cornerstone of all that is Māori. Accelerating the revival of te reo Māori is a central focus of the Māori Party. Te reo Māori is the medium through which Māori explains the world. The survival of the people as Māori and the uniqueness of Māori as a race will be enhanced through the maintenance of te reo Māori.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Te Reo Rangatira

- i. to ensure the revitalisation of te reo Māori;
- ii. to promote wider recognition of te reo as the first and official language of the country;
- iii. to promote the development and growth of the te reo Māori both as the indigenous language of this country, but also as the appropriate language to carry Māori knowledge and contemporary Māori customs;
- iv. to promote mātauranga Māori pathways that are of benefit to the people and lead to our advancement;
- v. to provide for research and development that leads to the advancement of mātauranga Māori and ensures the survival of the people as Māori;
- vi. to provide opportunities to encourage bi-literacy in our society.

Part 2

RULES

1. Name

- 1.1 The name of the party shall be the 'Māori Party' (The Party).
- 1.2 The Party shall be a political party and shall maintain registration in terms of S.63 of The Electoral Act 1993.
- 1.3 The registered office of the Māori Party shall be determined by the National Council.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 To acknowledge and fulfil the Kaupapa set out in this constitution.
- 2.2 To develop and implement the party policy manifesto consistent with the kaupapa.
- 2.3 To ensure the election of competent persons as parliamentary representatives.

3. Membership

- 3.1 The Māori Party is an inclusive and broad political movement and accepts membership from any persons who:
 - work to support the Māori Party kaupapa and tikanga;
 - act within the Māori Party constitution;
 - abide by lawful decisions made in accordance with the Māori Party constitution;
 - pay the appropriate membership fee as fixed by the national council;
 - and who is not a member of a competing political party as determined by the National Council.
- 3.2 Any person of at least 13 years of age may make application to join the party. A person may apply to join directly to the Secretary on an official membership form or through an Electorate Committee. Any person of 13-16 years of age may become a *non-voting Junior member* of the Māori Party, for a gold coin membership fee for a three year membership; and at 17 years of age and over, members will enrol at a koha based membership for three years membership as adults with full voting rights.
- 3.3 The applicant shall be advised in writing by the Secretary or the Treasurer of acceptance of their membership. Commencement of membership for the purpose of clause 3.5 and 3.6 shall take effect from the date of the acceptance of the application form by the Secretary or Treasurer.
- 3.4 On acceptance, financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in party membership meetings and to stand for party internal office-holders positions.
- 3.5 Any person who is a member of the Māori Party on the date at the opening of nominations, shall be entitled to participate in decision-making in local candidate and local list recommendations.
- 3.6 The registration fee entitles membership for three years.
- 3.7 The National Council may decline or cancel any membership that the Council believes does not meet the criteria outlined in clause 3.1. The applicant shall be advised in writing of the decision. The applicant may appeal that decision at the next National hui of the party where the decision shall be final.

4. Party Structure

- 4.1 The Party has a National Council ('the Council') which provides the Party leadership according to the kaupapa. The National Council shall deal with the fundamental running of the Party. The National Council is the governing body of the Party

outside of an Annual General Meeting and to this effect the National Council shall meet bi-monthly.

- 4.2 The Council comprises the following –
- a. Party President; two Co-Vice Presidents (one tāne and one wahine) and ;
 - b. Up to four Council members selected by each Electorate (including rangatahi and both wahine and tāne), or their substitute as determined by each Electorate. Each may hold office for three years.
 - c. There shall be a special general meeting immediately following the General Election to select the Party Leadership (two co-leaders, one female, one male). Those selected shall be in office for three years.
 - d. The management of the Māori Party, on behalf of the National Council, is authorized and determined by the National Executive. The National Executive comprises Party President; two Co-Vice Presidents (one tāne and one wahine) and two co-leaders (one female, one male).
 - e. Nominations for President and Vice-President to be lodged with secretary six weeks before AGM and distributed to the electorates at least four weeks before the AGM.
 - f. If there is a vacancy during the three year term, in any of the above Offices, then the National Council may appoint a person to hold office for the balance of term.
 - g. No person shall be eligible for office of President or Vice President unless he / she has been a member of Māori Party for at least three years.
- 4.3 Removal and Replacement
An Electorate Council member can be removed from the Council by consensus of the Electorate Council. The election of the co-leaders to take place at the first AGM following a general election.
- 4.4 All decisions of the National Council shall be by consensus. (Consensus may be defined as a process of ‘whakawhitiwhiti whakaaro,’ To arrive at an outcome at which those present, are accepting’). The National Council shall ratify or otherwise, any decision made by the National Executive since the previous meeting. All National Council policy remits must be ratified by an AGM or a Special General Meeting called for that purpose (see section 7).
- 4.5 That there be a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities for President and two Co-Vice Presidents and that these roles and responsibilities be ratified by National Council.
- 4.6 The National Council shall hear all appeals from any electorate.
- 4.7 All National Council meetings shall rotate within the Māori seat electorates. Each electorate shall be responsible for the setting up and payment of all accounts for each

meeting. Each electorate will ensure that the fees for their elected representatives are paid for by their electorate. It shall be the responsibility of the host electorate to collect fees from attendees other than electorate representatives. Any person failing to pay their just dues may not take an active part in the meeting.

5. Electorate

- 5.1 Each Māori electorate shall be represented on the National Council. Further electorates may from time to time be accepted by the Party National Council.
- 5.2 Each Electorate shall have an Electorate Council which shall be responsible for all party activities in the Electorate.
- 5.3 Each Electorate shall hold an Annual Hui of financial members. The annual general meeting will elect officers, deal with any remits sent by branches, and receive the annual report from the chairperson/s and the treasurer/s.
- 5.4 The offers of the committee (ie chairpersons, secretaries and treasurers) shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the electorate plus up to three elected members from each branch.
- 5.5 The activities and business of each Electorate shall be organised as each Electorate decides and at all times be consistent with the Party's kaupapa. It shall be incumbent on all electorates to keep in close contact and support the National Office of the Party. It shall keep all branches informed of all Party matters and to this end shall call an electorate meeting at least quarterly and more often if required. At such meetings voting and speaking rights shall be restricted to members. It shall also be incumbent upon the electorate council to cause the selection/election of a candidate to contest each election. This shall be done in a manner prescribed by the Electorate Council in accordance with the Candidate selection policy. It shall also be incumbent upon the electorate to raise the necessary funds for their candidate's election campaign and it must be carried out in accordance with the Electoral Act. Excepting that each candidate may select his or her own campaign managers, it shall be incumbent of these managers to at all times work with and for the electorate council.
- 5.6 At each Annual Hui, three National Council members, and their substitutes shall be selected as defined in clause 4.2.
- 5.7 All decisions of the Electorate Council shall be by consensus (as defined in 4.4 above).

6. Branches

- 6.1 Each branch shall be represented on their electorate council by up to three financial members - one tāne, one wahine, one rangatahi. Any changes should immediately be brought to the notice of the Electorate Secretary accompanied by the branch Minutes showing such changes.
 - Each branch shall have an executive comprising Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of seven other members.
 - Each branch shall ensure proper financial systems and controls
 - Each branch shall record and keep accurate minutes of their branch hui
 - Branches may be established subject to electorate approval
- 6.2 In each electorate district there shall be one or more branches authorized by the electorate council. Each branch must have a minimum membership of ten (10) financial members of the Party.

- 6.3 (i) Every such branch authorized by the Electorate Council shall enrol members into the Party.
- (ii) They shall also fundraise and pay all such dues and levies which may from time to time be imposed by the Electorate Council or by the National Council.
- (iii) Each branch shall have a cheque account for which there must be a minimum two signatures but no two signatures from the same household.
- (iv) Branches must send a copy of their Income over Expenditure plus a copy of the bank statement to the Electorate Council monthly meeting. A probationary period should be set between the existing branch and the new branch.
- 6.4 Any person wishing to set up a new branch inside an already established branch area, must first of all, get that electorate's permission. No branch shall withhold permission without just cause. Any overseas branch wishing to establish a new electorate, can affiliate to an electorate of their choice

7. Annual National Hui

- 7.1 The party shall annually hold a National hui. Such hui shall be no later than the 1st November at a place and time approved by the Council. The business of this meeting shall be:
- (a) Selection of President, Co Vice Presidents and Co Leaders
 - (b) Receiving of Council, Electorate, and any other reports
 - (c) Receiving the year's audited financial reports
 - (d) The amendment, cancellation or addition of any party rule.
 - (e) The consideration and acceptance of policies prepared by the Council or Electorate Committees.
 - (f) Receiving, considering and acting upon any other remits from the Council or Electorate Committees.
 - (g) Such other matters necessary for the carrying out of Party activities.
- All remits must first be passed by the Electorate committees who shall forward them to the National Council at least six weeks before the Annual Hui.
- 7.2 All decisions of the annual Hui shall be by consensus (as defined in 4.4 above).

8. Special National hui

The Council may call a special National hui at any time and shall, at the request of three electorates or by request of at least 200 financial members from each of three Electorates.

9. Candidate Selection

Candidates shall be selected as set out in the First Schedule below.

The council may at any time determine the procedure for selection of candidates. And such determination shall be of immediate effect. Following each selection of candidates and general election, we will review the selection procedure for candidates.

10. Alteration of Constitution

The Constitution may be amended, added to or rescinded by resolution of the Annual National Hui of the Party or a Special National hui convened for such purpose.

11. Resolution of differences

11.1 All financial members agree to work together to support the Constitution of the Party and to treat each other with respect and are expected to act ethically and with integrity in their party work. Differences that may arise from time to time shall be resolved at the earliest opportunity by those involved.

11.2 Disciplinary action may be brought against a member who:

- refuses to comply with the Party Constitution;
- improperly deals with any party funds;
- in any other way wilfully brings the party or its members into public disrepute.

11.3 A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the relevant Electorate Council. If it cannot be resolved at this level, it shall be referred to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the National Council who shall act swiftly and with discretion to seek resolution of the matter; and that the dispute is resolved on the basis of the kaupapa of the Party.

11.4 **The Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the National Council** shall:

- Be elected by National Council
- Take office for three years only as per clause 4.2 but may be elected for a second term
- Be chaired by one of the Co-Vice Presidents
- Meet as required and deemed by the Co-Vice President
- Not exceed five members
- Declare any conflicts of interest at the start of any meetings
- any vacancy that arises shall be filled by a National Council representative elected by a majority of the national council
- The quorum shall be three including the Co-Vice President or nominated Chair
- Nominate a new chair should the Co-Vice President declare a conflict of interest
- Direct the Co-Vice President to vacate the chair in the event that a complaint is leveled at that Co-Vice President
- All resolutions shall be reported to the National Council
- All complainants shall be advised of the outcomes

12. Position on National Council

The Electorate Committee shall determine the criteria required for members to represent the electorate on the National Council.

13. Dissolution Clause

13.1 An Annual National Hui of the Party may resolve that the Party be dissolved as from the date to be named in the resolution, and may also by such resolution direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of the Māori Party after its dissolution.

- 13.2 Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose and held not earlier than 30 days after the date on which the first resolution was passed, the Party shall be dissolved.
- 13.3 A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of the Māori Party shall upon dissolution be transferred to such political or other organisations having objects similar to those of the Māori Party within New Zealand as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or in default as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the National Council.

CANDIDATE SELECTION GUIDELINES FOR THE MĀORI PARTY

A. *Principles*

Our candidate selection process shall be based on the principles of:

- Whānaungatanga Manaakitanga
- Rangatiratanga Kotahitanga
- Wairuatanga Kaitiakitanga
- Mana Whenua Mana Tupuna/ Whakapapa
- Transparency Fairness
- Participation Reasonable Notice
- Inclusiveness

B. **SELECTION PROCESS OVERVIEW**

1 Candidates for Electorate Seats

- 1.1 There shall be hui of each electorate to select candidates at which all financial members who live within the boundaries of that electorate, shall be entitled to attend and to participate in the selection of the candidate provided they are members on the date that candidate nominations open. In the case of Māori electorate seats, financial members of Māori descent or on the Māori roll who live within the boundaries of that electorate are eligible to participate¹. Any candidate shall have been a Māori Party member for at least three years. The National Executive reserves the right to waiver the rules in the selection of the candidate should they deem a candidate to be of exceptional quality
- 1.2 Clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the **nominations opening date**.
- 1.3 The candidate selection hui shall, if there is a consensus, select the candidate according to the circulated process.
- 1.4 Failing a consensus being reached, the financial members shall refer the matter to the Electorate Council who shall have the authority to select the candidate.

¹ The Council has determined that the following interpretation of the Constitution will apply regarding 3.5 of the rules and 1.1 of the First Schedule. That sections 3.5 and B1.1 (First Schedule) be applied to express the kaupapa, especially whanaungatanga and kotahitanga.

- 1.5 Where either the candidate selection hui or its delegates have reached a consensus as to who should be the candidate, this person's name shall be submitted forthwith to the National Council and the National Council shall immediately either confirm the nomination, or, if in the opinion of the National Council the nomination requires further consideration, the National Council shall meet with the Electorate and resolve a way forward.
- 1.6 Where the electorate is already served by a sitting Member of Parliament who wishes to stand again, the delegates (*National Council Executive Members for that electorate*) shall consult their electorate about the process that will be followed for confirming the MP for that electorate.
- 1.7 Upon completing the consultation process, the delegates shall submit the name of the selected MP forthwith to the National Council, and the National Council shall immediately confirm the nomination;
- 1.8 If in the opinion of the National Council, the nomination requires further consideration, the National Council shall meet with the Electorate to resolve a way forward.
- 1.9 Electorate Councils will ensure strict conflict of interest policies are established and complied with for the candidate selection processes to ensure neither selection processes nor prospective candidates improperly influence the selection process.

2. Candidates for List Seats

- 2.1 Electorate Councils shall determine and prioritise their five list nominations (which may include the electorate candidate) according to an agreed process.
- 2.2 All nominations for the party list shall be party members of that Electorate.
- 2.3 The Electorate Council will submit its prioritised list to the National Council. The National Council will then prioritise the list according to an agreed process (see section 13 of these guidelines).

3. Management of the candidate selection process

- 3.1 The Electorate Council will manage the candidate selection process. The Council shall appoint a Returning Officer for the receipt of nominations and to oversee the final selection process.
- 3.2 Disputes will be referred to the Electorate Council.

3.3 Electorate Councils should exercise discretion to ensure that the process is fair and transparent to guard against any perception of conflict of interest.

4. Candidate selection timelines

4.1 The selection process from the official minuted decision through to the formal announcement shall not be longer than eight weeks.

4.2 The date of selection shall be between three weeks and six weeks after close of nominations.

5. The Nomination Process

5.1 Candidates must be nominated by a ropu tuku iho (whānau, hapū, or iwi) or branch (or branches) who are representative of more than fifty financial members, and:

- have been fully paid up members of the Māori Party at the date nominations open, and
- live within the boundary of the electorate

5.2 Nominations must be made on the prescribed form as authorised by the National Council.

5.3 Nominations shall be open for a three week period and must be received by the Electorate Secretary before 5.00pm on the day nominations close. A nomination sent by post or courier shall be deemed to have been lodged within the specified time frame if the date stamp on the envelope is before the close of nominations and is received within three days of the close of nominations. If any nominations fall into this category the envelope must be retained and attached to the nomination form.

5.4 Immediately after 5.00pm on the day nominations close the Electorate Secretary shall inform the National Secretary and branch secretaries of that electorate of the names of the persons nominated.

5.5 By 5.00pm on the fourth day after nominations close the Electorate Secretary shall advise the National Secretary and Branch Secretaries of that electorate whether any valid postal nominations have been received.

6. **Eligibility to be Nominated to be a Member of Parliament for the Māori Party**

Any person who is a fully paid up member of the Māori Party, is eligible to be nominated as a candidate if they are eligible to become Members of Parliament in accordance with the regulations set out in the Electoral Act.

7. **Documentation required to accompany a nomination**

All nominations must be accompanied with:

- The official nomination form
- A declaration for internal party purposes
- Resume and personal profile available for circulation
- Police Check²

8. **Access to Membership data**

Nominees are expected to recognise that the rangatiratanga of membership lists does not reside in any one member, but in all members, and decisions on the use of the membership list reside in all members.

Nominees may not have access to the electorate membership lists. They may request that the names on their nomination form be checked for accuracy before nominations close. No nominee or their agent may use branch or electorate membership lists they may have access to for the purpose of lobbying members to support their candidacy.

9. **Eligibility to participate in the selection process for a candidate**

9.1 All persons are eligible to participate in the selection of a candidate in that Electorate if they are:

- a) Financial members of the Māori Party at the date that nominations open and live within the boundary of that electorate;
- b) In the case of Māori electorate seats, those of Māori descent or on the Māori roll are eligible to participate (see footnote 1).

10. Conflict of Interest

Each nominee is expected to extend manaakitanga towards other people by acting in ways that are mana-enhancing. [This may include people standing down from party positions; or they may resign from these positions]. The Electorate Council and the National Council must observe and document a process which safeguards the integrity of the overall selection process.

11. Candidate Selection Hui

11.1 The Electorate Secretary shall arrange for hui in such venues as deemed appropriate by the Electorate Committee. These hui will be held in the time period between close of nominations and the selection date for the candidate.

11.2 At the hui the following process shall be followed:

- a The Electorate Council shall appoint a chairperson prior to the hui.
- b The process of the hui will be determined by the Electorate Council.
- c The process of each hui will give each candidate an opportunity to speak; to be available to respond to questions; and enable those who nominated to speak in support of their nominee.
- d Process will need to include returning officer, scrutineers, and key questions for all candidates across all hui.
- e The Returning Officer, scrutineers and Chair will meet prior to each meeting beginning to ensure consistency of processes.
- f The number of hui will be determined by each Electorate Council and should be well advertised and promoted.
- g Selection of candidates will be on a ranked by preference basis (STV³) by each person eligible to participate in candidate selection.
- h STV counting should be carried out with use of appropriate data entry and software.

² Nominees are to produce proof that a police check has been requested and are to provide a declaration of any convictions that may be listed in the police check report. The record is to be forwarded to the President and any further action shall be at his/her discretion.

³ www.stv.govt.nz has a summary of the Single Transferable Vote system. With STV you number the candidates in order of preference ('1' beside the candidate you like best, '2' beside your second choice etc). To get elected, candidates need to reach a quota of the votes

- i The result of each hui priority ranking will be recorded at the end of each roadshow hui.
- j The outcome of the final candidate selection will be communicated to participants in a timely manner.
- k The candidate selected in each electorate will be the candidate supported by the majority as established by the STV process.

12. GENERAL ELECTORATE SEATS

- 12.1 In keeping with 5.1 of the Constitution the National Council may accept further electorates from time to time. In the event that the National Council is desirous of standing candidates in General Electorates the following process will apply:
 - a The National Council will, after consultation with the relevant electorate council of the Māori electorate in which the general seat is located, assure itself that it is in the interests of the Māori Party to stand a candidate.
 - b The National Council will confirm that the general electorate council endorses the kaupapa of the Māori Party and accepts the electoral processes of the Party, adapted to their circumstances. The National Council will ensure that the Electoral processes are observed.

13 CANDIDATES FOR LIST SEATS

- 13.1 Electorate Councils shall determine and prioritise their five list nominations (which may include the electorate candidate), according to an agreed process.
- 13.2 Each ranked electorate list is submitted to the National Council.
- 13.3 The National Council identifies a set of criteria to be applied in determining priorities including:
 - skills and expertise;
 - gender/age;
 - inclusiveness; (i.e. Pasifika, tauīwi);
 - sector networks and credibility;
 - mana whenua.
- 13.4 The Council will determine what weighting applies to these criteria.

- 13.5 Having established a preliminary list based on the criteria specified in point 13.3; the Council may give consideration to other relevant factors before finalising the list.
- 13.6 The Council will reach agreement on ranking, and list accordingly. In the event that the Council should not reach consensus the decision will be made by the President, and co-leaders.
- 13.7 Electorate Councils will be advised of the final list at the earliest opportunity.
- 13.8 The list will be published, once all Electorate Councils have been informed.

14 EARLY ELECTION CANDIDATE SELECTION PROCESS

Where an early election is called, the National Council may decide to use the following process as an alternative to the process set out in the first schedule:

1. Where an early election is called where is less than three months to polling day, all current sitting Members of Parliament will be automatically selected to stand in their electorates for that election.
2. All other electorate candidate selections shall be completed on a date determined by the National Council
3. Where electorates are unable to complete their selection of candidates on the date determined by the National Council, the National Council shall have the authority to select candidates according to an agreed process.
4. A List committee shall recommend a candidate list to the national Council. The List committee shall consist of:
 - The Party President
 - The co-leaders
 - Seven members elected by the National Council on the nomination of each electorate
5. Nominees for the List committee must be Māori Party members.
6. With the exception of the co-leaders, nominees must not be party list candidates but can be electorate candidates.

7. The National Council shall determine the boundaries of each list area.
8. The List Committee shall complete its recommendations on a date determined by the National Council.
9. The List Committee will have the authority to interview potential list candidates where necessary.
10. The list committee will rank the candidates with the co-leaders placed at 1 and 2. The list Committee must take into consideration any criteria set by the National Council.
11. The List Committee shall recommend a final party list to the National Council.

Appendix One: Selection of Candidates by Māori Party Members

Section 71, Electoral Act 1993

Every political party that is for the time being registered under this Part of this Act, shall ensure that provision is made for participation in the selection of candidates representing the party for election as members of Parliament by –

- a) Current financial members of the party who are or would be entitled to vote for those candidates at any election; or
- b) delegates who have (whether directly or indirectly) in turn been elected or otherwise selected by current financial members of the Party;
- c) a combination of the persons or classes or persons referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

MĀORI PARTY CONSTITUTION

*Kia rangatira te tū a Te Pāti Māori
hei rōpū whakatinana i ngā rau wawata
o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki*

Contents

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga	1
He Kupu Whakataki	1
Te Waihanga i te Kaupapa	1
Ngā Kaupapa o te Pāti Māori.....	2
Part 2: Rules	7
1. Name and Registered Office	7
2. Objectives.....	7
3. Membership.....	7
4. Party Structure	8
5. Decision-making.....	10
6. Annual General Meeting (Hui ā Tau)	11
7. Special General Meeting.....	11
8. Candidate Selection	12
9. Resolution of Differences and Disputes.....	13
10. Remedy	15
11. Interpretation and Alteration of Constitution	15
12. Dissolution Clause.....	16
Part 3: Schedules	17
Schedule 1: Electorates and Branches	17
Schedule 2: National Council.....	19
Schedule 3: Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.....	21
Schedule 4: Candidate Selection Guidelines	23
Schedule 5: Procedures for Special General Meetings	26

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga

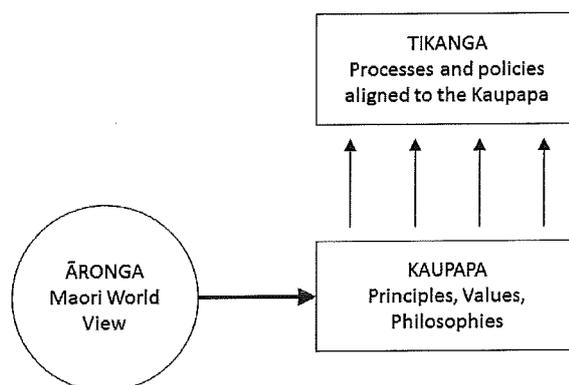
He Kupu Whakataki

The Māori Party is born of the dreams and aspirations of tangata whenua to achieve self-determination for whānau, hapū and iwi within their own land; to speak with a strong, independent and united voice; and to live according to kaupapa handed down by our ancestors.

The vision for the Māori Party will be based on these aspirations, for they speak to us of whānau whose wairua is strong and vibrant; who have fully developed their spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical well-being; and who are confident, secure and pro-active in all aspects of the environmental, social, cultural, economic and political life of this great country of ours.

The Māori Party is for all citizens of Aotearoa New Zealand.

- Its founding was an initiative of Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea, for the benefit of all citizens of this land.
- Its policies and practices derive from kaupapa tuku iho that are values that provide for the well-being of all and are in a constant state of enrichment and refinement as insights are gathered from new experiences and discoveries.
- Its vision is of a nation of cultural diversity and richness where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenuatanga by Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea.
- Its commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation and to its whakapapa is steadfast.



Te Waihanga i te Kaupapa

The Māori view of the world is described through pūrākau, karakia, mōteatea, whakataukī, whakapapa and many other puna kōrero. Kaupapa Māori is the foundation of Māori culture and is derived from this Māori world view. Growing from within the kaupapa are our tikanga, like the trees that spring from Papatūānuku. The tikanga are the policies, practices and organisational structures of the Party that are aligned to and consistent with

the foundation kaupapa, and will benefit not only Māori but all those people who lay claim to this country as their homeland.

To achieve its vision, the Māori Party's existence will be based on kaupapa Māori, the foundation principles of the Māori world, and the bedrock from which we frame the objectives of the organisation. The Māori Party will demonstrate tikanga consistent with kaupapa Māori.

Ngā Kaupapa o te Pāti Māori

The following kaupapa and tikanga, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori world view and help us define and maintain the Party's focus and structure. These kaupapa can be framed as the objectives of the organisation, with various tikanga covering policies, operations, and organisational structures emanating from these kaupapa.

1. **Manaakitanga**

Manaakitanga is behaviour that acknowledges the mana of others as having equal or greater importance than one's own, through the expression of aroha, hospitality, generosity and mutual respect. By such behaviour, all parties are elevated and our status is enhanced, building unity through humility and the act of giving. The Party must endeavour to express manaakitanga towards others – be they political allies or opponents, Māori or non-Māori organisations – taking care not to trample mana, while clearly defining our own.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Manaakitanga

- i. To be recognised by Māori as a political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori.
- ii. To ensure that relationships between the Party and whānau, hapū, iwi, and other Māori organisations are elevating and enhancing.
- iii. To promote a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is important.
- iv. To ensure that members agree to work together, treat each other with respect, and act with integrity in their party work.
- v. To involve all peoples in the process of rebuilding our nation based on mutual respect and harmonious relationships.

2. **Rangatiratanga**

Rangatiratanga is the expression of the attributes of a rangatira (weaving the people together) including humility, leadership by example, generosity, altruism, diplomacy, and knowledge of benefit to the people. As an organisation, the importance of *walking the talk*, following through on commitments made, integrity and honesty is demonstrated. As a people, rangatiratanga is reflected in the promotion of self-

determination for Māori, and an expression of the rights defined by Mana Atua, Mana Tupuna and Mana Whenua.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Rangatiratanga

- i. To recognise and acknowledge the authority of whānau, hapū and iwi in their respective electorates.
- ii. To enhance the relationship between Tino Rangatiratanga and Kāwanatanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- iii. To promote the retention of separate seats for Māori in the Parliament of New Zealand, and to select suitable persons to represent the Māori Party in Māori constituencies, in agreed General constituencies, and as List Candidates for the Party.
- iv. To assert and confirm the role of Māori as tangata whenua.
- v. To promote Māori self-determination through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team.
- vi. To acknowledge, nurture, support and reflect rangatiratanga within the Party and other Māori organisations.
- vii. To ensure that the conduct and activities of the parliamentary team, leaders, and the organisation as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira.

3. Whanaungatanga

Whanaungatanga underpins the social organisation of whānau, hapū and iwi and includes rights and reciprocal obligations consistent with being part of a collective. It is the principle that binds individuals to the wider group and affirms the value of the collective. Whanaungatanga is inter-dependence with each other and recognition that the people are our wealth.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Whanaungatanga

- i. To promote and contribute to the survival of Māori as a people.
- ii. To promote respect for all cultures and ensure all people have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua.
- iii. To encourage relationships between whānau, hapū, iwi, other Māori organisations and the Party that reflect interdependence.
- iv. To promote whanaungatanga as the model for good collective arrangements between different parties.

4. Kotahitanga

Kotahitanga is the principle of unity of purpose and direction. It is demonstrated through the achievement of harmony and moving as one. All are encouraged to make

a contribution, to have their say and then, together, to reach a consensus. The Party will promote harmonious relationships between all people.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Kotahitanga

- i. To consistently work for unity among Māori people.
- ii. To avoid taking decisions and approaches that lead to division and disharmony within the organisation.
- iii. To establish a parliamentary team that can work together and are committed to speaking with a single voice on behalf of Māori.
- iv. To promote harmonious and cooperative relationships amongst all people.
- v. To promote nationhood based upon knowledge of a shared heritage and an understanding and celebration of cultural distinctiveness.

5. Wairuatanga

This is reflected in the belief that there is a spiritual existence alongside the physical. It is expressed through the intimate connection of the people to our maunga, awa, moana and marae, and to tūpuna and atua. These connections are affirmed through knowledge and understanding of atua Māori and must be maintained and nourished with the aim of achieving wellness. It is central to the everyday lives of Māori people and is integral to the way Māori view the world.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Wairuatanga

- i. To encourage, maintain, and promote spiritual identity and connection with the land.
- ii. To break down secular and non-secular divisions and promote a unified and holistic approach to life.
- iii. To develop within the organisation an environment that nourishes and nurtures wairua.
- iv. To promote the importance of oranga wairua for Māori well-being.

6. Mana Whenua

Mana whenua is the principle that defines Māori by the land occupied by right of ancestral claim. It defines tūrangawaewae and ūkaipō, the places where you belong, where you count, where you are important and where you can contribute. Mana whenua is essential for Māori well-being. The places Māori find ourselves, our strength, our energy are where Māori have mana whenua. Once grounded to the land and home, Māori are able to participate in society in a positive, productive manner.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Mana Whenua

- i. To ensure that the Party is of the Māori people.

- ii. To assist Māori to establish and maintain their connections to their own land.
- iii. To develop arrangements that foster the values of ūkaipō, of importance, belonging, and contribution within the organisation.
- iv. To develop a parliamentary team that will take advice and guidance from Māori in the first instance.
- v. To promote mana whenua as the basis for land management policies.

7. Kaitiakitanga

Kaitiakitanga embraces the spiritual and cultural guardianship of Te Ao Mārama, a responsibility derived from whakapapa. Kaitiakitanga entails an active exercise of responsibility in a manner beneficial to resources and the welfare of the people. It promotes the growth and development of the Māori people in all spheres of livelihood so that Māori can anticipate a future of living in good health and in reasonable prosperity. Preserving and maintaining the Party so it can continue to fulfil its functions and duties is implicit within this kaupapa.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Kaitiakitanga

- i. To promote the achievement of wellness and well-being for Māori.
- ii. To foster and promote sustainable management and growth of the economy so as to provide a stable and secure environment for future generations.
- iii. To create a clean, safe, and healthy environment by promoting the protection, restoration, and enhancement of mauri within our natural environments.

8. Mana Tupuna/Whakapapa

Mana Tupuna is that which defines who Māori are as people. It is the bridge that links us to our ancestors, that defines our heritage and gives us the stories which define our place in the world. Mana Tupuna helps us know who we are, from whom we descend, and what our obligations are to those who come after us. This is achieved through the recital of whakapapa, tracing the descent from Te Kore to Te Pō and, eventually, through to Te Ao Mārama. Whakapapa is also a tool utilised in analysing and synthesising information and knowledge.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Whakapapa

- i. To encourage the view that all Māori are related, leading towards co-operation and unity.
- ii. To support endeavours by Māori to establish and maintain our whanau, hapū, and iwi connections and continue our positive contribution to wider society.
- iii. To promote whakapapa as a tool for analysis and synthesis within the research activity of the Party.

9. Te Reo Rangatira

*Ki te kore tātou e kōrero Māori, ka ngaro te reo,
Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro ngā tikanga.
Ka ngaro ngā tikanga, ka ngaro tātou ki te Ao.
Ko te reo te kaipupuri i te Māoritanga.*

Te Reo Māori is the cornerstone of all that is Māori. Accelerating the revival of te reo Māori is a central focus of the Māori Party. Te reo Māori is the medium through which Māori explain the world. The survival of the people as Māori, and the uniqueness of Māori as a race, will be enhanced through the maintenance of te reo Māori.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Te Reo Rangatira

- i. To ensure the revitalisation of te reo Māori.
- ii. To promote wider recognition of te reo Māori as the first and official language of the country.
- iii. To promote the development and growth of te reo Māori both as the indigenous language of this country and also as the appropriate language to carry Māori knowledge and contemporary Māori customs.
- iv. To promote mātauranga Māori pathways that are of benefit to the people and lead to our advancement.
- v. To provide for research and development that leads to the advancement of mātauranga Māori and ensures the survival of the people as Māori.
- vi. To provide opportunities to encourage bi-literacy in our society.

Part 2: Rules

1. Name and Registered Office

- 1.1. The name of the party shall be the 'Māori Party' (the Party).
- 1.2. The Party shall be a political party and shall maintain registration in terms of S.63 of The Electoral Act 1993 and its subsequent amendments.
- 1.3. The registered office of the Māori Party shall be determined by the National Council.

2. Objectives

- 2.1. To acknowledge and fulfil the kaupapa and tikanga set out in this constitution.
- 2.2. To develop and implement the party policy manifesto consistent with the kaupapa.
- 2.3. To honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- 2.4. To maintain registration under the Electoral Act 1993 in the name of the Māori Party, whose Constitution shall be this document.

3. Membership

- 3.1. The Māori Party is an all-inclusive and broad-based political movement and accepts membership from any persons of 13 years of age and older who:
 - a. work to support the Māori Party kaupapa and tikanga;
 - b. act within the Māori Party constitution;
 - c. abide by lawful decisions made in accordance with the Māori Party constitution;
 - d. complete the official membership form and pay the appropriate membership fee as fixed by the National Council;
 - e. are not members of a competing political party, or any other group or organisation which the National Council determines is incompatible with membership of the Party.
- 3.2. Members aged 13–17 years are non-voting Junior Members.
- 3.3. The membership is established by the National Council and reviewed on a triennial basis.
- 3.4. Membership of the Party will be for a period of 3 years and shall take effect from the date stated on the official Māori Party receipt.

Membership of the Party shall be considered confirmed when the registration details and the membership fee have been processed by the National Treasurer.

Electorate Treasurers shall make every effort to process all memberships within a reasonable timeframe.

Financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in all Māori Party activities.

- 3.5. Any person who is a member of the Māori Party on the date at the opening of nominations for the selection of a Parliamentary candidate shall be entitled to participate in decision-making for the local electorate candidate and local list recommendations.
- 3.6. The National Council may cancel any membership that the Council believes does not meet the criteria outlined in clause 3.1. The member shall be advised in writing of the decision. The member may appeal that decision at the next national hui of the Party, where the decision shall be final.
- 3.7. A person shall cease to be a member of the Māori Party:
 - a. when their resignation is received by the National Council;
 - b. when they cease to accept or abide by this Constitution;
 - c. when they die;
 - d. when they have not paid their membership fee for a period of more than 12 months beyond the due date for payment of the fee; or
 - e. if and when they join a competing political party.

4. Party Structure

- 4.1. The structure of the Party shall reflect the aspirations of its membership as expressed through the Party's kaupapa (refer to Part 1 of this Constitution).
- 4.2. Branches and electorates shall provide the opportunity for members to have input into the direction and growth of the Party, including campaign strategies, policies, fundraising, and the selection and election of candidates.
- 4.3. The Māori Party's Members of Parliament shall promote the aspirations of its membership.
- 4.4. The National Council shall have representation from each electorate and the Members of Parliament.
- 4.5. The President is responsible for the leadership of the Party and shall uphold the Party's constitution in the exercise of that leadership.

Electoralates¹

- 4.6. An electorate shall be defined by the electorate boundaries as set out in the Electoral Act 1993.

¹ The structures and responsibilities of electoralates and branches are detailed in Schedule 1 of this constitution.

- 4.7. The activities and business of each electorate shall be organised as each electorate decides and shall, at all times, be consistent with the Party's kaupapa.
- 4.8. It shall be incumbent on all electorates:
- a. to keep all branches informed of all Party matters;
 - b. to keep the Party informed on all electorate matters through the National Council and/or the National Executive in accordance with Schedule 2;
 - c. to manage the selection and election of a candidate to contest each General Election;
 - d. to, on election, support the Member of Parliament.

Branches²

- 4.9. In each electorate district there shall be one or more branches authorised by the electorate. Each branch must have a minimum membership of ten (10) financial members of the Party who shall be responsible for the internal organisation of the branch consistent with the Party's kaupapa. In entering into any contract, or otherwise taking any other action, the branches shall not hold themselves out or represent themselves as acting with the authority of the Party without appropriate authorisation of the National Council and/or the National Executive.
- 4.10. Any person wishing to set up a new branch must get the electorate's permission. No branch shall be refused establishment without just cause.
- 4.11. Any persons living overseas wishing to establish a branch must affiliate to an electorate of their choice.

National Council³

- 4.12. The National Council provides leadership according to the Party's kaupapa (refer to Part 1 of this constitution), and deals with the fundamental running of the Party.
- 4.13. The National Council is the governing body of the Party outside of an Annual General Meeting, and to this effect the National Council shall meet at least every second month.
- 4.14. The National Council must establish an annual national plan and approve an annual budget that enables the national plan to be achieved. The National Council will delegate authority to the National Executive to expend within the approved annual budget in order to carry out the national plan. Appointment of any staff will require the presentation of a business case to the National Council for approval prior to any appointments being made. The process of appointment must be consistent with the kaupapa of the Māori Party.

2 The structures and responsibilities of electorates and branches are detailed in Schedule 1 of this constitution.

3 The National Council's structure and responsibilities are detailed in Schedule 2 of this constitution.

National Executive

- 4.15. The management of the Māori Party is determined by the National Council and delegated to the National Executive. The delegated authority shall be determined between the National Council and the National Executive. All decisions of the National Executive must be ratified by the National Council at their next hui.
- 4.16. The National Executive consists of the Party's president, the two co-vice presidents (one tāne and one wahine), and the two co-leaders.
- 4.17. Further to 4.14, the National Executive shall be authorised to appoint from time to time, on the recommendation of the President, suitable members of the Party to be:
- a. General Manager. The General Manager will have the role of chief administrative officer of the Party, on terms and conditions approved by the National Executive, and will be accountable directly to the President for administrative and financial control of the Party.
 - b. National Secretary, to record the proceedings of the National Council and the National Executive, and to be responsible to the General Manager for such other administrative duties as the General Manager may prescribe; and
 - c. National Treasurer, to be responsible to the General Manager for the maintenance of the financial records of the Party to standards required by the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, to establish and maintain such bank accounts as the National Executive may from time to time approve, to receipt and bank all monies paid to the Party, to be a co-signatory of cheques or other payment instruments paid from the Party's bank accounts together with such other member or members of the Party as the National Executive may appoint for co-signing, and to be responsible for the preparation of annual accounts for audit by registered auditors appointed by the National Council.

The General Manager, National Secretary and National Treasurer shall be ex officio members of the National Executive, and without voting rights.

5. Decision-making

- 5.1. All decisions of the Māori Party shall be made by consensus, consistent with the customary practice of whakawhitiwhiti kōrero, and having regard to constitutional and kaupapa obligations of the Māori Party. If the hui cannot reach consensus after full discussion of the issue, then the chairperson of the hui will ask the meeting to accept the view of the majority in the best interests of the Party.
- 5.2. Those who do not agree with the majority decision may have their objections included in any minutes recorded for the hui.

6. Annual General Meeting (Hui ā Tau)

- 6.1. The Party shall annually hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM), Hui ā Tau. Such hui shall be held no later than the 1st of November at a place and time approved by the National Council and notified to the membership of the Party not less than two calendar months prior to the Hui ā Tau being held. The business of this meeting shall be:
- a. receiving National Council, Electorate, and any other reports;
 - b. receiving the audited financial accounts of the Party for the previous financial year;
 - c. amending, cancelling or adding any Party rule;
 - d. considering and accepting policies prepared by the National Council or an electorate;
 - e. receiving, considering and acting upon any other remits not inconsistent with this constitution from the National Council or an electorate;
 - f. appointing the auditor;
 - g. such other matters necessary for the carrying out of Party activities.
- 6.2. The election of the president and co-vice presidents shall occur on a rotational, triennial basis.
- 6.3. All remits must first be passed by the electorate committees, who shall forward them to the National Council at least six weeks before the AGM (Hui ā Tau).
- 6.4. All decisions made at the AGM (Hui ā Tau) will be made consistent with Section 5 of this constitution: Decision-making.
- 6.5. The quorum for the AGM (Hui ā Tau) comprises of the following:
- a. the Party President or one of the co-vice presidents;
 - b. one of the co-leaders
 - c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

7. Special General Meeting

- 7.1. Special General Meetings can be called by the National Council for:
- d. the election of the Party's co-leaders;
 - e. extraordinary matters that require consideration.
- 7.2. The procedures for Special General Meetings are detailed in Schedule 5 of this constitution.
- 7.3. The election of the Party's co-leaders:

There shall be a Special General Meeting within six weeks of a General Election to select the Party's co-leaders. The co-leaders will be selected from the sitting MPS

and one will be tāne and one will be wahine. In the event that the co-leadership criteria cannot be met, the National Council may appoint a co-leader who sits outside of Parliament.

Those selected shall be in office for three years. The leadership may change at any time through:

- a. resignation;
- b. death;
- c. bringing the Party into disrepute in accordance with the Resolution of Differences and Disputes clause;
- d. resolution at a Special General Meeting.

7.4 The quorum for the Special General Meeting comprises of the following:

- a. the Party President or one of the co-vice presidents;
- b. one of the co-leaders;
- c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

8. Candidate Selection

8.1. Electorates organise their own processes to find their own candidates that meet the criteria set out in Schedule 4.

8.2. The National Council will appoint a subcommittee to examine the process of each electorate, discuss any issues as required, and recommend endorsement or otherwise to the National Council.

8.3. The membership of the subcommittee shall consist of no more than seven (7) members including one from the office of the President, one MP, and electorate representation from the National Council.

8.4. These processes shall be submitted to the National Council or its delegated subcommittee at least six (6) weeks before nominations open and they must be confirmed by that committee at least four weeks before nominations open.

8.5. Every process must ensure that:

- a. sufficient checks and safeguards are carried out to ensure all prospective candidates fulfil the candidate criteria, and any risks are mitigated ;
- b. input that provides a national overview of the prospective candidates, assists the electorate with their decision-making, and provides external points to consider is received from the National Council or its delegated subcommittee;
- c. the process upholds and safeguards the kaupapa of the Māori Party and enables all electorate members to have input into the final decision;

- d. the declaration of any conflicts of interest between a candidate and those within the Party ensures that improper influence in the selection process is likewise avoided.
- 8.6. Any disputes will be taken to the National Council.
- 8.7. When the electorate has reached a decision as to who should be the candidate, this person's name shall be submitted forthwith to the National Council.
- 8.8. The National Council sub committee shall provide a written report to National Council on the process confirming or otherwise that the process has met all selection criteria according to the constitution and Kaupapa of the Maori Party.
- 8.9. The National Council shall immediately either confirm the nomination, or provide a written explanation as to why the National Council believes the nomination may not be in the best interests of the Party and requires further consideration by the Electorate. The National Council shall meet with the electorate and resolve a way forward.

9. Resolution of Differences and Disputes

- 9.1. There shall be three types of disputes:
 - a. Serious Disputes shall be those disputes that deal with:
 - i. misuse of Party funds for personal gain;
 - ii. bringing the Party into disrepute, by any abuse, slagging, or misuse of any media or verbal statements that can or would be injurious to the general welfare and well-being of the Party or its members as a whole.
 - b. Non-serious Disputes shall be those disputes that deal with other matters that do not involve Party funds and that can generally be settled at local electorate level by the parties involved.
 - c. Judicial Disputes shall be those disputes dealing with matters such as the candidate selection process. These will become judicial in nature, and will be settled in court.
- 9.2. Disciplinary action may be brought against a member who:
 - a. refuses to comply with this constitution;
 - b. improperly deals with any Party funds;
 - c. in any other way wilfully brings the Party or its members into public disrepute.
- 9.3. All members agree to work together to support the Constitution of the Party and act according to the kaupapa at all times (refer to Part 1 of this constitution). Differences that may arise from time to time shall be resolved at the earliest opportunity by those involved.
- 9.4. Differences that cannot be resolved by the individuals involved shall be heard by the relevant Electorate Council.

- 9.5. A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the relevant Electorate Council. If it cannot be resolved at this level, it shall be referred to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the National Council who shall act swiftly and with discretion to seek resolution of the matter and to see that the dispute is resolved on the basis of the kaupapa of the Party.
- 9.6. Should the Electorate Council not be able to deal with any dispute then that council shall refer the dispute to the National Council.
- 9.7. No member shall be permitted to refer a complaint directly to the National Council unless that complaint is directly against the Electorate Council, in which case the complaint will be directed immediately to the Party President.
- 9.8. Should a complaint be directed immediately to the Party President then, on receipt of such a complaint, the President shall first of all satisfy him- or herself that the complaint is:
 - a. a legitimate complaint;
 - b. not a serious complaint.
- 9.9. The President may, at his or her discretion, settle the complaint, or he or she may forward the complaint to the National Council for resolution. Such complaints shall not be referred to the Disputes and Disciplinary Committee.
- 9.10. Should an electorate receive a serious complaint it shall immediately attempt to bring the complaint to a resolution. Failing a satisfactory resolution the Electorate Council shall forward the complaint to the National President, stating that the matter is of a serious nature and that the Electorate Council requests the intervention of the National Council.
- 9.11. The Electorate Council, having already tried for resolution and failed, may send the complaint directly to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.
- 9.12. On receipt of the complaint the following steps shall be taken:
 - a. The National President shall immediately notify both the electorates and the parties concerned in the dispute.
 - b. Notification shall be by phone call or by Tracked Post.
 - c. Nothing further will be done until the President has received advice that all parties have received their notification.
 - d. After receiving the information that all parties have been notified, the President shall inform the National Council;
- 9.13. On receipt of a serious complaint, the National Council shall either send the complaint back to the Electorate Council or send the complaint on to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.

- 9.14. The Disciplinary and Disputes Committee's structure and responsibilities are outlined in Schedule 3.
- 9.15. Confidential non-disclosure: All members of the Māori Party must undertake not to disclose to any person, or make use of any information, document or material of a personal nature that may embarrass the Party or has the potential to bring it into dispute. This includes the media or any other political party.

9.16. Protected Disclosures

Any Māori Party member who wishes to make a protected disclosure should do so as follows:

The Māori Party member or persons should submit the disclosure in writing to either the electorate or the National Council, depending on the seriousness of the disclosure. The disclosure should contain detailed information including the following:

- the nature of the disclosure;
- the name/s of the person/s involved;
- surrounding facts, including details relating to the time and or place of the incident if known or relevant.

10. Remedy

- 10.1. Any member who is found to have been in breach of section 3, 3.1, bullet points a-e, or is found guilty of a serious complaint other than the misuse of Party funds for personal gain, shall have their membership revoked under section 3.7.
- 10.2. Any member who is found guilty of misusing Party funds shall be immediately expelled from the Party.

11. Interpretation and Alteration of Constitution

- 11.1. The Constitution is made up of Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga, Part 2: Rules, and Part 3: Schedules. All parts of the constitution are equally binding on the membership.
- 11.2. The Constitution may be amended, added to, or rescinded by resolution of the AGM (Hui ā Tau) of the Party or a Special General Meeting convened for such purpose.
- 11.3. The National Council shall give notice to all groups of the proposed alteration/addition or rescission not less than 30 days prior to the AGM or Special General Meeting of the Party at which it is proposed to be moved.
- 11.4. No alteration to the object clauses (section 2), or the dissolution clause (section 12) shall be made without the prior written approval of the Inland Revenue Department.

12. Dissolution Clause

- 12.1. At a duly constituted AGM (Hui ā Tau) or a Special General Meeting, the Māori Party may resolve by majority resolution that the Party be dissolved as from the date named in the resolution. The Party may also, by such resolution, direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of the Māori Party after its dissolution.
- 12.2. Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose, and held not earlier than 30 days after the date on which the first resolution was passed, the Party shall be dissolved.
- 12.3. A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission, the Registrar of Incorporated Societies, and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of the Māori Party shall, upon dissolution, be transferred to such political or other organisations within New Zealand having objectives similar to those of the Māori Party, as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or, in default, as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the National Council.

Part 3: Schedules

Schedule 1: Electorates and Branches

Electorates

1. Each electorate shall determine its own quorum and that for its branches.
2. In keeping all branches informed of all Party matters, each electorate shall call an electorate meeting at least quarterly. At such meetings voting and speaking rights shall be restricted to financial members.
3. Each electorate shall hold an annual hui of financial members. The Annual General Meeting will elect officers, deal with any remits sent by branches, and receive the annual report from the chairperson/s and the treasurer/s.
4. Each electorate shall have an Electorate Council that shall be responsible for all party activities in the Electorate.
5. The officers of each electorate (that is the chairpersons, secretaries and treasurers) plus up to three elected members from each branch shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the electorate.
6. At each annual hui three National Council members and their substitutes shall be selected as defined in clause 4.4. The Electorate Committee shall determine the criteria required for members to represent the electorate on the National Council.
7. All decisions of the Electorate Council shall be made in accordance with clause 5.1.
8. When hosting a National Council hui, each electorate shall be responsible for the setting up and payment of all accounts for each meeting. Each electorate will ensure that the fees for their elected representatives are paid for by their electorate. It shall be the responsibility of the host electorate to collect fees from attendees other than electorate representatives. Any person failing to pay their just dues may not take an active part in that hui.
9. The selection and election of an electorate candidate shall be done in a manner prescribed by the Electorate Council in accordance with the Candidate Selection policy. It shall also be incumbent upon the electorate to raise the necessary funds for their candidate's election campaign, and it must be carried out in accordance with the Electoral Act, accepting that each candidate may select his or her own campaign managers. It shall be incumbent on these managers to, at all times, work with and for the Electorate Council.

Branches

1. Each branch shall be represented on its Electorate Council by up to three (3) financial members – one tāne, one wahine, one rangatahi. Any changes should immediately be brought to the notice of the Electorate Secretary, accompanied by the branch minutes showing such changes.
2. Each branch shall have an executive comprising Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of seven other members.
3. Each branch shall ensure proper financial systems and controls.
4. Each branch shall record and keep accurate minutes of its branch hui.
5. Branches may be established subject to electorate approval.
6. Every such branch authorized by the Electorate Council shall enrol members into the Party.
7. They shall also fundraise and pay all such dues and levies that may from time to time be imposed by the Electorate Council or by the National Council.
8. Each branch shall have a cheque account for which there must be a minimum of two signatures but no two signatures from the same household.
9. Branches must send a copy of their Income over Expenditure plus a copy of the bank statement to the Electorate Council monthly meeting.
10. A probationary period should be set between the existing branch and the new branch.

Schedule 2: National Council

1. The National Council comprises the following:
 - a. the Party president and two co-vice presidents (one tāne and one wahine);
 - b. two co-leaders (one tāne and one wahine);
 - c. all Members of Parliament;
 - d. up to four council members selected by each electorate (including rangatahi and both wahine and tāne), or their substitute as determined by each electorate.
2. Nominations for president and vice-president are to be lodged with the National Secretary six weeks before an Annual General Meeting and distributed to the electorates at least four weeks before that AGM. No person shall be eligible for the office of president or vice-president unless he or she has been a member of the Māori Party for at least three years.
3. There shall be a Special General Meeting immediately following the General Election to select the Party co-leaders. Those selected shall be in office for three years.
4. If there is a vacancy during the three year term in any of the above offices, then the National Council may appoint a person to hold office for the balance of the term.
5. There is a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities for the president and two co-vice presidents, and these roles and responsibilities will be ratified by the National Council.
6. Each Māori electorate shall be represented on the National Council. Further electorates may, from time to time, be accepted by the National Council. An Electorate Council member can be removed from the National Council by consensus of the Electorate Council.
7. The National Council shall hear all appeals from any electorate.
8. The National Council shall ratify or otherwise any decision made by the National Executive since the previous meeting.
9. All National Council policy remits must be ratified by an AGM or a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.
10. All decisions of the National Council shall be made by consensus as a customary practice, having regard to constitutional obligations and the kaupapa of the Māori Party. If the hui cannot reach consensus after full discussion of the issue, then the chairperson will ask the meeting to accept the view of the majority in the best interests of the party.

11. The National Council shall meet every two months (on the third[3rd] Saturday of every second [2nd] month), and its meetings shall rotate within the Māori seat electorates.
12. The quorum for the Special General Meeting comprises of the following:
 - a. the Party President or one of the co-vice presidents;
 - b. one of the co-leaders;
 - c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

Schedule 3: Disciplinary and Disputes Committee

1. The National Council will select a committee of five members including the Chair of the committee.
2. The Committee shall be self-determining and to that end shall only take instructions from the whole National Council.
3. The committee shall be selected strictly from Council Members only. No other person shall hold any position within the committee, whether advisory or otherwise.
4. The committee shall take office for a period of three years but may be elected for a further term.
5. Any vacancy that occurs in the committee shall be filled by the National Council.
6. The quorum for any meeting shall be three members including the Chair. Sufficient notice must be given to enable members to attend.
7. The committee shall be chaired by one of the vice-presidents. The other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
8. In the event that a complaint is levelled at the Chair, the other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
9. Only one vice-president shall be permitted to sit on the committee at any time.
10. Any member must declare any conflict of interest. Conflicts of interest are to be declared at the start of any meetings.
11. Should the Chair declare a conflict of interest, the other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
12. The committee shall be charged to reach a resolution of the complaint and, unless there is some legal impediment, the resolution shall be final and binding.
13. The committee shall act swiftly but without undue haste to reach a resolution.
14. The resolution of the complaint shall be reported to the National Council.
15. On receipt of the resolution the National Council shall endorse the findings of the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee and notify the parties to the dispute of such a resolution.
16. The National Council may change the resolution of the complaint on points of law only.
17. All complainants shall be notified of the outcomes.

18. The committee may, at any time during its hearing, place a total media ban on anything to do with the case being heard. This will apply to all members of the party.
19. Any person breaking the media ban can be charged with “bringing the Party into disrepute”.
20. On any matter that is before the committee, no person shall engage legal counsel on behalf of the Party without the full agreement of the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.

Schedule 4: Candidate Selection Guidelines

1. Principles

The Māori Party's candidate selection process shall be based on the principles of:

- Manaakitanga
- Rangatiratanga
- Whanaungatanga
- Kotahitanga
- Wairuatanga
- Mana Whenua
- Kaitiakitanga
- Mana Tupuna/Whakapapa
- Consistency of process
- Transparency of selection
- Fairness
- Participation
- Reasonable Notice
- Inclusiveness

The goal is to ensure that the Māori Party's electorate and list candidates are committed to:

- a. working for the benefit of all citizens of Aotearoa New Zealand;
- b. working within the kaupapa of the Māori Party;
- c. the vision of a nation of cultural diversity and richness, where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenuatanga by Māori; and
- d. Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation.

2. The Candidate Profile

The candidate:

- a. has an established or existing strong public profile, and is renowned for advocacy for Māori e.g. social justice, economic development;
- b. has a background in one or more specialist areas that are of importance to the Māori Party;
- c. has experience in public office e.g. board of trustees, local government;
- d. has experience in campaigning for a cause;
- e. has the support of 50 signed-up members in writing;ⁱ
- f. has a strong team of supporters willing to provide emotional and moral support and who will also be the candidate's team to support campaigning, among other activities;
- g. has demonstrated capability as a team-player;
- h. has political nous;
- i. has shown themselves to be articulate and capable, including in public speaking, and to be media savvy;
- j. has a strong personality;
- k. is a paid up and financial member of the Māori Party;

- l. has a clean record, verified by police and bankruptcy checks;
- m. has financial viability.
- n. provides a full Curriculum Vitae.

3. Eligibility to be Nominated to be a Member of Parliament for the Māori Party

Any person who is a fully paid up member of the Māori Party is eligible to be nominated as a candidate if he or she is eligible to become a Member of Parliament in accordance with the regulations set out in the Electoral Act.

4. List Candidate

4.1 Electorate Councils shall determine and prioritise their five list nominations (which may include the electorate candidate), according to an agreed process.

4.2 Each ranked electorate list is submitted to the National Council.

4.3 The National Council identifies a set of criteria to be applied in determining priorities including:

- skills and expertise;
- gender/age;
- inclusiveness; - (eg: ethnicity, sexuality, religious belief)
- sector networks and credibility;
- mana whenua.

4.4 The Council will set up a subcommittee to determine what weighting applies to these criteria and to finalise the electorate list. This subcommittee will be made up of a representative from each electorate.

4.5 Having established a preliminary list based on the criteria specified in point 4.3, the Council subcommittee may give consideration to other relevant factors before finalising the list.

4.6 The Council subcommittee will reach agreement on ranking, and list accordingly. In the event that the Council subcommittee should not reach consensus the decision will be made by the President and co-leaders.

4.7 Electorate Councils will be advised of the final list at the earliest opportunity.

4.8 The list will be published once all Electorate Councils have been informed.

5. Candidates College

All selected candidates shall be invited to, and expected to attend, a Candidates College on date(s) and at venue(s) decided by the National Executive.

- 6. Early Election Candidate Selection Process** Where an early election is called, the National Council may decide to use the following process as an alternative to the process set out in the first schedule:

 - 6.2 Where an early General Election is called less than three months out from polling day, all current sitting Members of Parliament will be automatically selected to stand in their electorates for that election.
 - 6.3 All other electorate candidate selections shall be completed on a date determined by the National Council.
 - 6.4 Where electorates are unable to complete their selection of candidates on the date determined by the National Council, the National Council shall have the authority to select candidates according to an agreed process.
- 7. Selection of Candidates to Contest By-elections** The National Council shall provide a written process of guidelines to select candidates for by-elections which shall be approved and reviewed at each AGM (Hui ā Tau).

 - 7.2 The National Council shall engage with the local electorate on the process to select the candidate.
 - 7.3 The process shall be consistent with the principles, goals, and guidelines of the process for the selection of candidates for General Elections.
 - 7.4 The National Council shall review the process for each AGM (Hui ā Tau).
- 8. Access to Membership Data** Nominees may not have direct access to electorate membership lists. It will be the responsibility of the Electorate Secretary in the case of electorate nominees and the General Manager in the case of List nominees not originating from an electorate to check that all signatories on an Official Nomination Form for candidates are currently financial members of the Party.

Schedule 5: Procedures for Special General Meetings

1. A Special General Meeting may be called by the National Council at any time, or at the written request of three electorates, or by written request of at least 200 financial members, and will be held within six weeks of the lodging of the request for a Special General Meeting to the President.
 2. The request shall state clearly the purpose of the meeting, in no more than 150 words, and also the desired outcome.
 3. On receipt of a request for a Special General Meeting, the President shall call the meeting within 30 days from the date of receipt.
 4. If the meeting is not called within the 30 day limit, the electorate/s requesting the meeting shall call such a meeting themselves, and any motion passed at such a meeting shall be binding on the Party.
 5. Failure by the electorates to call the meeting within the 30 day period shall render the original request invalid.
 6. The Special General Meeting will be a meeting of the National Council and membership at large.
 7. Membership status will be checked by a Party Official.
 8. The costs for the Special General Meeting venue shall be met by the National Council.
 9. All arrangements for the Special General Meeting shall be coordinated by the National Secretary.
 10. The venue for any such Special General Meeting shall be the sole responsibility of the National Executive.
 11. Only matters notified in the agenda for the Special General Meeting shall be considered at the meeting.
 12. Special General Meetings shall be open to all current financial members of the Party.
-

MĀORI PARTY CONSTITUTION

*Kia rangatira te tū a Te Pāti Māori
hei rōpū whakatinana i ngā rau wawata
o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki*

Contents

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga	1
He Kupu Whakataki	1
Te Waihanga i te Kaupapa	1
Ngā Kaupapa o te Pāti Māori	3
Part 2: Rules	9
1. Name and Registered Office	9
2. Objectives	9
3. Membership	9
4. Party Structure	10
5. Decision-making	12
6. Annual General Meeting (Hui ā Tau)	12
7. Special General Meeting	13
8. Candidate Selection	14
9. Resolution of Differences and Disputes	15
10. Remedy	16
11. Interpretation and Alteration of Constitution	17
12. Dissolution Clause	17
Part 3: Schedules	18
Schedule 1: Electorates and Branches	18
Schedule 2: National Council	20
Schedule 3: Disciplinary and Disputes Committee	22
Schedule 4: Candidate Selection Guidelines	24
Schedule 5: Procedures for Special General Meetings	31

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga

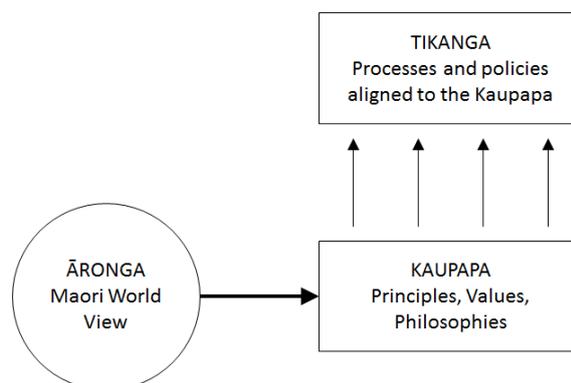
He Kupu Whakataki

The Māori Party is born of the dreams and aspirations of tangata whenua to achieve self-determination for whānau, hapū and iwi within their own land; to speak with a strong, independent and united voice; and to live according to kaupapa handed down by our ancestors.

The vision for the Māori Party will be based on these aspirations, for they speak to us of whānau whose wairua is strong and vibrant; who have fully developed their spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical well-being; and who are confident, secure and proactive in all aspects of the environmental, social, cultural, economic and political life of this great country of ours.

The Māori Party is for all citizens of Aotearoa New Zealand.

- Its founding was an initiative of Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea, for the benefit of all citizens of this land.
- Its policies and practices derive from kaupapa tuku iho that are values that provide for the well-being of all and are in a constant state of enrichment and refinement as insights are gathered from new experiences and discoveries.
- Its vision is of a nation of cultural diversity and richness where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenuatanga by Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea.
- Its commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation and to its whakapapa is steadfast.



Te Waihanga i te Kaupapa

The Māori view of the world is described through pūrākau, karakia, mōteatea, whakataukī, whakapapa and many other puna kōrero. Kaupapa Māori is the foundation of Māori culture and is derived from this Māori world view. Growing from within the kaupapa are our tikanga, like the trees that spring from Papatūānuku. The tikanga are the policies, practices and organisational structures of the Party that are aligned to and consistent with

the foundation kaupapa, and will benefit not only Māori but all those people who lay claim to this country as their homeland.

To achieve its vision, the Māori Party's existence will be based on kaupapa Māori, the foundation principles of the Māori world, and the bedrock from which we frame the objectives of the organisation. The Māori Party will demonstrate tikanga consistent with kaupapa Māori.

Ngā Kaupapa o te Pāti Māori

The following kaupapa and tikanga, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori world view and help us define and maintain the Party's focus and structure. These kaupapa can be framed as the objectives of the organisation, with various tikanga covering policies, operations, and organisational structures emanating from these kaupapa.

1. **Manaakitanga**

Manaakitanga is behaviour that acknowledges the mana of others as having equal or greater importance than one's own, through the expression of aroha, hospitality, generosity and mutual respect. By such behaviour, all parties are elevated and our status is enhanced, building unity through humility and the act of giving. The Party must endeavour to express manaakitanga towards others – be they political allies or opponents, Māori or non-Māori organisations – taking care not to trample mana, while clearly defining our own.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Manaakitanga

- i. To be recognised by Māori as a political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori.
- ii. To ensure that relationships between the Party and whānau, hapū, iwi, and other Māori organisations are elevating and enhancing.
- iii. To promote a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is important.
- iv. To ensure that members agree to work together, treat each other with respect, and act with integrity in their party work.
- v. To involve all peoples in the process of rebuilding our nation based on mutual respect and harmonious relationships.

2. **Rangatiratanga**

Rangatiratanga is the expression of the attributes of a rangatira (weaving the people together) including humility, leadership by example, generosity, altruism, diplomacy, and knowledge of benefit to the people. As an organisation, the importance of *walking the talk*, following through on commitments made, integrity and honesty is demonstrated. As a people, rangatiratanga is reflected in the promotion of self-

determination for Māori, and an expression of the rights defined by Mana Atua, Mana Tupuna and Mana Whenua.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Rangatiratanga

- i. To recognise and acknowledge the authority of whānau, hapū and iwi in their respective electorates.
- ii. To enhance the relationship between Tino Rangatiratanga and Kāwanatanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- iii. To promote the retention of separate seats for Māori in the Parliament of New Zealand, and to select suitable persons to represent the Māori Party in Māori constituencies, in agreed General constituencies, and as List Candidates for the Party.
- iv. To assert and confirm the role of Māori as tangata whenua.
- v. To promote Māori self-determination through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team.
- vi. To acknowledge, nurture, support and reflect rangatiratanga within the Party and other Māori organisations.
- vii. To ensure that the conduct and activities of the parliamentary team, leaders, and the organisation as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira.

3. Whanaungatanga

Whanaungatanga underpins the social organisation of whānau, hapū and iwi and includes rights and reciprocal obligations consistent with being part of a collective. It is the principle that binds individuals to the wider group and affirms the value of the collective. Whanaungatanga is inter-dependence with each other and recognition that the people are our wealth.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Whanaungatanga

- i. To promote and contribute to the survival of Māori as a people.
- ii. To promote respect for all cultures and ensure all people have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua.
- iii. To encourage relationships between whānau, hapū, iwi, other Māori organisations and the Party that reflect interdependence.
- iv. To promote whanaungatanga as the model for good collective arrangements between different parties.

4. Kotahitanga

Kotahitanga is the principle of unity of purpose and direction. It is demonstrated through the achievement of harmony and moving as one. All are encouraged to make

a contribution, to have their say and then, together, to reach a consensus. The Party will promote harmonious relationships between all people.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Kotahitanga

- i. To consistently work for unity among Māori people.
- ii. To avoid taking decisions and approaches that lead to division and disharmony within the organisation.
- iii. To establish a parliamentary team that can work together and are committed to speaking with a single voice on behalf of Māori.
- iv. To promote harmonious and cooperative relationships amongst all people.
- v. To promote nationhood based upon knowledge of a shared heritage and an understanding and celebration of cultural distinctiveness.

5. Wairuatanga

This is reflected in the belief that there is a spiritual existence alongside the physical. It is expressed through the intimate connection of the people to our maunga, awa, moana and marae, and to tūpuna and atua. These connections are affirmed through knowledge and understanding of atua Māori and must be maintained and nourished with the aim of achieving wellness. It is central to the everyday lives of Māori people and is integral to the way Māori view the world.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Wairuatanga

- i. To encourage, maintain, and promote spiritual identity and connection with the land.
- ii. To break down secular and non-secular divisions and promote a unified and holistic approach to life.
- iii. To develop within the organisation an environment that nourishes and nurtures wairua.
- iv. To promote the importance of oranga wairua for Māori well-being.

6. Mana Whenua

Mana whenua is the principle that defines Māori by the land occupied by right of ancestral claim. It defines tūrangawaewae and ūkaipō, the places where you belong, where you count, where you are important and where you can contribute. Mana whenua is essential for Māori well-being. The places Māori find ourselves, our strength, our energy are where Māori have mana whenua. Once grounded to the land and home, Māori are able to participate in society in a positive, productive manner.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Mana Whenua

- i. To ensure that the Party is of the Māori people.

- ii. To assist Māori to establish and maintain their connections to their own land.
- iii. To develop arrangements that foster the values of ūkaipō, of importance, belonging, and contribution within the organisation.
- iv. To develop a parliamentary team that will take advice and guidance from Māori in the first instance.
- v. To promote mana whenua as the basis for land management policies.

7. Kaitiakitanga

Kaitiakitanga embraces the spiritual and cultural guardianship of Te Ao Mārama, a responsibility derived from whakapapa. Kaitiakitanga entails an active exercise of responsibility in a manner beneficial to resources and the welfare of the people. It promotes the growth and development of the Māori people in all spheres of livelihood so that Māori can anticipate a future of living in good health and in reasonable prosperity. Preserving and maintaining the Party so it can continue to fulfil its functions and duties is implicit within this kaupapa.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Kaitiakitanga

- i. To promote the achievement of wellness and well-being for Māori.
- ii. To foster and promote sustainable management and growth of the economy so as to provide a stable and secure environment for future generations.
- iii. To create a clean, safe, and healthy environment by promoting the protection, restoration, and enhancement of mauri within our natural environments.

8. Mana Tupuna/Whakapapa

Mana Tupuna is that which defines who Māori are as people. It is the bridge that links us to our ancestors, that defines our heritage and gives us the stories which define our place in the world. Mana Tupuna helps us know who we are, from whom we descend, and what our obligations are to those who come after us. This is achieved through the recital of whakapapa, tracing the descent from Te Kore to Te Pō and, eventually, through to Te Ao Mārama. Whakapapa is also a tool utilised in analysing and synthesising information and knowledge.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Whakapapa

- i. To encourage the view that all Māori are related, leading towards co-operation and unity.
- ii. To support endeavours by Māori to establish and maintain our whanau, hapū, and iwi connections and continue our positive contribution to wider society.

- iii. To promote whakapapa as a tool for analysis and synthesis within the research activity of the Party.

9. Te Reo Rangatira

*Ki te kore tātou e kōrero Māori, ka ngaro te reo,
Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro ngā tikanga.
Ka ngaro ngā tikanga, ka ngaro tātou ki te Ao.
Ko te reo te kaupuri i te Māoritanga.*

Te Reo Māori is the cornerstone of all that is Māori. Accelerating the revival of te reo Māori is a central focus of the Māori Party. Te reo Māori is the medium through which Māori explain the world. The survival of the people as Māori, and the uniqueness of Māori as a race, will be enhanced through the maintenance of te reo Māori.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Te Reo Rangatira

- i. To ensure the revitalisation of te reo Māori.
- ii. To promote wider recognition of te reo Māori as the first and official language of the country.
- iii. To promote the development and growth of te reo Māori both as the indigenous language of this country and also as the appropriate language to carry Māori knowledge and contemporary Māori customs.
- iv. To promote mātauranga Māori pathways that are of benefit to the people and lead to our advancement.
- v. To provide for research and development that leads to the advancement of mātauranga Māori and ensures the survival of the people as Māori.
- vi. To provide opportunities to encourage bi-literacy in our society.

Part 2: Rules

1. Name and Registered Office

- 1.1. The name of the party shall be the 'Māori Party' (the Party).
- 1.2. The Party shall be a political party and shall maintain registration in terms of S.63 of The Electoral Act 1993 and its subsequent amendments.
- 1.3. The registered office of the Māori Party shall be determined by the National Council.

2. Objectives

- 2.1. To acknowledge and fulfil the kaupapa and tikanga set out in this constitution.
- 2.2. To develop and implement the party policy manifesto consistent with the kaupapa.
- 2.3. To honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- 2.4. To maintain registration under the Electoral Act 1993 in the name of the Māori Party, whose Constitution shall be this document.

3. Membership

- 3.1. The Māori Party is an all-inclusive and broad-based political movement and accepts membership from any persons of 13 years of age and older who:
 - a. work to support the Māori Party kaupapa and tikanga;
 - b. act within the Māori Party constitution;
 - c. abide by lawful decisions made in accordance with the Māori Party constitution;
 - d. complete the official membership form and pay the appropriate membership fee as fixed by the National Council;
 - e. are not members of a competing political party, or any other group or organisation which the National Council determines is incompatible with membership of the Party.
- 3.2. Members aged 13–17 years are non-voting Junior Members.
- 3.3. The membership is established by the National Council and reviewed on a triennial basis.
- 3.4. Membership of the Party will be for a period of 3 years and shall take effect from the date stated on the official Māori Party receipt.

Membership of the Party shall be considered confirmed when the registration details and the membership fee have been processed by the National Treasurer. Electorate Treasurers shall make every effort to process all memberships within a reasonable timeframe.

Financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in all Māori Party activities.

- 3.5. Any person who is a member of the Māori Party on the date at the opening of nominations for the selection of a Parliamentary candidate shall be entitled to participate in decision-making for the local electorate candidate and local list recommendations.
- 3.6. The National Council may cancel any membership that the Council believes does not meet the criteria outlined in clause 3.1. The member shall be advised in writing of the decision. The member may appeal that decision at the next national hui of the Party, where the decision shall be final.
- 3.7. A person shall cease to be a member of the Māori Party:
 - a. when their resignation is received by the National Council;
 - b. when they cease to accept or abide by this Constitution;
 - c. when they die;
 - d. when they have not paid their membership fee for a period of more than 12 months beyond the due date for payment of the fee; or
 - e. if and when they join a competing political party.

4. Party Structure

- 4.1. The structure of the Party shall reflect the aspirations of its membership as expressed through the Party's kaupapa (refer to Part 1 of this Constitution).
- 4.2. Branches and electorates shall provide the opportunity for members to have input into the direction and growth of the Party, including campaign strategies, policies, fundraising, and the selection and election of candidates.
- 4.3. The Māori Party's Members of Parliament shall promote the aspirations of its membership.
- 4.4. The National Council shall have representation from each electorate and the Members of Parliament.
- 4.5. The President is responsible for the leadership of the Party and shall uphold the Party's constitution in the exercise of that leadership.

Electories¹

- 4.6. An electorate shall be defined by the electorate boundaries as set out in the Electoral Act 1993.
- 4.7. The activities and business of each electorate shall be organised as each electorate decides and shall, at all times, be consistent with the Party's kaupapa.
- 4.8. It shall be incumbent on all electories:
 - a. to keep all branches informed of all Party matters;
 - b. to keep the Party informed on all electorate matters through the National Council and/or the National Executive in accordance with Schedule 2;
 - c. to manage the selection and election of a candidate to contest each General Election;
 - d. to, on election, support the Member of Parliament.

¹ The structures and responsibilities of electories and branches are detailed in Schedule 1 of this constitution.

Branches²

- 4.9. In each electorate district there shall be one or more branches authorised by the electorate. Each branch must have a minimum membership of ten (10) financial members of the Party who shall be responsible for the internal organisation of the branch consistent with the Party's kaupapa. In entering into any contract, or otherwise taking any other action, the branches shall not hold themselves out or represent themselves as acting with the authority of the Party without appropriate authorisation of the National Council and/or the National Executive.
- 4.10. Any person wishing to set up a new branch must get the electorate's permission. No branch shall be refused establishment without just cause.
- 4.11. Any persons living overseas wishing to establish a branch must affiliate to an electorate of their choice.

National Council³

- 4.12. The National Council provides leadership according to the Party's kaupapa (refer to Part 1 of this constitution), and deals with the fundamental running of the Party.
- 4.13. The National Council is the governing body of the Party outside of an Annual General Meeting, and to this effect the National Council shall meet at least every second month.
- 4.14. The National Council must establish an annual national plan and approve an annual budget that enables the national plan to be achieved. The National Council will delegate authority to the National Executive to expend within the approved annual budget in order to carry out the national plan. Appointment of any staff will require the presentation of a business case to the National Council for approval prior to any appointments being made. The process of appointment must be consistent with the kaupapa of the Māori Party.

National Executive

- 4.15. The management of the Māori Party is determined by the National Council and delegated to the National Executive. The delegated authority shall be determined between the National Council and the National Executive. All decisions of the National Executive must be ratified by the National Council at their next hui.
- 4.16. The National Executive consists of the Party's president, the two co-vice presidents (one tāne and one wahine), and the two co-leaders.
- 4.17. Further to 4.14, the National Executive shall be authorised to appoint from time to time, on the recommendation of the President, suitable members of the Party to be:
- a. General Manager. The General Manager will have the role of chief administrative officer of the Party, on terms and conditions approved by the

² The structures and responsibilities of electorates and branches are detailed in Schedule 1 of this constitution.

³ The National Council's structure and responsibilities are detailed in Schedule 2 of this constitution.

National Executive, and will be accountable directly to the President for administrative and financial control of the Party.

- b. National Secretary, to record the proceedings of the National Council and the National Executive, and to be responsible to the General Manager for such other administrative duties as the General Manager may prescribe; and
- c. National Treasurer, to be responsible to the General Manager for the maintenance of the financial records of the Party to standards required by the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, to establish and maintain such bank accounts as the National Executive may from time to time approve, to receipt and bank all monies paid to the Party, to be a co-signatory of cheques or other payment instruments paid from the Party's bank accounts together with such other member or members of the Party as the National Executive may appoint for co-signing, and to be responsible for the preparation of annual accounts for audit by registered auditors appointed by the National Council.

The General Manager, National Secretary and National Treasurer shall be ex officio members of the National Executive, and without voting rights.

5. Decision-making

- 5.1. All decisions of the Māori Party shall be made by consensus, consistent with the customary practice of whakawhitiwhiti kōrero, and having regard to constitutional and kaupapa obligations of the Māori Party. If the hui cannot reach consensus after full discussion of the issue, then the chairperson of the hui will ask the meeting to accept the view of the majority in the best interests of the Party.
- 5.2. Those who do not agree with the majority decision may have their objections included in any minutes recorded for the hui.

6. Annual General Meeting (Hui ā Tau)

- 6.1. The Party shall annually hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM), Hui ā Tau. Such hui shall be held no later than the 1st of November at a place and time approved by the National Council and notified to the membership of the Party not less than two calendar months prior to the Hui ā Tau being held. The business of this meeting shall be:
 - a. receiving National Council, Electorate, and any other reports;
 - b. receiving the audited financial accounts of the Party for the previous financial year;
 - c. amending, cancelling or adding any Party rule;
 - d. considering and accepting policies prepared by the National Council or an electorate;
 - e. receiving, considering and acting upon any other remits not inconsistent with this constitution from the National Council or an electorate;

- f. appointing the auditor;
 - g. such other matters necessary for the carrying out of Party activities.
- 6.2. The election of the president and co-vice presidents shall occur on a rotational, triennial basis.
- 6.3. All remits must first be passed by the electorate committees, who shall forward them to the National Council at least six weeks before the AGM (Hui ā Tau).
- 6.4. All decisions made at the AGM (Hui ā Tau) will be made consistent with Section 5 of this constitution: Decision-making.
- 6.5. The quorum for the AGM (Hui ā Tau) comprises of the following:
- a. the Party President or one of the co-vice presidents;
 - b. one of the co-leaders
 - c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

7. Special General Meeting

- 7.1. Special General Meetings can be called by the National Council for:
- d. the election of the Party's co-leaders;
 - e. extraordinary matters that require consideration.
- 7.2. The procedures for Special General Meetings are detailed in Schedule 5 of this constitution.
- 7.3. The election of the Party's co-leaders:
- There shall be a Special General Meeting within six weeks of a General Election to select the Party's co-leaders. The co-leaders will be selected from the sitting MPS and one will be tāne and one will be wahine. In the event that the co-leadership criteria cannot be met, the National Council may appoint a co-leader who sits outside of Parliament.
- Those selected shall be in office for three years. The leadership may change at any time through:
- a. resignation;
 - b. death;
 - c. bringing the Party into disrepute in accordance with the Resolution of Differences and Disputes clause;
 - d. resolution at a Special General Meeting.
- 7.4. The quorum for the Special General Meeting comprises of the following:
- a. the Party President or one of the co-vice presidents;
 - b. one of the co-leaders;
 - c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

8. Candidate Selection

- 8.1. Electorates organise their own processes to find their own candidates that meet the criteria set out in Schedule 4.
- 8.2. The National Council will appoint a National Candidate Selection Panel to examine the process of each electorate, discuss any issues as required, and recommend endorsement or otherwise to the National Council.
- 8.3. The membership of the National Candidate Selection Panel shall consist of;
Consistent Members
 - A Member of the office of the President – the National Executive
 - Co-Leaders and or one of the Members of Parliament (two members in total)
 - A National Council nominee. This member shall not be of the same electorate that is selecting a candidate**Electorate representation**
 - Three members of the electorate that is selecting the candidate
- 8.4. These processes shall be submitted to the National Council or its delegated subcommittee at least six (6) weeks before nominations open and they must be confirmed by that committee at least four weeks before nominations open.
- 8.5. Every process must ensure that:
 - a. sufficient checks and safeguards are carried out to ensure all prospective candidates fulfil the candidate criteria, and any risks are mitigated;
 - b. input that provides a national overview of the prospective candidates, assists the electorate with their decision-making, and provides external points to consider is received from the National Council or its delegated subcommittee;
 - c. the process upholds and safeguards the kaupapa of the Māori Party and enables all electorate members to have input into the final decision;
 - d. the declaration of any conflicts of interest between a candidate and those within the Party ensures that improper influence in the selection process is likewise avoided.
- 8.6. Any disputes will be taken to the National Council.
- 8.7. When the electorate has reached a decision as to who should be the candidate, this person's name shall be submitted forthwith to the National Council.
- 8.8. The National Candidate Selection Panel shall provide a written report to National Council on the process confirming or otherwise that the process has met all selection criteria according to the constitution and Kaupapa of the Maori Party.
- 8.9. The National Council shall immediately either confirm the nomination, or provide a written explanation as to why the National Council believes the nomination may not be in the best interests of the Party and requires further consideration by the Electorate. The National Council shall meet with the electorate and resolve a way forward.

9. Resolution of Differences and Disputes

- 9.1. There shall be three types of disputes:
 - a. Serious Disputes shall be those disputes that deal with:
 - i. misuse of Party funds for personal gain;
 - ii. bringing the Party into disrepute, by any abuse, slugging, or misuse of any media or verbal statements that can or would be injurious to the general welfare and well-being of the Party or its members as a whole.
 - b. Non-serious Disputes shall be those disputes that deal with other matters that do not involve Party funds and that can generally be settled at local electorate level by the parties involved.
 - c. Judicial Disputes shall be those disputes dealing with matters such as the candidate selection process. These will become judicial in nature, and will be settled in court.
- 9.2. Disciplinary action may be brought against a member who:
 - a. refuses to comply with this constitution;
 - b. improperly deals with any Party funds;
 - c. in any other way willfully brings the Party or its members into public disrepute.
- 9.3. All members agree to work together to support the Constitution of the Party and act according to the kaupapa at all times (refer to Part 1 of this constitution). Differences that may arise from time to time shall be resolved at the earliest opportunity by those involved.
- 9.4. Differences that cannot be resolved by the individuals involved shall be heard by the relevant Electorate Council.
- 9.5. A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the relevant Electorate Council. If it cannot be resolved at this level, it shall be referred to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the National Council who shall act swiftly and with discretion to seek resolution of the matter and to see that the dispute is resolved on the basis of the kaupapa of the Party.
- 9.6. Should the Electorate Council not be able to deal with any dispute then that council shall refer the dispute to the National Council.
- 9.7. No member shall be permitted to refer a complaint directly to the National Council unless that complaint is directly against the Electorate Council, in which case the complaint will be directed immediately to the Party President.
- 9.8. Should a complaint be directed immediately to the Party President then, on receipt of such a complaint, the President shall first of all satisfy him- or herself that the complaint is:
 - a. a legitimate complaint;
 - b. not a serious complaint.
- 9.9. The President may, at his or her discretion, settle the complaint, or he or she may forward the complaint to the National Council for resolution. Such complaints shall not be referred to the Disputes and Disciplinary Committee.

- 9.10. Should an electorate receive a serious complaint it shall immediately attempt to bring the complaint to a resolution. Failing a satisfactory resolution, the Electorate Council shall forward the complaint to the National President, stating that the matter is of a serious nature and that the Electorate Council requests the intervention of the National Council.
- 9.11. The Electorate Council, having already tried for resolution and failed, may send the complaint directly to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.
- 9.12. On receipt of the complaint the following steps shall be taken:
- a. The National President shall immediately notify both the electorates and the parties concerned in the dispute.
 - b. Notification shall be by phone call or by Tracked Post.
 - c. Nothing further will be done until the President has received advice that all parties have received their notification.
 - d. After receiving the information that all parties have been notified, the President shall inform the National Council;
- 9.13. On receipt of a serious complaint, the National Council shall either send the complaint back to the Electorate Council or send the complaint on to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.
- 9.14. The Disciplinary and Disputes Committee's structure and responsibilities are outlined in Schedule 3.
- 9.15. Confidential non-disclosure: All members of the Māori Party must undertake not to disclose to any person, or make use of any information, document or material of a personal nature that may embarrass the Party or has the potential to bring it into dispute. This includes the media or any other political party.
- 9.16. Protected Disclosures
Any Māori Party member who wishes to make a protected disclosure should do so as follows:
- The Māori Party member or persons should submit the disclosure in writing to either the electorate or the National Council, depending on the seriousness of the disclosure. The disclosure should contain detailed information including the following:
- the nature of the disclosure;
 - the name/s of the person/s involved;
 - surrounding facts, including details relating to the time and or place of the incident if known or relevant.

10. Remedy

- 10.1. Any member who is found to have been in breach of section 3, 3.1, bullet points a-e, or is found guilty of a serious complaint other than the misuse of Party funds for personal gain, shall have their membership revoked under section 3.7.
- 10.2. Any member who is found guilty of misusing Party funds shall be immediately expelled from the Party.

11. Interpretation and Alteration of Constitution

- 11.1. The Constitution is made up of Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga, Part 2: Rules, and Part 3: Schedules. All parts of the constitution are equally binding on the membership.
- 11.2. The Constitution may be amended, added to, or rescinded by resolution of the AGM (Hui ā Tau) of the Party or a Special General Meeting convened for such purpose.
- 11.3. The National Council shall give notice to all groups of the proposed alteration/addition or rescission not less than 30 days prior to the AGM or Special General Meeting of the Party at which it is proposed to be moved.
- 11.4. No alteration to the object clauses (section 2), or the dissolution clause (section 12) shall be made without the prior written approval of the Inland Revenue Department.

12. Dissolution Clause

- 12.1. At a duly constituted AGM (Hui ā Tau) or a Special General Meeting, the Māori Party may resolve by majority resolution that the Party be dissolved as from the date named in the resolution. The Party may also, by such resolution, direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of the Māori Party after its dissolution.
- 12.2. Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose, and held not earlier than 30 days after the date on which the first resolution was passed, the Party shall be dissolved.
- 12.3. A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission, the Registrar of Incorporated Societies, and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of the Māori Party shall, upon dissolution, be transferred to such political or other organisations within New Zealand having objectives similar to those of the Māori Party, as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or, in default, as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the National Council.

Part 3: Schedules

Schedule 1: Electorates and Branches

Electorates

1. Each electorate shall determine its own quorum and that for its branches.
2. In keeping all branches informed of all Party matters, each electorate shall call an electorate meeting at least quarterly. At such meetings voting and speaking rights shall be restricted to financial members.
3. Each electorate shall hold an annual hui of financial members. The Annual General Meeting will elect officers, deal with any remits sent by branches, and receive the annual report from the chairperson/s and the treasurer/s.
4. Each electorate shall have an Electorate Council that shall be responsible for all party activities in the Electorate.
5. The officers of each electorate (that is the chairpersons, secretaries and treasurers) plus up to three elected members from each branch shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the electorate.
6. At each annual hui three National Council members and their substitutes shall be selected as defined in clause 4.4. The Electorate Committee shall determine the criteria required for members to represent the electorate on the National Council.
7. All decisions of the Electorate Council shall be made in accordance with clause 5.1.
8. When hosting a National Council hui, each electorate shall be responsible for the setting up and payment of all accounts for each meeting. Each electorate will ensure that the fees for their elected representatives are paid for by their electorate. It shall be the responsibility of the host electorate to collect fees from attendees other than electorate representatives. Any person failing to pay their just dues may not take an active part in that hui.
9. The selection and election of an electorate candidate shall be done in a manner prescribed by the Electorate Council in accordance with the Candidate Selection policy. It shall also be incumbent upon the electorate to raise the necessary funds for their candidate's election campaign, and it must be carried out in accordance with the Electoral Act, accepting that each candidate may select his or her own campaign managers. It shall be incumbent on these managers to, at all times, work with and for the Electorate Council.

Branches

1. Each branch shall be represented on its Electorate Council by up to three (3) financial members – one tāne, one wahine, one rangatahi. Any changes should immediately be brought to the notice of the Electorate Secretary, accompanied by the branch minutes showing such changes.
2. Each branch shall have an executive comprising Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of seven other members.
3. Each branch shall ensure proper financial systems and controls.
4. Each branch shall record and keep accurate minutes of its branch hui.
5. Branches may be established subject to electorate approval.
6. Every such branch authorized by the Electorate Council shall enrol members into the Party.
7. They shall also fundraise and pay all such dues and levies that may from time to time be imposed by the Electorate Council or by the National Council.
8. Each branch shall have a cheque account for which there must be a minimum of two signatures but no two signatures from the same household.
9. Branches must send a copy of their Income over Expenditure plus a copy of the bank statement to the Electorate Council monthly meeting.
10. A probationary period should be set between the existing branch and the new branch.

Schedule 2: National Council

1. The National Council comprises the following:
 - a. the Party president and two co-vice presidents (one tāne and one wahine);
 - b. two co-leaders (one tāne and one wahine);
 - c. all Members of Parliament;
 - d. up to four council members selected by each electorate (including rangatahi and both wahine and tāne), or their substitute as determined by each electorate.
2. Nominations for president and vice-president are to be lodged with the National Secretary six weeks before an Annual General Meeting and distributed to the electorates at least four weeks before that AGM. No person shall be eligible for the office of president or vice-president unless he or she has been a member of the Māori Party for at least three years.
3. There shall be a Special General Meeting immediately following the General Election to select the Party co-leaders. Those selected shall be in office for three years.
4. If there is a vacancy during the three-year term in any of the above offices, then the National Council may appoint a person to hold office for the balance of the term.
5. There is a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities for the president and two co-vice presidents, and these roles and responsibilities will be ratified by the National Council.
6. Each Māori electorate shall be represented on the National Council. Further electorates may, from time to time, be accepted by the National Council. An Electorate Council member can be removed from the National Council by consensus of the Electorate Council.
7. The National Council shall hear all appeals from any electorate.
8. The National Council shall ratify or otherwise any decision made by the National Executive since the previous meeting.
9. All National Council policy remits must be ratified by an AGM or a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.
10. All decisions of the National Council shall be made by consensus as a customary practice, having regard to constitutional obligations and the kaupapa of the Māori Party. If the hui cannot reach consensus after full discussion of the issue, then the chairperson will ask the meeting to accept the view of the majority in the best interests of the party.
11. The National Council shall meet every two months (on the third^{3rd} Saturday of every second ^{2nd} month), and its meetings shall rotate within the Māori seat electorates.
12. The quorum for the Special General Meeting comprises of the following:
 - a. the Party President or one of the co-vice presidents;

- b. one of the co-leaders;
- c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

Schedule 3: Disciplinary and Disputes Committee

1. The National Council will select a committee of five members including the Chair of the committee.
2. The Committee shall be self-determining and to that end shall only take instructions from the whole National Council.
3. The committee shall be selected strictly from Council Members only. No other person shall hold any position within the committee, whether advisory or otherwise.
4. The committee shall take office for a period of three years but may be elected for a further term.
5. Any vacancy that occurs in the committee shall be filled by the National Council.
6. The quorum for any meeting shall be three members including the Chair. Sufficient notice must be given to enable members to attend.
7. The committee shall be chaired by one of the vice-presidents. The other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
8. In the event that a complaint is levelled at the Chair, the other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
9. Only one vice-president shall be permitted to sit on the committee at any time.
10. Any member must declare any conflict of interest. Conflicts of interest are to be declared at the start of any meetings.
11. Should the Chair declare a conflict of interest, the other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
12. The committee shall be charged to reach a resolution of the complaint and, unless there is some legal impediment, the resolution shall be final and binding.
13. The committee shall act swiftly but without undue haste to reach a resolution.
14. The resolution of the complaint shall be reported to the National Council.
15. On receipt of the resolution the National Council shall endorse the findings of the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee and notify the parties to the dispute of such a resolution.
16. The National Council may change the resolution of the complaint on points of law only.
17. All complainants shall be notified of the outcomes.

18. The committee may, at any time during its hearing, place a total media ban on anything to do with the case being heard. This will apply to all members of the party.
19. Any person breaking the media ban can be charged with “bringing the Party into disrepute”.
20. On any matter that is before the committee, no person shall engage legal counsel on behalf of the Party without the full agreement of the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.

Schedule 4: Candidate Selection Guidelines

The purpose of the candidate selection and party list process is to seek representative candidates who are credible, respected and reflective of the Maori Party values. The application of these procedures are guided by the kaupapa of the Māori Party, which comprise Part 1 of the Maori Party Constitution and will be applied in a fair, efficient and transparent manner.

The candidate selection and party list process is managed by the Maori Party National Executive (Māori Party Constitution; Part Two; Rule 8).

Any person who is a fully paid up member of the Māori Party is eligible to be nominated as a candidate in accordance with the regulations set out in the Electoral Act (Māori Party Constitution; Rule 3.5).

The principles guiding the candidate selection process are:

- consistency of process
- transparency of selection
- strategic approach to selection
- fairness, participation, reasonable notice and inclusiveness.

The goal is to ensure that the electorate and list candidates representing the Maori Party:

- Work for the benefit of all citizens of Aotearoa
- Work within the kaupapa of the Maori Party
- Have a vision of a nation of cultural diversity and richness, where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenuatanga by Maori; and
- Acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation.

1. National Council and Electorate Roles

- a) The selection of Maori constituency candidates in each of the seven Maori seats, for general election or by-election shall be managed by the National Council in consultation with the electorate chairs and the respective Maori electorate.
- b) The National Council will form a National Council Selection Panel consisting of:
 - Consistent Members**
 - A Member of the office of the President – the National Executive
 - Co-Leaders and or one of the Members of Parliament (two members in total)
 - A National Council nominee. This member shall not be of the same electorate that is selecting a candidate
 - Electorate representation**
 - Three members of the electorate that is selecting the candidate
- c) The electorate will advertise for expressions of interest to stand as a Māori Party candidate and subsequently undertake a nomination process for that electorate.
- d) The electorate will provide names and a list of ideal candidates for the constituency and party list to the National Council Selection Panel

2. Appointment to the National Council Selection Panel

- a) The party President is responsible for the appointment of 'consistent members' of the National Council Selection Panel
- b) The National Council will be responsible for electorate appointments to the selection panel
- c) All electorates are to provide the THREE names for their electorate selection panel. All names are presented to the National Secretary.
- d) Where names are not provided, the party executive (through the National Council Selection Panel) reserves the right to make a selection to the panels
- e) The chair shall be the nominee from the office of the President
- f) Where there is the possibility of four (4) panelists from the one electorate being on the same selection panel, the chairperson in discussion with the panel may organise for an alternative representative from another electorate. This will be at the discretion of the chair.

3. Responsibilities of the National Council Selection Panel

For the purposes of selecting candidates, the National Council Selection Panel shall organise with the appropriate electorates to have selection hui where the recommended short listed candidates shall be interviewed.

- a) There shall be no more than TWO selection hui where interviews will take place. The hui shall be held within the electorate at places elected and organised by the electorate itself. All financial members of the Maori Party may attend this hui.
- b) The panel shall organise appropriate tikanga and kawa for this meeting.
- c) The process shall include:
 - ii. An opportunity for the candidates to present a statement on their suitability to be a candidate as set out in the candidate profile
 - iii. An opportunity for the panel to ask questions
 - iv. An opportunity to the hui to ask questions within a structure facilitated by the chair
 - v. An opportunity for kaituara of the candidate to make a statement of support
- d) The final deliberation by the National Council Selection Panel shall take place in private and all discussions shall be confidential.
- e) A report should be provided to the National Council Selection Panel of the process applied, and decisions made. The National Council Selection Panel shall communicate the outcome of the deliberations about candidates to the National Council as soon as is practical whether they have a candidate or not.
- f) Where no shortlist has been provided or no candidate has been selected from the electorate, the National Council Selection Panel shall work with the respective electorate to consider a strategy to confirm a candidate.
- g) It is the responsibility of the National Council Selection Panel to declare a candidate for confirmation by the National Council.
- h) The National Council Selection Panel shall set the timetable for selection of all candidates.

4. Duty of Electorate Committees

- a) The National Council Selection Panel requires electorate committees in a non-election year to scout for 'potential' candidates for future candidacy selection with the approval of the National Council.
- b) It is the responsibility of the electorate to eventually compile a short list of candidates who have the necessary skills, attributes, knowledge and experience to make a positive contribution to the Maori Party campaign.
- c) Electorate secretaries shall be responsible for providing clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed including the opening and closing dates of the selection of candidates. This must be provided to the National Council Selection Panel and endorsed by them. The notice must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the nominations opening
- d) All electorate secretaries shall receive all nominations
- e) The electorate shall ensure that all of the documentation requirements are adhered to and then provided to the National Council Selection Panel through the National Secretary

5. Electorates Registering Potential Candidates

- a) Members of Maori Party electorates will be invited to register their expression of interest with an electorate committee once 'candidacy' is deemed open by the National Council Selection Panel.
- b) Potential candidates who register with the electorate committee will be sent the 'candidate profile', and a questionnaire to help them carefully consider their nomination for a Maori electorate seat.
- c) All members wishing to stand as candidates in the coming general election must be current members and reside in the electorate or returning home to the electorate.
- d) The candidate must be nominated by at least 25 Maori Party members who are prepared to act as referees.

6. Nomination Process

- a) Electorate committees shall be responsible for providing clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed including the opening and closing dates of the selection of candidates to the National Council Selection Panel. This must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the nominations opening
- b) All electorate committees shall receive all nominations
- c) There shall be hui of each electorate committee to select a short-list of candidates at which all financial members who live within the boundaries of that electorate, shall be entitled to attend and to participate in the selection of the nomination provided they are members on the date that candidate nominations open.
- d) Only financial members of the Māori Party as at the opening date of nominations can participate in the selection process

- e) In the case of Māori electorate seats, financial members of Māori descent or on the Māori roll who live within the boundaries of that electorate are eligible to participate.
- f) Where the electorate has reached a consensus as to who the nominations shall be, the name/s shall be submitted forthwith to the National secretary who will pass this list to the National Council Selection Panel for consideration.
- g) The National Council Selection Panel shall consider those nominations, make a decision on the best candidate. They will provide a recommendation to National Council and National Executive for confirmation.
- h) Where no nominations are provided to the National Council Selection Panel for a Maori seat or general seat, NCSP are authorised to act in the best interests of the party to seek a candidate for that 'electorate'.
- i) One nomination does not mean that that nomination has the candidacy as of right for that electorate. The final decision is for the National Council and the electorate committee.

7. Documentation required for Nomination

All nominations must be accompanied with:

- a) The official nomination form
- b) A declaration for internal party purposes
- c) Resume and personal profile available for circulation
- d) Police Check indicating that the candidate does not have any convictions
- e) Credit check indicating that the candidate is financially solvent
- f) A detailed list of 25 financial members of the Maori Party who have declared their support of the nomination.
- g) Confirmation that the nominee is a financial member of the Maori Party

All documentation shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the particular electorate in the first instance.

8. Candidate Profile

Those wishing to be considered as candidates to contest an election should have the following attributes:

- ✓ High profile, renowned for advocacy for Māori e.g, social justice, economic development, Whanau Ora, te reo Maori
- ✓ Background in one or more specialist areas that are of importance to the Māori Party (who defines this, a bit vague?)
- ✓ Established or existing strong public profile / brand recognition
- ✓ Experience in public office e.g, board of trustees, local government
- ✓ Experience in campaigning for a cause
- ✓ Demonstrated commitment to the kaupapa of the Maori Party
- ✓ The support of 25 signed-up members

- ✓ Has a strong team of supporters willing to provide emotional and moral support that will also be the candidate's team to support, among other activities, campaigning
- ✓ Demonstrated team-player
- ✓ Political nous
- ✓ Articulate and capable, including public speaking
- ✓ Strong personality
- ✓ A paid up financial member of the Māori Party
- ✓ Clean record
- ✓ Financial viability
- ✓ Media savvy

9. Candidate Interviews

- a) The National Council Selection Panel shall carry out interviews with candidates to determine their suitability for the role. The candidates will be interviewed to assess their support for the kaupapa of the Maori Party and to examine the candidate's commitment to the party. It is expected that electorate committees should have made checks of a candidate's background and of the referees and provide results to National Council Selection Panel before interviews progress.
- b) The National Council Selection Panel committee's decisions shall be determined by consensus. (as described in Section 5.1 of the Maori Party Constitution)
- c) Each electorate will be able to conduct an indicative poll of participants in selection hui. This decision shall be facilitated by an Electorate Chair or another designated representative.
- d) Should this happen, the voting shall be conducted by the electorate secretary or nominated representative
- e) Results of the poll shall be confidential to the National Council Selection Panel and can only be used by them on their request and can only be declared to the panel at the end of their determination of the candidate.

10. Candidates who are Officers of the Party

- a) Any member of the Maori Party who holds an elected office in an electorate or is a paid officer in any position, and is approved as a candidate, is automatically suspended from the position, until final selection is approved in the electorate by the National Council Selection Panel.
- b) The following provision shall be added to his or her nomination paper: "I agree to abstain from taking part as an officer in the Maori Party in my electorate committee for the period from the opening of the nominations until final selection is made".
- c) This rule shall not operate to preclude a candidate for selection, nor preclude he/she from being appointed as a delegate to the Maori Party National Annual Conference, nor from speaking and voting at such conference.

11. Selection of General Seat candidates

- a) The selection criteria for Maori seats shall apply to the selection of the general seat candidates
- b) Individuals, whanau or Maori electorates wishing to stand candidates in the general electorates must formalise their desire to stand in writing to the National Secretary
- c) The **National Council Selection Panel** shall consider nominations

For the purposes of this selection, the panel shall consist of

Consistent Members

- A Member of the office of the President – the National Executive
- Co-Leaders and or one of the Members of Parliament (two members in total)
- A National Council nominee. This member shall not be of the same electorate that is selecting a candidate

Electorate representation

- Three members of the electorate that is selecting the candidate

12. Sitting members

- a) Sitting Maori Party Members of Parliament are required to formally indicate in writing their wish to stand and this must be provided to the electorate committee at their request or before the AGM one year in advance of an election year. Where only one nomination has been made for selection, that nominee must be approved by the National Council Selection Panel (and therefore the National Council), even if the nomination is an existing member of parliament.
- b) The National Council Selection Panel may use its discretion to modify the level of scrutiny applied before forming a judgment as to the candidate's continuing suitability. Should it be deemed that a member is unsuitable to continue, this matter shall be referred to the National Council.

13. Candidates for List Seats

- a) All nominations for the party list shall be party members
- b) The National Council Selection Panel will submit its prioritised list to the National Council. The National Council will finalise the list based on the recommendation of the National Council Selection Panel.
- c) All electorates are able to nominate candidates for the list.
- d) All nominations must be submitted to National Council Selection Panel in a timeline that shall be circulated to electorates. The final ordered list shall be considered after the selection of all Maori seat candidates
- e) Each nomination must include the same documentation as is required for the nominations for general seats except that a list of 15 financial members who support a nomination to the list must be provided.

The National Council identifies a set of criteria to be applied in determining priorities including:

- i. skills and expertise;
- ii. gender/age;
- iii. inclusiveness; (i.e. ethnicity, sexuality, religious belief);
- iv. sector networks and credibility;
- v. mana whenua
- vi. All criteria set out for all Māori Party candidates

14. Conduct and Confidentiality of Proceedings

- a) The National Council must observe and document a process which safeguards the integrity of the overall selection process
- b) The proceedings of selection shall be confidential to the participants and each nominee is expected to extend manaakitanga towards other people by acting in ways that are mana-enhancing.
- c) Every nominee, or member of the candidate's whanau will declare any conflict of Interest, and must withdraw from any party role that may unduly influence their selection or privilege their position in the party.
- d) Every person participating including every candidate for a Maori seat or general seat shall sign an undertaking to keep the proceedings confidential. The chair of the National Council Selection Panel is authorized to report to the Electorate committees and National Council on how the interview process was conducted.
- e) National Council will ensure strict conflict of interest policies are established and complied with for the candidate selection processes to ensure neither selection processes nor do prospective candidates improperly influence the selection process.

15. Early election candidate selection process

Where an early election is called, and where there is less than three months to polling day the National Council Selection Panel may decide to use the following process as an alternative to the process set out in the first schedule:

- a) Where an early election is called, all current sitting members of Parliament will be automatically selected to stand in their electorates for that election.
- b) All other electorate candidate selections shall be completed on a date determined by the National Council Selection Panel
- c) Conditions set out in this schedule shall apply in this circumstance
- d) Where electorates are unable to complete their selection of candidates on the date determined by the National Council Selection Panel, the National Council shall have the authority to select candidates according to an agreed process.

Schedule 5: Procedures for Special General Meetings

1. A Special General Meeting may be called by the National Council at any time, or at the written request of three electorates, or by written request of at least 200 financial members, and will be held within six weeks of the lodging of the request for a Special General Meeting to the President.
2. The request shall state clearly the purpose of the meeting, in no more than 150 words, and also the desired outcome.
3. On receipt of a request for a Special General Meeting, the President shall call the meeting within 30 days from the date of receipt.
4. If the meeting is not called within the 30-day limit, the electorate/s requesting the meeting shall call such a meeting themselves, and any motion passed at such a meeting shall be binding on the Party.
5. Failure by the electorates to call the meeting within the 30-day period shall render the original request invalid.
6. The Special General Meeting will be a meeting of the National Council and membership at large.
7. Membership status will be checked by a Party Official.
8. The costs for the Special General Meeting venue shall be met by the National Council.
9. All arrangements for the Special General Meeting shall be coordinated by the National Secretary.
10. The venue for any such Special General Meeting shall be the sole responsibility of the National Executive.

11. Only matters notified in the agenda for the Special General Meeting shall be considered at the meeting.

12. Special General Meetings shall be open to all current financial members of the Party.

MĀORI PARTY CONSTITUTION

*Kia rangatira te tū a Te Pāti Māori
hei rōpū whakatinana i ngā rau wawata
o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki*

Ratified on Saturday 12 October 2019

Contents

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga	1
He Kupu Whakataki	1
Te Waihanga i te Kaupapa	1
Ngā Kaupapa o te Pāti Māori	3
Part 2: Rules	9
1. Name and Registered Office	9
2. Objectives	9
3. Membership	9
4. Party Structure	10
5. Decision-making	12
6. Annual General Meeting (Hui ā Tau)	12
7. Special General Meeting	13
8. Candidate Selection	14
9. Resolution of Differences and Disputes	15
10. Remedy	16
11. Interpretation and Alteration of Constitution	17
12. Dissolution Clause	17
Part 3: Schedules	18
Schedule 1: Electorates and Branches	18
Schedule 2: National Council	20
Schedule 3: Disciplinary and Disputes Committee	22
Schedule 4: Candidate Selection Guidelines	24
Schedule 5: Procedures for Special General Meetings	31

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga

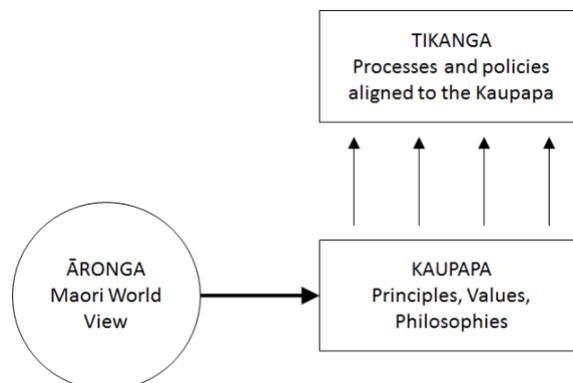
He Kupu Whakataki

The Māori Party is born of the dreams and aspirations of tangata whenua to achieve self-determination for whānau, hapū and iwi within their own land; to speak with a strong, independent and united voice; and to live according to kaupapa handed down by our ancestors.

The vision for the Māori Party will be based on these aspirations, for they speak to us of whānau whose wairua is strong and vibrant; who have fully developed their spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical well-being; and who are confident, secure and proactive in all aspects of the environmental, social, cultural, economic and political life of this great country of ours.

The Māori Party is for all citizens of Aotearoa New Zealand.

- Its founding was an initiative of Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea, for the benefit of all citizens of this land.
- Its policies and practices derive from kaupapa tuku iho that are values that provide for the well-being of all and are in a constant state of enrichment and refinement as insights are gathered from new experiences and discoveries.
- Its vision is of a nation of cultural diversity and richness where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenuatanga by Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea.
- Its commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation and to its whakapapa is steadfast.



Te Waihanga i te Kaupapa

The Māori view of the world is described through pūrākau, karakia, mōteatea, whakataukī, whakapapa and many other puna kōrero. Kaupapa Māori is the foundation of Māori culture and is derived from this Māori world view. Growing from within the kaupapa are our tikanga,

like the trees that spring from Papatūānuku. The tikanga are the policies, practices and organisational structures of the Party that are aligned to and consistent with the foundation kaupapa, and will benefit not only Māori but all those people who lay claim to this country as their homeland.

To achieve its vision, the Māori Party's existence will be based on kaupapa Māori, the foundation principles of the Māori world, and the bedrock from which we frame the objectives of the organisation. The Māori Party will demonstrate tikanga consistent with kaupapa Māori.

Ngā Kaupapa o te Pāti Māori

The following kaupapa and tikanga, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori world view and help us define and maintain the Party's focus and structure. These kaupapa can be framed as the objectives of the organisation, with various tikanga covering policies, operations, and organisational structures emanating from these kaupapa.

1. **Manaakitanga**

Manaakitanga is behaviour that acknowledges the mana of others as having equal or greater importance than one's own, through the expression of aroha, hospitality, generosity and mutual respect. By such behaviour, all parties are elevated and our status is enhanced, building unity through humility and the act of giving. The Party must endeavour to express manaakitanga towards others – be they political allies or opponents, Māori or non-Māori organisations – taking care not to trample mana, while clearly defining our own.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Manaakitanga

- i. To be recognised by Māori as a political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori.
- ii. To ensure that relationships between the Party and whānau, hapū, iwi, and other Māori organisations are elevating and enhancing.
- iii. To promote a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is important.
- iv. To ensure that members agree to work together, treat each other with respect, and act with integrity in their party work.
- v. To involve all peoples in the process of rebuilding our nation based on mutual respect and harmonious relationships.

2. **Rangatiratanga**

Rangatiratanga is the expression of the attributes of a rangatira (weaving the people together) including humility, leadership by example, generosity, altruism, diplomacy,

and knowledge of benefit to the people. As an organisation, the importance of *walking the talk*, following through on commitments made, integrity and honesty is demonstrated. As a people, rangatiratanga is reflected in the promotion of self-determination for Māori, and an expression of the rights defined by Mana Atua, Mana Tupuna and Mana Whenua.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Rangatiratanga

- i. To recognise and acknowledge the authority of whānau, hapū and iwi in their respective electorates.
- ii. To enhance the relationship between Tino Rangatiratanga and Kāwanatanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- iii. To promote the retention of separate seats for Māori in the Parliament of New Zealand, and to select suitable persons to represent the Māori Party in Māori constituencies, in agreed General constituencies, and as List Candidates for the Party.
- iv. To assert and confirm the role of Māori as tangata whenua.
- v. To promote Māori self-determination through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team.
- vi. To acknowledge, nurture, support and reflect rangatiratanga within the Party and other Māori organisations.
- vii. To ensure that the conduct and activities of the parliamentary team, leaders, and the organisation as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira.

3. Whanaungatanga

Whanaungatanga underpins the social organisation of whānau, hapū and iwi and includes rights and reciprocal obligations consistent with being part of a collective. It is the principle that binds individuals to the wider group and affirms the value of the collective. Whanaungatanga is inter-dependence with each other and recognition that the people are our wealth.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Whanaungatanga

- i. To promote and contribute to the survival of Māori as a people.
- ii. To promote respect for all cultures and ensure all people have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua.
- iii. To encourage relationships between whānau, hapū, iwi, other Māori organisations and the Party that reflect interdependence.
- iv. To promote whanaungatanga as the model for good collective arrangements between different parties.

4. Kotahitanga

Kotahitanga is the principle of unity of purpose and direction. It is demonstrated through the achievement of harmony and moving as one. All are encouraged to make a contribution, to have their say and then, together, to reach a consensus. The Party will promote harmonious relationships between all people.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Kotahitanga

- i. To consistently work for unity among Māori people.
- ii. To avoid taking decisions and approaches that lead to division and disharmony within the organisation.
- iii. To establish a parliamentary team that can work together and are committed to speaking with a single voice on behalf of Māori.
- iv. To promote harmonious and cooperative relationships amongst all people.
- v. To promote nationhood based upon knowledge of a shared heritage and an understanding and celebration of cultural distinctiveness.

5. Wairuatanga

This is reflected in the belief that there is a spiritual existence alongside the physical. It is expressed through the intimate connection of the people to our maunga, awa, moana and marae, and to tūpuna and atua. These connections are affirmed through knowledge and understanding of atua Māori and must be maintained and nourished with the aim of achieving wellness. It is central to the everyday lives of Māori people and is integral to the way Māori view the world.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Wairuatanga

- i. To encourage, maintain, and promote spiritual identity and connection with the land.
- ii. To break down secular and non-secular divisions and promote a unified and holistic approach to life.
- iii. To develop within the organisation an environment that nourishes and nurtures wairua.
- iv. To promote the importance of oranga wairua for Māori well-being.

6. Mana Whenua

Mana whenua is the principle that defines Māori by the land occupied by right of ancestral claim. It defines tūrangawaewae and ūkaipō, the places where you belong, where you count, where you are important and where you can contribute. Mana whenua is essential for Māori well-being. The places Māori find ourselves, our

strength, our energy are where Māori have mana whenua. Once grounded to the land and home, Māori are able to participate in society in a positive, productive manner.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Mana Whenua

- i. To ensure that the Party is of the Māori people.
- ii. To assist Māori to establish and maintain their connections to their own land.
- iii. To develop arrangements that foster the values of ūkaipō, of importance, belonging, and contribution within the organisation.
- iv. To develop a parliamentary team that will take advice and guidance from Māori in the first instance.
- v. To promote mana whenua as the basis for land management policies.

7. Kaitiakitanga

Kaitiakitanga embraces the spiritual and cultural guardianship of Te Ao Mārama, a responsibility derived from whakapapa. Kaitiakitanga entails an active exercise of responsibility in a manner beneficial to resources and the welfare of the people. It promotes the growth and development of the Māori people in all spheres of livelihood so that Māori can anticipate a future of living in good health and in reasonable prosperity. Preserving and maintaining the Party so it can continue to fulfil its functions and duties is implicit within this kaupapa.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Kaitiakitanga

- i. To promote the achievement of wellness and well-being for Māori.
- ii. To foster and promote sustainable management and growth of the economy so as to provide a stable and secure environment for future generations.
- iii. To create a clean, safe, and healthy environment by promoting the protection, restoration, and enhancement of mauri within our natural environments.

8. Mana Tupuna/Whakapapa

Mana Tupuna is that which defines who Māori are as people. It is the bridge that links us to our ancestors, that defines our heritage and gives us the stories which define our place in the world. Mana Tupuna helps us know who we are, from whom we descend, and what our obligations are to those who come after us. This is achieved through the recital of whakapapa, tracing the descent from Te Kore to Te Pō and, eventually, through to Te Ao Mārama. Whakapapa is also a tool utilised in analysing and synthesising information and knowledge.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Whakapapa

- i. To encourage the view that all Māori are related, leading towards co-operation and unity.
- ii. To support endeavours by Māori to establish and maintain our whanau, hapū, and iwi connections and continue our positive contribution to wider society.
- iii. To promote whakapapa as a tool for analysis and synthesis within the research activity of the Party.

9. Te Reo Rangatira

*Ki te kore tātou e kōrero Māori, ka ngaro te reo, Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro ngā tikanga.
Ka ngaro ngā tikanga, ka ngaro tātou ki te Ao. Ko te reo te kaipupuri i te Māoritanga.*

Te Reo Māori is the cornerstone of all that is Māori. Accelerating the revival of te reo Māori is a central focus of the Māori Party. Te reo Māori is the medium through which Māori explain the world. The survival of the people as Māori, and the uniqueness of Māori as a race, will be enhanced through the maintenance of te reo Māori.

Tikanga of the Māori Party derived from Te Reo Rangatira

- i. To ensure the revitalisation of te reo Māori.
- ii. To promote wider recognition of te reo Māori as the first and official language of the country.
- iii. To promote the development and growth of te reo Māori both as the indigenous language of this country and also as the appropriate language to carry Māori knowledge and contemporary Māori customs.
- iv. To promote mātauranga Māori pathways that are of benefit to the people and lead to our advancement.
- v. To provide for research and development that leads to the advancement of mātauranga Māori and ensures the survival of the people as Māori.
- vi. To provide opportunities to encourage bi-literacy in our society.

Part 2: Rules

1. Name and Registered Office

- 1.1. The name of the party shall be the 'Māori Party' (the Party).
- 1.2. The Party shall be a political party and shall maintain registration in terms of S.63 of The Electoral Act 1993 and its subsequent amendments.
- 1.3. The registered office of the Māori Party shall be determined by the National Council.

2. Objectives

- 2.1. To acknowledge and fulfil the kaupapa and tikanga set out in this constitution.
- 2.2. To develop and implement the party policy manifesto consistent with the kaupapa.
- 2.3. To honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- 2.4. To maintain registration under the Electoral Act 1993 in the name of the Māori Party, whose Constitution shall be this document.

3. Membership

- 3.1. The Māori Party is an all-inclusive and broad-based political movement and accepts membership from any persons of 13 years of age and older who:
 - a. work to support the Māori Party kaupapa and tikanga;
 - b. act within the Māori Party constitution;
 - c. abide by lawful decisions made in accordance with the Māori Party constitution;
 - d. complete the official membership form and pay the appropriate membership fee as fixed by the National Council;
 - e. are not members of a competing political party, or any other group or organisation which the National Council determines is incompatible with membership of the Party.
- 3.2. Members aged 13–17 years are non-voting Junior Members.
- 3.3. The membership is established by the National Council and reviewed on an annual basis.
- 3.4. Membership of the Party will be from 1 July to 30 June the following financial year and shall take effect from the date stated on the official Māori Party receipt. Membership of the Party shall be considered confirmed when the registration

details and the membership fee have been processed by the National Treasurer. Electorate Treasurers shall make every effort to process all memberships within a reasonable timeframe.

Financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in all Māori Party activities.

- 3.5. Any person who is a member of the Māori Party on the date at the opening of nominations for the selection of a Parliamentary candidate shall be entitled to participate in decision-making for the local electorate candidate and local list recommendations.
- 3.6. The National Council may cancel any membership that the Council believes does not meet the criteria outlined in clause 3.1. The member shall be advised in writing of the decision. The member may appeal that decision at the next national hui of the Party, where the decision shall be final.
- 3.7. A person shall cease to be a member of the Māori Party:
 - a. when their resignation is received by the National Council;
 - b. when they cease to accept or abide by this Constitution;
 - c. when they die;
 - d. when they have not paid their membership fee for a period of more than 6 months beyond the due date for payment of the fee; or
 - e. if and when they join a competing political party.

4. Party Structure

- 4.1. The structure of the Party shall reflect the aspirations of its membership as expressed through the Party's kaupapa (refer to Part 1 of this Constitution).
- 4.2. Branches and electorates shall provide the opportunity for members to have input into the direction and growth of the Party, including campaign strategies, policies, fundraising, and the selection and election of candidates.
- 4.3. The Māori Party's Members of Parliament shall promote the aspirations of its membership.
- 4.4. The National Council shall have representation from each electorate and the Members of Parliament.
- 4.5. The President is responsible for the leadership of the Party and shall uphold the Party's constitution in the exercise of that leadership.

Electorates¹

- 4.6. An electorate shall be defined by the electorate boundaries as set out in the Electoral Act 1993.
- 4.7. The activities and business of each electorate shall be organised as each electorate

¹ The structures and responsibilities of electorates and branches are detailed in Schedule 1 of this constitution.

decides and shall, at all times, be consistent with the Party's kaupapa.

- 4.8. It shall be incumbent on all electorates:
- a. to keep all branches informed of all Party matters;
 - b. to keep the Party informed on all electorate matters through the National Council and/or the National Executive in accordance with Schedule 2;
 - c. to manage the selection and election of a candidate to contest each General Election;
 - d. to, on election, support the Member of Parliament.

Branches²

- 4.9. In each electorate district there shall be one or more branches authorised by the electorate. Each branch must have a minimum membership of ten (10) financial members of the Party who shall be responsible for the internal organisation of the branch consistent with the Party's kaupapa. In entering into any contract, or otherwise taking any other action, the branches shall not hold themselves out or represent themselves as acting with the authority of the Party without appropriate authorisation of the National Council and/or the National Executive.
- 4.10. Any person wishing to set up a new branch must get the electorate's permission. No branch shall be refused establishment without just cause.
- 4.11. Any persons living overseas wishing to establish a branch must affiliate to an electorate of their choice.

National Council³

- 4.12. The National Council provides leadership according to the Party's kaupapa (refer to Part 1 of this constitution), and deals with the fundamental running of the Party.
- 4.13. The National Council is the governing body of the Party outside of an Annual General Meeting, and to this effect the National Council shall meet at least every second month.
- 4.14. The National Council must establish an annual national plan and approve an annual budget that enables the national plan to be achieved. The National Council will delegate authority to the National Executive to expend within the approved annual budget in order to carry out the national plan. Appointment of any staff will require the presentation of a business case to the National Council for approval prior to any appointments being made. The process of appointment must be consistent with the kaupapa of the Māori Party.

² The National Council's structure and responsibilities are detailed in Schedule 2 of this constitution.

National Executive

- 4.15. The management of the Māori Party is determined by the National Council and delegated to the National Executive. The delegated authority shall be determined between the National Council and the National Executive. All decisions of the National Executive must be ratified by the National Council at their next hui.
- 4.16. The National Executive consists of the Party's president, the two co-vice presidents (one tāne and one wahine), and the two co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament).
- 4.17. Further to 4.14, the National Executive shall be authorised to appoint from time to time, on the recommendation of the President, suitable members of the Party to be:
- a. General Manager. The General Manager will have the role of chief administrative officer of the Party, on terms and conditions approved by the National Executive, and will be accountable directly to the President for administrative and financial control of the Party.
 - b. National Secretary, to record the proceedings of the National Council and the National Executive, and to be responsible to the General Manager for such other administrative duties as the General Manager may prescribe;
 - c. National Treasurer, to be responsible to the General Manager for the maintenance of the financial records of the Party to standards required by the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, to establish and maintain such bank accounts as the National Executive may from time to time approve, to receipt and bank all monies paid to the Party, to be a co-signatory of cheques or other payment instruments paid from the Party's bank accounts together with such other member or members of the Party as the National Executive may appoint for co-signing, and to be responsible for the preparation of annual accounts for audit by registered auditors appointed by the National Council.

The General Manager, National Secretary and National Treasurer shall be ex officio members of the National Executive, and without voting rights.

5. Decision-making

- 5.1. All decisions of the Māori Party shall be made by consensus, consistent with the customary practice of whakawhitiwhiti kōrero, and having regard to constitutional and kaupapa obligations of the Māori Party. If the hui cannot reach consensus after full discussion of the issue, then the chairperson of the hui will ask the meeting to accept the view of the majority in the best interests of the Party.
- 5.2. Those who do not agree with the majority decision may have their objections included in any minutes recorded for the hui.

6. Annual General Meeting (Hui ā Tau)

- 6.1. The Party shall annually hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM), Hui ā Tau. Such hui shall be held no later than six (6) months after the financial year ends at a place and time approved by the National Council and notified to the membership of the Party not less than two (2) calendar months prior to the Hui ā Tau being held. The business of this meeting shall be:
- a. receiving National Council, Electorate, and any other reports;
 - b. receiving the audited financial accounts of the Party for the previous financial year;
 - c. amending, cancelling or adding any Party rule;
 - d. considering and accepting policies prepared by the National Council or an electorate;
 - e. receiving, considering and acting upon any other remits not inconsistent with this constitution from the National Council or an electorate;
 - f. appointing the auditor;
 - g. such other matters necessary for the carrying out of Party activities.
- 6.2. The election of the president and co-vice presidents shall occur on a rotational, triennial basis.
- 6.3. All remits must first be passed by the electorate committees, who shall forward them to the National Council at least six (6) weeks before the AGM (Hui ā Tau).
- 6.4. All decisions made at the AGM (Hui ā Tau) will be made consistent with Section 5 of this constitution: Decision-making.
- 6.5. The quorum for the AGM (Hui ā Tau) comprises of the following:
- a. the Party President or one of the co-vice presidents;
 - b. one of the co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament); and
 - c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

7. Special General Meeting

- 7.1. Special General Meetings can be called by the National Council for:
- d. the election of the Party's co-leaders;
 - e. extraordinary matters that require consideration.
- 7.2. The procedures for Special General Meetings are detailed in Schedule 5 of this constitution.

7.3 The election of the Party's co-leaders:

Where required, there shall be a Special General Meeting within six (6) weeks of a General Election to select the Party's co-leaders. The co-leaders will be selected from the sitting Members of Parliament and one will be tāne and one will be wahine. In the event that the co-leadership criteria cannot be met, the National Council may appoint a co-leader who sits outside of Parliament.

Those selected shall be in office for three years. The leadership may change at any time through:

- a. resignation;
- b. death;
- c. bringing the Party into disrepute in accordance with the Resolution of Differences and Disputes clause;
- d. resolution at a Special General Meeting.

7.4 The quorum for the Special General Meeting comprises of the following:

- a. the Party President or one of the co-vice presidents;
- b. one of the co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament);
- c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

8. Candidate Selection

- 8.1. Electorates organise their own processes to find their own candidates that meet the criteria set out in Schedule 4.
- 8.2. The National Executive will select a member to observe the process as an independent facilitator of the Candidate Selection Hui.
- 8.3. These processes shall be submitted to the National Council or its delegated subcommittee at least six (6) weeks before nominations open and they must be confirmed by that committee at least one (1) calendar month before nominations open.
- 8.4. Every process must ensure that:
 - a. sufficient checks and safeguards are carried out to ensure all prospective candidates fulfil the candidate criteria, and any risks are mitigated;
 - b. input that provides a national overview of the prospective candidates, assists the electorate with their decision-making, and provides external points to consider is received from the National Council or its delegated subcommittee;
 - c. the process upholds and safeguards the kaupapa of the Māori Party and enables all electorate members to have input into the final decision;
 - d. the declaration of any conflicts of interest between a candidate and those within the Party ensures that improper influence in the selection process is likewise avoided.

- 8.5. Any disputes will be taken to the National Council.
- 8.6. When the electorate has reached a decision as to who should be the candidate, this person's name shall be submitted forthwith to the National Council.
- 8.7. The Electorate shall provide a written report to National Council on the process confirming or otherwise that the process has met all selection criteria according to the constitution and Kaupapa of the Māori Party.
- 8.8. The National Council shall immediately either confirm the nomination or provide a written explanation as to why the National Council believes the nomination may not be in the best interests of the Party and requires further consideration by the Electorate. The National Council shall meet with the electorate and resolve a way forward.

9. Resolution of Differences and Disputes

- 9.1. There shall be three types of disputes:
 - a. Serious Disputes shall be those disputes that deal with:
 - i. misuse of Party funds for personal gain;
 - ii. bringing the Party into disrepute, by any abuse, slugging, or misuse of any media or verbal statements that can or would be injurious to the general welfare and well-being of the Party or its members as a whole.
 - b. Non-serious Disputes shall be those disputes that deal with other matters that do not involve Party funds and that can generally be settled at local electorate level by the parties involved.
 - c. Judicial Disputes shall be those disputes dealing with matters such as the candidate selection process. These will become judicial in nature, and will be settled in court.
- 9.2. Disciplinary action may be brought against a member who:
 - a. refuses to comply with this constitution;
 - b. improperly deals with any Party funds;
 - c. in any other way willfully brings the Party or its members into public disrepute.
- 9.3. All members agree to work together to support the Constitution of the Party and act according to the kaupapa at all times (refer to Part 1 of this constitution). Differences that may arise from time to time shall be resolved at the earliest opportunity by those involved.
- 9.4. Differences that cannot be resolved by the individuals involved shall be heard by the relevant Electorate Council.
- 9.5. A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the relevant Electorate Council. If it cannot be resolved at this level, it shall be referred to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the

- 9.6. National Council who shall act swiftly and with discretion to seek resolution of the matter and to see that the dispute is resolved on the basis of the kaupapa of the Party.
- 9.7. Should the Electorate Council not be able to deal with any dispute then that council shall refer the dispute to the National Council.
- 9.8. No member shall be permitted to refer a complaint directly to the National Council unless that complaint is directly against the Electorate Council, in which case the complaint will be directed immediately to the Party President.
- 9.9. Should a complaint be directed immediately to the Party President then, on receipt of such a complaint, the President shall first of all satisfy him- or herself that the complaint is:
 - a. a legitimate complaint;
 - b. not a serious complaint.
- 9.10. The President may, at his or her discretion, settle the complaint, or he or she may forward the complaint to the National Council for resolution. Such complaints shall not be referred to the Disputes and Disciplinary Committee.
- 9.11. Should an electorate receive a serious complaint it shall immediately attempt to bring the complaint to a resolution. Failing a satisfactory resolution, the Electorate Council shall forward the complaint to the National President, stating that the matter is of a serious nature and that the Electorate Council requests the intervention of the National Council.
- 9.12. The Electorate Council, having already tried for resolution and failed, may send the complaint directly to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.
- 9.13. On receipt of the complaint the following steps shall be taken:
 - a. The National President shall immediately notify both the electorates and the parties concerned in the dispute.
 - b. Notification shall be by phone call or by Tracked Post.
 - c. Nothing further will be done until the President has received advice that all parties have received their notification.
 - d. After receiving the information that all parties have been notified, the President shall inform the National Council;
- 9.14. On receipt of a serious complaint, the National Council shall either send the complaint back to the Electorate Council or send the complaint on to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.
- 9.15. The Disciplinary and Disputes Committee's structure and responsibilities are outlined in Schedule 3.
- 9.16. Confidential non-disclosure: All members of the Māori Party must undertake not to disclose to any person, or make use of any information, document or material of a personal nature that may embarrass the Party or has the potential to bring it into dispute. This includes the media or any other political party.
- 9.17. Protected Disclosures

Any Māori Party member who wishes to make a protected disclosure should do so as follows:

The Māori Party member or persons should submit the disclosure in writing to either the electorate or the National Council, depending on the seriousness of the disclosure. The disclosure should contain detailed information including the following:

- the nature of the disclosure;
- the name/s of the person/s involved;
- surrounding facts, including details relating to the time and or place of the incident if known or relevant.

10. Remedy

- 10.1. Any member who is found to have been in breach of section 3, 3.1, bullet points a- e, or is found guilty of a serious complaint other than the misuse of Party funds for personal gain, shall have their membership revoked under section 3.7.
- 10.2. Any member who is found guilty of misusing Party funds shall be immediately expelled from the Party.

11. Interpretation and Alteration of Constitution

- 11.1. The Constitution is made up of Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga, Part 2: Rules, and Part 3: Schedules. All parts of the constitution are equally binding on the membership.
- 11.2. The Constitution may be amended, added to, or rescinded by resolution of the AGM (Hui ā Tau) of the Party or a Special General Meeting convened for such purpose.
- 11.3. The National Council shall give notice to all groups of the proposed alteration/addition or rescission not less than one (1) calendar month prior to the AGM or Special General Meeting of the Party at which it is proposed to be moved.
- 11.4. No alteration to the object clauses (section 2), or the dissolution clause (section 12) shall be made without the prior written approval of the Inland Revenue Department.

12. Dissolution Clause

- 12.1. At a duly constituted AGM (Hui ā Tau) or a Special General Meeting, the Māori Party may resolve by majority resolution that the Party be dissolved as from the date named in the resolution. The Party may also, by such resolution, direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of the Māori Party after its dissolution.

- 12.2. Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose, and held not earlier than one (1) calendar month after the date on which the first resolution was passed, the Party shall be dissolved.
- 12.3. A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission, the Registrar of Incorporated Societies, and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of the Māori Party shall, upon dissolution, be transferred to such political or other organisations within New Zealand having objectives similar to those of the Māori Party, as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or, in default, as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the National Council.

Part 3: Schedules

Schedule 1: Electorates and Branches

Electoralates

1. Each electorate shall determine its own quorum and that for its branches.
2. In keeping all branches informed of all Party matters, each electorate shall call an electorate meeting at least quarterly. At such meetings voting and speaking rights shall be restricted to financial members.
3. Each electorate shall hold an annual hui of financial members. The Annual General Meeting will elect officers, deal with any remits sent by branches, and receive the annual report from the chairperson/s and the treasurer/s.
4. Each electorate shall have an Electorate Council that shall be responsible for all party activities in the Electorate.
5. The officers of each electorate (that is the chairpersons, secretaries and treasurers) plus up to three elected members from each branch shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the electorate.
6. At each annual hui three National Council members and their substitutes shall be selected as defined in clause 4.4. The Electorate Committee shall determine the criteria required for members to represent the electorate on the National Council.
7. All decisions of the Electorate Council shall be made in accordance with clause 5.1.
8. When hosting a National Council hui, each electorate shall be responsible for the setting up and payment of all accounts for each meeting. Each electorate will ensure that the fees for their elected representatives are paid for by their electorate. It shall be the responsibility of the host electorate to collect fees from attendees other than electorate representatives. Any person failing to pay their just dues may not take an active part in that hui.
9. The selection and election of an electorate candidate shall be done in a manner prescribed by the Electorate Council in accordance with the Candidate Selection policy. It shall also be incumbent upon the electorate to raise the necessary funds for their candidate's election campaign, and it must be carried out in accordance with the Electoral Act, accepting that each candidate may select his or her own campaign managers. It shall be incumbent on these managers to, at all times, work with and for the Electorate Council.

Branches

1. Each branch shall be represented on its Electorate Council by up to three (3) financial members – one tāne, one wahine, one rangatahi. Any changes should immediately be brought to the notice of the Electorate Secretary, accompanied by the branch minutes showing such changes.
2. Each branch shall have an executive comprising Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of seven other members.
3. Each branch shall ensure proper financial systems and controls.
4. Each branch shall record and keep accurate minutes of its branch hui.
5. Branches may be established subject to electorate approval.
6. Every such branch authorized by the Electorate Council shall enrol members into the Party.
7. They shall also fundraise and pay all such dues and levies that may from time to time be imposed by the Electorate Council or by the National Council.
8. Each branch shall have a cheque account for which there must be a minimum of two signatures but no two signatures from the same household.
9. Branches must send a copy of their Income over Expenditure plus a copy of the bank statement to the Electorate Council monthly meeting.
10. A probationary period should be set between the existing branch and the new branch.

Schedule 2: National Council

1. The National Council comprises the following:
 - a. the Party president and two co-vice presidents (one tāne and one wahine);
 - b. two co-leaders (one tāne and one wahine);
 - c. all Members of Parliament;
 - d. up to four council members selected by each electorate (including rangatahi and both wahine and tāne), or their substitute as determined by each electorate.
2. Nominations for president and vice-president are to be lodged with the National Secretary six (6) weeks before an Annual General Meeting and distributed to the electorates at least one (1) calendar month before that AGM. No person shall be eligible for the office of president or vice-president unless he or she has been a member of the Māori Party for at least three years.
3. There shall be a Special General Meeting within six (6) weeks following the General Election to select the Party co-leaders, if required. Those selected shall be in office for three years.
4. If there is a vacancy during the three-year term in any of the above offices, then the National Council may appoint a person to hold office for the balance of the term.
5. There is a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities for the president and two co-vice presidents, and these roles and responsibilities will be ratified by the National Council.
6. Each Māori electorate shall be represented on the National Council. Further electorates may, from time to time, be accepted by the National Council. An Electorate Council member can be removed from the National Council by consensus of the Electorate Council.
7. The National Council shall hear all appeals from any electorate.
8. The National Council shall ratify or otherwise any decision made by the National Executive since the previous meeting.
9. All National Council policy remits must be ratified by an AGM or a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.

10. All decisions of the National Council shall be made by consensus as a customary practice, having regard to constitutional obligations and the kaupapa of the Māori Party. If the hui cannot reach consensus after full discussion of the issue, then the chairperson will ask the meeting to accept the view of the majority in the best interests of the party.
11. The National Council shall meet every two (2) months, and its meetings shall rotate within the Māori seat electorates.
12. The quorum for the Special General Meeting comprises of the following:
 - a. the Party President or one of the co-vice presidents;
 - b. one of the co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament);
 - c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

Schedule 3: Disciplinary and Disputes Committee

1. The National Council will select a committee of five members, including the Chair of the committee.
2. The Committee shall be self-determining and to that end shall only take instructions from the whole National Council.
3. The committee shall be selected strictly from Council Members only. No other person shall hold any position within the committee, whether advisory or otherwise.
4. The committee shall take office for a period of three years but may be elected for a further term.
5. Any vacancy that occurs in the committee shall be filled by the National Council.
6. The quorum for any meeting shall be three members including the Chair. Sufficient notice must be given to enable members to attend.
7. The committee shall be chaired by one of the vice-presidents. The other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
8. In the event that a complaint is levelled at the Chair, the other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
9. Only one vice-president shall be permitted to sit on the committee at any time.
10. Any member must declare any conflict of interest. Conflicts of interest are to be declared at the start of any meetings.
11. Should the Chair declare a conflict of interest, the other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
12. The committee shall be charged to reach a resolution of the complaint and, unless there is some legal impediment, the resolution shall be final and binding.
13. The committee shall act swiftly but without undue haste to reach a resolution.
14. The resolution of the complaint shall be reported to the National Council.
15. On receipt of the resolution the National Council shall endorse the findings of the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee and notify the parties to the dispute of such a resolution.
16. The National Council may change the resolution of the complaint on points of law only.

17. All complainants shall be notified of the outcomes.
18. The committee may, at any time during its hearing, place a total media ban on anything to do with the case being heard. This will apply to all members of the party.
19. Any person breaking the media ban can be charged with “bringing the Party into disrepute”.
20. On any matter that is before the committee, no person shall engage legal counsel on behalf of the Party without the full agreement of the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.

Schedule 4: Candidate Selection Guidelines

The purpose of the candidate selection and party list process is to seek representative candidates who are credible, respected and reflective of the Māori Party values. The application of these procedures are guided by the kaupapa of the Māori Party, which comprise Part 1 of the Māori Party Constitution and will be applied in a fair, efficient and transparent manner.

The candidate selection and party list process is managed by the Māori Party National Executive (Māori Party Constitution; Part Two; Rule 8).

Any person who is a fully paid up member of the Māori Party is eligible to be nominated as a candidate in accordance with the regulations set out in the Electoral Act (Māori Party Constitution; Rule 3.5).

The principles guiding the candidate selection process are:

- consistency of process
- transparency of selection
- strategic approach to selection
- fairness, participation, reasonable notice and inclusiveness.

The goal is to ensure that the electorate and list candidates representing the Māori Party:

- Work for the benefit of all citizens of Aotearoa
- Work within the kaupapa of the Māori Party
- Have a vision of a nation of cultural diversity and richness, where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenuatanga by Māori; and
- Acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation.

1. National Council and Electorate Roles

- a) The selection of Māori constituency candidates in each of the seven Māori seats, for general election or by-election shall be managed by the National Council in consultation with the electorate chairs and the respective Māori electorate.
- b) The National Council will select a National Executive member to observe the process as an independent facilitator of the Candidate Selection Hui.
- c) The electorate will advertise for expressions of interest to stand as a Māori Party candidate and subsequently undertake a nomination process for that electorate.
- d) The electorate will provide names and a list of ideal candidates for the constituency and party list to the National Council.

For the purposes of selecting candidates, the Electorate shall organise with the National Executive representative to have selection hui where the recommended short listed candidates shall be interviewed.

- a) There shall be no more than TWO selection hui where interviews will take place. The hui shall be held within the electorate at places elected and organised by the electorate itself. All financial members of the Māori Party may attend this hui.
- b) The panel shall organise appropriate tikanga and kawa for this meeting.
- c) The process shall include:
 - ii. An opportunity for the candidates to present a statement on their suitability to be a candidate as set out in the candidate profile
 - iii. An opportunity for the panel to ask questions
 - iv. An opportunity to the hui to ask questions within a structure facilitated by the chair
 - v. An opportunity for kaituara of the candidate to make a statement of support
- d) The final deliberation by the Electorate shall take place without the candidate/s.
- e) A report should be provided to the National Executive of the process applied, and decisions made. The National Executive shall communicate the outcome of the deliberations about candidates to the National Council as soon as is practical whether they have a candidate or not.
- f) Where no shortlist has been provided or no candidate has been selected from the electorate, the National Executive shall work with the respective electorate to consider a strategy to confirm a candidate.
- g) It is the responsibility of the National Executive to declare a candidate for confirmation by the National Council.
- h) The National Council shall set the timetable for selection of all candidates.

2. Duty of Electorate Committees

- a) The National Council requires electorate committees in a non- election year to scout for 'potential' candidates for future candidacy selection with the approval of the National Council.
- b) It is the responsibility of the electorate to eventually compile a short list of candidates who have the necessary skills, attributes, knowledge and experience to make a positive contribution to the Māori Party campaign.
- c) Electorate secretaries shall be responsible for providing clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed including the opening and closing dates of the selection of candidates. This must be provided to the National Council and endorsed by them. The notice must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the nominations opening
- d) All electorate secretaries shall receive all nominations
- e) The electorate shall ensure that all of the documentation requirements are adhered to and then provided to the National Council through the National Secretary

3. Electorates Registering Potential Candidates

- a) Members of Māori Party electorates will be invited to register their expression of interest with an electorate committee once 'candidacy' is deemed open by the National Council.
- b) Potential candidates who register with the electorate committee will be sent the 'candidate profile', and a questionnaire to help them carefully consider their nomination for a Māori electorate seat.
- c) All members wishing to stand as candidates in the coming general election must be current members and reside in the electorate or returning home to the electorate.
- d) The candidate must be nominated by at least 25 Māori Party members who are prepared to act as referees.

4. Nomination Process

- a) Electorate committees shall be responsible for providing clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed including the opening and closing dates of the selection of candidates to the National Council. This must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the nominations opening
- b) All electorate committees shall receive all nominations
- c) There shall be hui of each electorate committee to select a short-list of candidates at which all financial members who live within the boundaries of that electorate, shall be entitled to attend and to participate in the selection of the nomination provided they are members on the date that candidate nominations open.
- d) Only financial members of the Māori Party as at the opening date of nominations can participate in the selection process
- e) In the case of Māori electorate seats, financial members of Māori descent or on the Māori roll who live within the boundaries of that electorate are eligible to participate.
- f) Where the electorate has reached a consensus as to who the nominations shall be, an agreed national process will be followed.
- g) The electorate shall consider those nominations, make a decision on the best candidate. They will provide a recommendation to National Council and National Executive for confirmation.
- h) Where no nominations are provided to the National Council for a Māori seat or general seat, the National Council are authorised to act in the best interests of the party to seek a candidate for that 'electorate'.
- i) One nomination does not mean that that nomination has the candidacy as of right for that electorate. The final decision is for the National Council and the electorate committee.

5. Documentation required for Nomination

All nominations must be accompanied with:

- a) The official nomination form
- b) A declaration for internal party purposes
- c) Resume and personal profile available for circulation
- d) Police Check indicating that the candidate does not have any convictions
- e) Credit check indicating that the candidate is financially solvent
- f) A detailed list of 25 financial members of the Māori Party who have declared their support of the nomination.
- g) Confirmation that the nominee is a financial member of the Māori Party

All documentation shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the particular electorate in the first instance.

6. Candidate Profile

Those wishing to be considered as candidates to contest an election should have the following attributes:

- ✓ High profile, renowned for advocacy for Māori e.g, social justice, economic development, Whanau Ora, te reo Māori
- ✓ Background in one or more specialist areas that are of importance to the Māori Party (who defines this, a bit vague?)
- ✓ Established or existing strong public profile / brand recognition
- ✓ Experience in public office e.g, board of trustees, local government
- ✓ Experience in campaigning for a cause
- ✓ Demonstrated commitment to the kaupapa of the Māori Party
- ✓ The support of 25 signed-up members
- ✓ Has a strong team of supporters willing to provide emotional and moral support that will also be the candidate's team to support, among other activities, campaigning
- ✓ Demonstrated team-player
- ✓ Political nous
- ✓ Articulate and capable, including public speaking
- ✓ Strong personality
- ✓ A paid up financial member of the Māori Party
- ✓ Clean record
- ✓ Financial viability
- ✓ Media savvy

7. Candidate Interviews

- a) The electorate shall carry out interviews with candidates to determine their suitability for the role. The candidates will be interviewed to assess their support for the kaupapa of the Māori Party and to examine the candidate's commitment to the party. It is expected that electorate committees should have made checks of a candidate's background and of the referees and provide results to National Executive before interviews progress.
- b) The electorate's decisions shall be determined by consensus. (as described in Section 5.1 of the Māori Party Constitution)
- c) Each electorate will be able to conduct an indicative poll of participants in selection hui. This decision shall be facilitated by an Electorate Chair or another designated representative.
- d) Should this happen, the voting shall be conducted by the electorate secretary or nominated representative
- e) Results of the poll shall be confidential to the electorate until confirmed by National Council and can only be used by them on their request and can only be declared to the panel at the end of their determination of the candidate.

8. Candidates who are Officers of the Party

- a) Any member of the Māori Party who holds an elected office in an electorate or is a paid officer in any position, and is approved as a candidate, is automatically suspended from the position, until final selection is approved by the electorate .
- b) The following provision shall be added to his or her nomination paper: "I agree to abstain from taking part as an officer in the Māori Party in my electorate committee for the period from the opening of the nominations until final selection is made".
- c) This rule shall not operate to preclude a candidate for selection, nor preclude he/she from being appointed as a delegate to the Māori Party National Annual Conference, nor from speaking and voting at such conference.

9. Selection of General Seat candidates

- a) The selection criteria for Māori seats shall apply to the selection of the general seat candidates
- b) Individuals, whānau or Māori electorates wishing to stand candidates in the general electorates must formalise their desire to stand in writing to the National Secretary

- c) A National Council sub-committee shall consider nominations for the purposes of this selection, the sub-committee shall consist of:

Consistent Members

- A Member of the office of the President – the National Executive
- Co-Leaders and or one of the Members of Parliament (two members in total), subject to having Members of Parliament
- A National Council nominee. This member shall not be of the same electorate that is selecting a candidate

Electorate representation

- Up to three (3) members of the electorate that is selecting the candidate

10. Sitting members

- a) Sitting Māori Party Members of Parliament are required to formally indicate in writing their wish to stand and this must be provided to the electorate committee at their request or before the AGM one year in advance of an election year. Where only one nomination has been made for selection, that nominee must be approved by the National Council Selection Panel (and therefore the National Council), even if the nomination is an existing Member of Parliament.
- b) The National Council Selection Panel may use its discretion to modify the level of scrutiny applied before forming a judgment as to the candidate's continuing suitability. Should it be deemed that a member is unsuitable to continue, this matter shall be referred to the National Council.

11. Candidates for List Seats

- a) All nominations for the party list shall be party members
- b) The National Council Selection Panel will submit its prioritised list to the National Council. The National Council will finalise the list based on the recommendation of the National Council Selection Panel.
- c) All electorates are able to nominate candidates for the list.
- d) All nominations must be submitted to National Council Selection Panel in a timeline that shall be circulated to electorates. The final ordered list shall be considered after the selection of all Māori seat candidates
- e) Each nomination must include the same documentation as is required for the nominations for general seats except that a list of 15 financial members who support a nomination to the list must be provided.

The National Council identifies a set of criteria to be applied in determining priorities including:

- i. skills and expertise;
- ii. gender/age;
- iii. inclusiveness; (i.e. ethnicity, sexuality, religious belief);

- iv. sector networks and credibility;
- v. mana whenua
- vi. All criteria set out for all Māori Party candidates

12. Conduct and Confidentiality of Proceedings

- a) The National Council must observe and document a process which safeguards the integrity of the overall selection process
- b) The proceedings of selection shall be confidential to the participants and each nominee is expected to extend manaakitanga towards other people by acting in ways that are mana-enhancing.
- c) Every nominee, or member of the candidate's whanau will declare any conflict of Interest, and must withdraw from any party role that may unduly influence their selection or privilege their position in the party.
- d) Every person participating including every candidate for a Māori seat or general seat shall sign an undertaking to keep the proceedings confidential. The chair of the National Council Selection Panel is authorized to report to the Electorate committees and National Council on how the interview process was conducted.
- e) National Council will ensure strict conflict of interest policies are established and complied with for the candidate selection processes to ensure neither selection processes nor do prospective candidates improperly influence the selection process.

13. Early election candidate selection process

Where an early election is called, and where there is less than three months to polling day the electorate with National Council may decide to use the following process as an alternative to the process set out in the first schedule:

- a) Where an early election is called, all current sitting Members of Parliament will be automatically selected to stand in their electorates for that election.
- b) All other electorate candidate selections shall be completed on a date determined by the National Council
- c) Conditions set out in this schedule shall apply in this circumstance
- d) Where electorates are unable to complete their selection of candidates on the date determined by the National Council shall have the authority to select candidates according to an agreed process.

Schedule 5: Procedures for Special General Meetings

1. A Special General Meeting may be called by the National Council at any time, or at the written request of three electorates, or by written request of at least 200 financial members, and will be held within six (6) weeks of the lodging of the request for a Special General Meeting to the President.
2. The request shall state clearly the purpose of the meeting, in no more than 150 words, and also the desired outcome.
3. On receipt of a request for a Special General Meeting, the President shall call the meeting within one (1) calendar month from the date of receipt.
4. If the meeting is not called within the timeframe, the electorate/s requesting the meeting shall call such a meeting themselves, and any motion passed at such a meeting shall be binding on the Party.
5. Failure by the electorates to call the meeting within the timeframe shall render the original request invalid.
6. The Special General Meeting will be a meeting of the National Council and membership at large.
7. Membership status will be checked by a Party Official.
8. The costs for the Special General Meeting venue shall be met by the National Council.
9. All arrangements for the Special General Meeting shall be coordinated by the National Secretary.
10. The venue for any such Special General Meeting shall be the sole responsibility of the National Executive.

11. Only matters notified in the agenda for the Special General Meeting shall be considered at the meeting.
12. Special General Meetings shall be open to all current financial members of the Party.

TE PĀTI MĀORI CONSTITUTION

*Kia rangatira te tū a Te Pāti Māori
hei rōpū whakatinana i ngā rau
wawata o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki*

Ratified on 4 February 2023

Contents	Page Number
Part 1: Kaupapa & Tikanga	3
He Kupu Whakataki	3
Ngā Kaupapa o te Pāti Māori	4
Part 2: Rules	8
1. Name and Registered Office	8
2. Objectives	8
3. Membership	8-9
4. Pāti Structure	9-11
5. Decision-making	11
6. Annual General Meeting (Hui ā Tau)	12
7. Special General Meeting	12-13
8. Candidate Selection	13-14
9. Resolution of Differences and Disputes	14-15
10. Remedy	16
11. Interpretation and Alteration of Constitution	16
12. Dissolution Clause	17
Part 3: Schedules	18
Schedule 1: Electorates, Branches & Affiliates	18-19
Schedule 2: National Council	20-21
Schedule 3: Disciplinary and Disputes Committee	22-23
Schedule 4: Candidate Selection Guidelines	24-25
Schedule 5: Procedures for Special General Meetings	31

Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga

He Kupu Whakataki

Te Pāti Māori relentlessly asserts the rights of Māori rest in the bedrock of Te Tiriti O Waitangi.

Te Pāti Māori is for all citizens of Aotearoa New Zealand.

- Its founding was an initiative of Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea, for the benefit of all citizens of this land.
- Its vision is of a nation of cultural diversity and richness where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenuatanga by Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea.
- Its commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation is steadfast.

Ngā Kaupapa o te Pāti Māori

The following kaupapa and tikanga, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori world view.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Manaakitanga

- i. To be recognised by Māori as a political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori.
- ii. To ensure that relationships between the Pāti and whānau, hapū, iwi, and other Māori organisations are elevating and enhancing.
- iii. To promote a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is important.
- iv. To ensure that members agree to work together, treat each other with respect, and act with integrity in their Pāti work.
- v. To involve all peoples in the process of rebuilding our nation based on mutual respect and harmonious relationships.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Rangatiratanga

- i. To recognise and acknowledge the authority of whānau, hapū and iwi in their respective electorates.
- ii. To enhance the relationship between Tino Rangatiratanga and Kāwanatanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- iii. To promote the retention of separate seats for Māori in the Parliament of New Zealand, and to select suitable persons to represent Te Pāti Māori in Māori constituencies, in agreed General constituencies, and as List Candidates for the Pāti.
- iv. To assert and confirm the role of Māori as tangata whenua.
- v. To promote Māori self-determination through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team.
- vi. To acknowledge, nurture, support and reflect rangatiratanga within the Pāti and other Māori organisations.
- vii. To ensure that the conduct and activities of the parliamentary team, leaders, and the organisation as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Whanaungatanga

- i. To promote and contribute to the survival of Māori as a people.
- ii. To promote respect for all cultures and ensure all people have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua.
- iii. To encourage relationships between whānau, hapū, iwi, other Māori organisations and the Pāti that reflect interdependence.
- iv. To promote whanaungatanga as the model for good collective arrangements between different parties

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Kotahitanga

- i. To consistently work for unity among Māori people.
- ii. To avoid taking decisions and approaches that lead to division and disharmony within the organisation.
- iii. To establish a parliamentary team that can work together and are committed to speaking with a single voice on behalf of Māori.
- iv. To promote harmonious and cooperative relationships amongst all people.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Wairuatanga

- i. To encourage, maintain, and promote spiritual identity and connection with the land.
- ii. To break down secular and non-secular divisions and promote a unified and holistic approach to life.
- iii. To develop within Te Pāti an environment that nourishes and nurtures wairua.
- iv. To promote the importance of oranga wairua for Māori well-being

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Mana Whenua

- i. To ensure that the Pāti is of the Māori people.
- ii. To assist Māori to establish and maintain their connections to their own land.
- iii. To develop arrangements that foster the values of ūkaipō, of importance, belonging, and contribution within the organisation.
- iv. To develop a parliamentary team that will take advice and guidance from Māori in the first instance.
- v. To promote mana whenua as the basis for land management policies.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Kaitiakitanga

- i. To promote the achievement of wellness and well-being for Māori.
- ii. To foster and promote sustainable management and growth of the economy so as to provide a stable and secure environment for future generations.
- iii. To create a clean, safe, and healthy environment by promoting the protection, restoration, and enhancement of mauri within our natural environments.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Whakapapa

- i. To encourage the view that all Māori are related, leading towards co-operation and unity.
- ii. To support endeavours by Māori to establish and maintain our whanau, hapū, and iwi connections and continue our positive contribution to wider society.
- iii. To promote whakapapa as a tool for analysis and synthesis within the research activity of the Pāti.

Te Reo Rangatira

Ki te kore tātou e kōrero Māori, ka ngaro te

reo, Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro ngā tikanga.

Ka ngaro ngā tikanga, ka ngaro tātou ki te Ao.

Ko te reo te kaupupuri i te Māoritanga.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Te Reo Rangatira

- i. To ensure the revitalisation of te reo Māori.
- ii. To promote wider recognition of te reo Māori as the first and official language of the country.
- iii. To promote the development and growth of te reo Māori both as the indigenous language of this country and also as the appropriate language to carry Māori knowledge and contemporary Māori customs.
- iv. To promote mātauranga Māori pathways that are of benefit to the people and lead to our advancement.
- v. To provide for research and development that leads to the advancement of mātauranga Māori and ensures the survival of the people as Māori.
- vi. To provide opportunities to encourage bi-literacy in our society

Part 2: Rules

1. Name and Registered Office

- 1.1. The name of the Pāti shall be 'Te Pāti Māori' (the Pāti).
- 1.2. The Pāti shall be a political Pāti and shall maintain registration in terms of S.63 of The Electoral Act 1993 and its subsequent amendments.
- 1.3. The registered office of Te Pāti Māori shall be determined by the National Council.

2. Objectives

- 2.1. To honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- 2.2. To acknowledge and fulfil the kaupapa and tikanga set out in this constitution.
- 2.3. To develop and implement the Pāti policy manifesto consistent with the kaupapa.
- 2.4. To maintain registration under the Electoral Act 1993 in the name of the Māori Pāti, whose Constitution shall be this document.

3. Membership

- 3.1. Te Pāti Māori is an all-inclusive and broad-based political movement and accepts membership from any persons of 13 years of age and older who:
 - a. work to support Te Pāti Māori kaupapa and tikanga;
 - b. act within Te Pāti Māori constitution;
 - c. abide by lawful decisions made in accordance with Te Pāti Māori constitution;
 - d. complete the official membership form and pay the appropriate membership fee as fixed by the National Council;
 - e. are not members of a competing political Pāti, or any other group or organisation which the National Council determines is incompatible with membership of the Pāti.
- 3.2. Members aged 13–16 years are non-voting Junior Members. Members 16 years and over are eligible to vote.
- 3.3. The membership is established by the National Council and reviewed on an annual basis.
- 3.4. Membership of the Pāti will be from 1 July to 30 June the following financial year and shall take effect from the date stated on the official Te Pāti Māori receipt. Membership of the Pāti shall be considered confirmed when the registration details and the membership fee have been processed by the National Treasurer.

Electorate Treasurers shall make every effort to process all memberships within a reasonable timeframe.

Financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in all Māori Pāti activities.

- 3.5. Any person who is a member of Te Pāti Māori on the date at the opening of nominations for the selection of a Parliamentary candidate shall be entitled to participate in decision-making for the local electorate candidate and local list recommendations.
- 3.6. The National Council may cancel any membership that the Council believes does not meet the criteria outlined in clause 3.1. The member shall be advised in writing of the decision. The member may appeal that decision at the next national hui of the Pāti, where the decision shall be final.
- 3.7. A person shall cease to be a member of Te Pāti Māori:
 - a. when their resignation is received by the National Council;
 - b. when they cease to accept or abide by this Constitution;
 - c. when they die;
 - d. when they have not paid their membership fee for a period of more than 6 months beyond the due date for payment of the fee; or
 - e. if and when they join a competing political Pāti.

4. Pāti Structure

- 4.1. The structure of the Pāti shall reflect the aspirations of its membership as expressed through the Pāti's kaupapa (refer to Part 1 of this Constitution).
- 4.2. Branches, electorates and affiliates shall provide the opportunity for members to have input into the direction and growth of the Pāti, including campaign strategies, policies, fundraising, and the selection and election of candidates.
- 4.3. Te Pāti Māori Members of Parliament shall promote the aspirations of its membership.
- 4.4. The National Council shall have representation from each electorate and the Members of Parliament.
- 4.5. The President is responsible for the leadership of the Pāti and shall uphold the Pāti's constitution in the exercise of that leadership.

Electorates¹

- 4.6. An electorate shall be defined by the electorate boundaries as set out in the Electoral Act 1993.
- 4.7. The activities and business of each electorate shall be organised as each electorate decides and shall, at all times, be consistent with the Pāti's kaupapa.

¹ The structures and responsibilities of electorates, branches and affiliates are detailed in Schedule 1 of this constitution

- 4.8. It shall be incumbent on all electorates:
- a. to keep all Members and affiliates informed of all matters;
 - b. to keep the Pāti informed on all electorate matters through the National Council and/or the National Executive in accordance with Schedule 2;
 - c. to manage the selection and election of a candidate to contest each General Election;
 - d. on election, support the Member of Parliament.

Branches¹

- 4.9. In each electorate district there can be one or more branches authorised by the electorate. Each branch must have a minimum membership of ten (10) financial members of the Pāti who shall be responsible for the internal organisation of the branch consistent with the Pāti's kaupapa. In entering into any contract, or otherwise taking any other action, the branches shall not hold themselves out or represent themselves as acting with the authority of the Pāti without appropriate authorisation of the National Council and/or the National Executive.
- 4.10. Any person wishing to set up a new branch must get the electorate's permission. No branch shall be refused establishment without just cause.
- 4.11. Any persons living overseas wishing to establish a branch or an affiliate, must seek the consent to formalise this branch or affiliate from the National Executive.

Affiliates¹

- 4.12. Affiliates – An Affiliate is defined as a roopu or existing organisation such as Marae, sports clubs, kapa haka and/or any roopu that the National Council agree can affiliate. All Affiliates agree to endorse and abide by this Constitution and are bound by Schedule 1.

National Council²

- 4.13. The National Council provides leadership according to the Pāti's kaupapa (refer to Part 1 of this constitution), and deals with the fundamental running of the Pāti.
- 4.14. The National Council is the governing body of the Pāti outside of an Annual General Meeting, and to this effect the National Council shall meet at least every second month.
- 4.15. The National Council must establish an annual national plan and approve an annual budget that enables the national plan to be achieved. The National Council will delegate authority to the National Executive to expend within the approved annual budget in order to carry out the national plan. Appointment of any staff will require the presentation of a business case to the National Council for approval prior to any appointments being made. The process of appointment must be consistent with the kaupapa of the Te Pāti Māori.

² The National Council's structure and responsibilities are detailed in Schedule 2 of this constitution.

National Executive

- 4.16. The management of Te Pāti Māori is determined by the National Council and delegated to the National Executive. The delegated authority shall be determined between the National Council and the National Executive. All decisions of the National Executive must be ratified by the National Council at their next hui.
- 4.17. The National Executive consists of the Pāti's president, the two co-vice presidents (one tāne and one wahine), and the two co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament).
- 4.18. Further to 4.14, the National Executive shall be authorised to appoint from time to time, on the recommendation of the President, suitable members of the Pāti to be:
- a. General Manager. The General Manager will have the role of chief administrative officer of the Pāti, on terms and conditions approved by the National Executive, and will be accountable directly to the President for administrative and financial control of the Pāti.
 - b. National Secretary, to record the proceedings of the National Council and the National Executive, and to be responsible to the General Manager for such other administrative duties as the General Manager may prescribe;
 - c. National Treasurer, to be responsible to the General Manager for the maintenance of the financial records of the Pāti to standards required by the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, to establish and maintain such bank accounts as the National Executive may from time to time approve, to receipt and bank all monies paid to the Pāti, to be a co-signatory of cheques or other payment instruments paid from the Pāti's bank accounts together with such other member or members of the Pāti as the National Executive may appoint for co-signing, and to be responsible for the preparation of annual accounts for audit by registered auditors appointed by the National Council.

The General Manager, National Secretary and National Treasurer shall be ex officio members of the National Executive, and without voting rights.

5. Decision-making

- 5.1. All decisions of Te Pāti Māori shall be made by consensus, consistent with the customary practice of whakawhitiwhiti kōrero, and having regard to constitutional and kaupapa obligations of Te Pāti Māori. If the hui cannot reach consensus after full discussion of the issue, then the chairperson of the hui will ask the meeting to accept the view of the majority in the best interests of the Pāti.
- 5.2. Those who do not agree with the majority decision may have their objections included in any minutes recorded for the hui.

6. Annual General Meeting (Hui ā Tau)

- 6.1. The Pāti shall annually hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM), Hui ā Tau. Such hui shall be held no later than six (6) months after the financial year ends at a place and time approved by the National Council and notified to the membership of the Pāti not less than two (2) calendar months prior to the Hui ā Tau being held. The business of this meeting shall be:
- a. receiving National Council, Electorate, and any other reports;
 - b. receiving the audited financial accounts of the Pāti for the previous financial year;
 - c. amending, cancelling or adding any Pāti rule;
 - d. considering and accepting policies prepared by the National Council or an electorate;
 - e. receiving, considering and acting upon any other remits not inconsistent with this constitution from the National Council or an electorate;
 - f. appointing the auditor;
 - g. such other matters necessary for the carrying out of Pāti activities.
- 6.2. The election of the president and co-vice presidents shall occur on a rotational, triennial basis.
- 6.3. All remits must first be passed by the electorate committees, who shall forward them to the National Council at least six (6) weeks before the AGM (Hui ā Tau).
- 6.4. All decisions made at the AGM (Hui ā Tau) will be made consistent with Section 5 of this constitution: Decision-making.
- 6.5. The quorum for the AGM (Hui ā Tau) comprises of the following:
- a. the Pāti President or one of the co-vice presidents;
 - b. one of the co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament); and
 - c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

7. Special General Meeting

- 7.1. Special General Meetings can be called by the National Council for:
- d. the election of the Pāti's co-leaders;
 - e. extraordinary matters that require consideration.
- 7.2. The procedures for Special General Meetings are detailed in Schedule 5 of this constitution.

7.3 The election of the Pāti's co-leaders:

Where required, there shall be a Special General Meeting within six (6) weeks of a General Election to select the Pāti's co-leaders. The co-leaders will be selected from the sitting Members of Parliament and one will be tāne and one will be wahine. In the event that the co-leadership criteria cannot be met, the National Council may appoint a co-leader who sits outside of Parliament.

Those selected shall be in office for three years. The leadership may change at any time through:

- a. resignation;
- b. death;
- c. bringing the Pāti into disrepute in accordance with the Resolution of Differences and Disputes clause;
- d. resolution at a Special General Meeting.

7.4 The quorum for the Special General Meeting comprises of the following:

- a. the Pāti President or one of the co-vice presidents;
- b. one of the co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament);
- c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

8. Candidate Selection

8.1. Electorates organise their own processes to find their own candidates that meet the criteria set out in Schedule 4.

8.2. The National Executive can select a member to observe the process as an independent facilitator of the Candidate Selection Hui.

8.3. These processes shall be submitted to the National Council or its delegated subcommittee at least six (6) weeks before nominations open and they must be confirmed by that committee at least one (1) calendar month before nominations open.

8.4. Every process must ensure that:

- a. sufficient checks and safeguards are carried out to ensure all prospective candidates fulfil the candidate criteria, and any risks are mitigated;
- b. input that provides a national overview of the prospective candidates, assists the electorate with their decision-making, and provides external points to consider is received from the National Council or its delegated subcommittee;
- c. the process upholds and safeguards the kaupapa of Te Pāti Māori and enables all electorate members to have input into the final decision;
- d. the declaration of any conflicts of interest between a candidate and those within the Pāti ensures that improper influence in the selection process is likewise avoided.

- 8.5. Any disputes will be taken to the National Council.
- 8.6. When the electorate has reached a decision as to who should be the candidate, this person's name shall be submitted forthwith to the National Council.
- 8.7. The Electorate shall provide a written report to National Council on the process confirming or otherwise that the process has met all selection criteria according to the constitution and Kaupapa of Te Pāti Maori.
- 8.8. The National Council shall immediately either confirm the nomination or provide a written explanation as to why the National Council believes the nomination may not be in the best interests of the Pāti and requires further consideration by the Electorate. The National Council shall meet with the electorate and resolve a way forward.

9. Resolution of Differences and Disputes

- 9.1. There shall be three types of disputes:
 - a. Serious Disputes shall be those disputes that deal with:
 - i. misuse of Pāti funds for personal gain;
 - ii. bringing the Pāti into disrepute, by any abuse, slugging, or misuse of any media or verbal statements that can or would be injurious to the general welfare and well-being of the Pāti or its members as a whole.
 - b. Non-serious Disputes shall be those disputes that deal with other matters that do not involve Pāti funds and that can generally be settled at local electorate level by the parties involved.
 - c. Judicial Disputes shall be those disputes dealing with matters such as the candidate selection process.
- 9.2. Disciplinary action may be brought against a member who:
 - a. refuses to comply with this constitution;
 - b. improperly deals with any Pāti funds;
 - c. in any other way willfully brings the Pāti or its members into public disrepute.
- 9.3. All members agree to work together to support the Constitution of the Pāti and act according to the kaupapa at all times (refer to Part 1 of this constitution). Differences that may arise from time to time shall be resolved at the earliest opportunity by those involved.
- 9.4. Differences that cannot be resolved by the individuals involved shall be heard by the relevant Electorate Council.
- 9.5. A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the relevant Electorate Council. If it cannot be resolved at this level, it shall be referred to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the

- 9.6. National Executive who shall act swiftly and with discretion to seek resolution of the matter and to see that the dispute is resolved on the basis of the kaupapa of the Pāti.
- 9.7. Should the Electorate Council not be able to deal with any dispute then that council shall refer the dispute to the National Executive.
- 9.8. No member shall be permitted to refer a complaint directly to the National Executive unless that complaint is directly against the Electorate Council, in which case the complaint will be directed immediately to the Pāti President.
- 9.9. Should a complaint be directed immediately to the Pāti President then, on receipt of such a complaint, the President shall first of all satisfy him- or herself that the complaint is:
 - a. a legitimate complaint;
 - b. not a serious complaint.
- 9.10. The President may, at his or her discretion, settle the complaint, or he or she may forward the complaint to the National Council for resolution. Such complaints shall not be referred to the Disputes and Disciplinary Committee.
- 9.11. Should an electorate receive a serious complaint it shall immediately attempt to bring the complaint to a resolution. Failing a satisfactory resolution, the Electorate Executive shall forward the complaint to the National President, stating that the matter is of a serious nature and that the Electorate Council requests the intervention of the National Executive.
- 9.12. The Electorate Council, having already tried for resolution and failed, may send the complaint directly to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.
- 9.13. On receipt of the complaint the following steps shall be taken:
 - a. The National President shall immediately notify both the electorates and the parties concerned in the dispute.
 - b. Notification shall be by phone call or by Tracked Post.
 - c. Nothing further will be done until the President has received advice that all parties have received their notification.
 - d. After receiving the information that all parties have been notified, the President shall inform the National Council;
- 9.14. On receipt of a serious complaint, the National Executive shall either send the complaint back to the Electorate Council or send the complaint on to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.
- 9.15. The Disciplinary and Disputes Committee's structure and responsibilities are outlined in Schedule 3.
- 9.16. Confidential non-disclosure: All members of Te Pāti Māori must undertake not to disclose to any person, or make use of any information, document or material of a personal nature that may embarrass the Pāti or has the potential to bring it into dispute. This includes the media or any other political Pāti.
- 9.17. Protected Disclosures

Any Te Pāti Māori member who wishes to make a protected disclosure should do so as follows:

Te Pāti Māori member or persons should submit the disclosure in writing to either the electorate or the National Council, depending on the seriousness of the disclosure. The disclosure should contain detailed information including the following:

- the nature of the disclosure;
- the name/s of the person/s involved;
- surrounding facts, including details relating to the time and or place of the incident if known or relevant.

10. Remedy

- 10.1. Any member who is found to have been in breach of section 3, 3.1, bullet points a- e, or is found guilty of a serious complaint other than the misuse of Pāti funds for personal gain, shall have their membership revoked under section 3.7.
- 10.2. Any member who is found guilty of misusing Pāti funds shall be immediately expelled from the Pāti.

11. Interpretation and Alteration of Constitution

- 11.1. The Constitution is made up of Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga, Part 2: Rules, and Part 3: Schedules. All parts of the constitution are equally binding on the membership.
- 11.2. The Constitution may be amended, added to, or rescinded by resolution of the AGM (Hui ā Tau) of the Pāti or a Special General Meeting convened for such purpose.
- 11.3. The National Council shall give notice to all groups of the proposed alteration/addition or rescission not less than one (1) calendar month prior to the AGM or Special General Meeting of the Pāti at which it is proposed to be moved.
- 11.4. No alteration to the object clauses (section 2), or the dissolution clause (section 12) shall be made without the prior written approval of the Inland Revenue Department.

12. Dissolution Clause

- 12.1. At a duly constituted AGM (Hui ā Tau) or a Special General Meeting, Te Pāti Maori may resolve by majority resolution that the Pāti be dissolved as from the date named in the resolution. The Pāti may also, by such resolution, direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of Te Pāti Māori after its dissolution.
- 12.2. Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose, and held not earlier than one (1) calendar month after the date on which the first resolution was passed, the Pāti shall be dissolved.
- 12.3. A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission, the Registrar of Incorporated Societies, and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of Te Pāti Māori shall, upon dissolution, be transferred to such political or other organisations within New Zealand having objectives similar to those of Te Pāti Maori, as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or, in default, as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the National Council.

Part 3: Schedules

Schedule 1: Electorates and Branches

Electorates

1. Each electorate shall determine its own quorum and that for its branches.
2. In keeping all branches informed of all Pāti matters, each electorate shall call an electorate meeting at least quarterly. At such meetings voting and speaking rights shall be restricted to financial members.
3. Each electorate shall hold an annual hui of financial members. The Annual General Meeting will elect officers, deal with any remits sent by branches, and receive the annual report from the chairperson/s and the treasurer/s.
4. Each electorate shall have an Electorate Council that shall be responsible for all Pāti activities in the Electorate.
5. The officers of each electorate (that is the chairpersons, secretaries and treasurers) plus up to three elected members from the full Electorate membership shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the electorate.
6. At each annual hui three National Council members and their substitutes shall be selected as defined in clause 4.4. The Electorate Committee shall determine the criteria required for members to represent the electorate on the National Council.
7. All decisions of the Electorate Council shall be made in accordance with clause 5.1.
8. When hosting a National Council hui, each electorate shall be responsible for the setting up and payment of all accounts for each meeting. Each electorate will ensure that the fees for their elected representatives are paid for by their electorate. It shall be the responsibility of the host electorate to collect fees from attendees other than electorate representatives. Any person failing to pay their just dues may not take an active part in that hui.
9. The selection and election of an electorate candidate shall be done in a manner prescribed by the Electorate Council in accordance with the Candidate Selection policy. It shall also be incumbent upon the electorate to raise the necessary funds for their candidate's election campaign, and it must be carried out in accordance with the Electoral Act, accepting that each candidate may select his or her own campaign managers. It shall be incumbent on these managers to, at all times, work with and for the Electorate Council.

Branches

1. Each branch shall be represented on its Electorate Council by up to three (3) financial members – one tāne, one wahine, one rangatahi. Any changes should immediately be brought to the notice of the Electorate Secretary, accompanied by the branch minutes showing such changes.
2. Each branch shall have an executive comprising Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of seven other members.
3. Each branch shall ensure proper financial systems and controls.
4. Each branch shall record and keep accurate minutes of its branch hui.
5. Branches may be established subject to electorate approval.
6. Every such branch authorized by the Electorate Council shall enrol members into the Pāti.
7. They shall also fundraise and pay all such dues and levies that may from time to time be imposed by the Electorate Council or by the National Council.
8. Each branch shall have a cheque account for which there must be a minimum of two signatures but no two signatures from the same household.
9. Branches must send a copy of their Income over Expenditure plus a copy of the bank statement to the Electorate Council monthly meeting.
10. A probationary period should be set between the existing branch and the new branch.

Affiliates

Affiliates are free to participate with the nearest branch by location.

Affiliates express their support by paying their Affiliate Membership Fee as set from time to time by the National Executive.

Affiliates express their support by registering their Member or Electoral roles, both local and national.

Affiliates acknowledge their support by organising and turning out these members to vote for Te Pāti Māori.

Schedule 2: National Council

1. The National Council comprises the following:
 - a. the Pāti president and two co-vice presidents (one tāne and one wahine);
 - b. two co-leaders (one tāne and one wahine);
 - c. all Members of Parliament;
 - d. up to four council members selected by each electorate (including rangatahi and both wahine and tāne), or their substitute as determined by each electorate.
2. Nominations for president and vice-president are to be lodged with the National Secretary six (6) weeks before an Annual General Meeting and distributed to the electorates at least one (1) calendar month before that AGM. No person shall be eligible for the office of president or vice-president unless he or she has been a member of Te Pāti Māori for at least three years.
3. There shall be a Special General Meeting within six (6) weeks following the General Election to select the Pāti co-leaders, if required. Those selected shall be in office for three years.
4. If there is a vacancy during the three-year term in any of the above offices, then the National Council may appoint a person to hold office for the balance of the term.
5. There is a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities for the president and two co-vice presidents, and these roles and responsibilities will be ratified by the National Council.
6. Each Māori electorate shall be represented on the National Council. Further electorates may, from time to time, be accepted by the National Council. An Electorate Council member can be removed from the National Council by consensus of the Electorate Council.
7. The National Executive shall hear all appeals from any electorate.
8. The National Executive shall ratify or otherwise any decision made by the National Executive since the previous meeting.
9. All National Council policy remits must be ratified by an AGM or a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.

10. All decisions of the National Council shall be made by consensus as a customary practice, having regard to constitutional obligations and the kaupapa of Te Pāti Maori. If the hui cannot reach consensus after full discussion of the issue, then the chairperson will ask the meeting to accept the view of the majority in the best interests of the Pāti.
11. The National Council shall meet every two (2) months, and its meetings shall rotate within the Māori seat electorates.
12. The quorum for the Special General Meeting comprises of the following:
 - a. the Pāti President or one of the co-vice presidents;
 - b. one of the co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament);
 - c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

Schedule 3: Disciplinary and Disputes Committee

1. The National Council will select a committee of five members, including the Chair of the committee.
2. The Committee shall be self-determining and to that end shall only take instructions from the whole National Council.
3. The committee shall be selected strictly from Council Members only. No other person shall hold any position within the committee, whether advisory or otherwise.
4. The committee shall take office for a period of three years but may be elected for a further term.
5. Any vacancy that occurs in the committee shall be filled by the National Council.
6. The quorum for any meeting shall be three members including the Chair. Sufficient notice must be given to enable members to attend.
7. The committee shall be chaired by one of the vice-presidents. The other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
8. In the event that a complaint is levelled at the Chair, the other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
9. Only one vice-president shall be permitted to sit on the committee at any time.
10. Any member must declare any conflict of interest. Conflicts of interest are to be declared at the start of any meetings.
11. Should the Chair declare a conflict of interest, the other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
12. The committee shall be charged to reach a resolution of the complaint and, unless there is some legal impediment, the resolution shall be final and binding.
13. The committee shall act swiftly but without undue haste to reach a resolution.
14. The resolution of the complaint shall be reported to the National Council.
15. On receipt of the resolution the National Council shall endorse the findings of the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee and notify the parties to the dispute of such a resolution.
16. The National Council may change the resolution of the complaint on points of law only.

17. All complainants shall be notified of the outcomes.
18. The committee may, at any time during its hearing, place a total media ban on anything to do with the case being heard. This will apply to all members of the Pāti.
19. Any person breaking the media ban can be charged with “bringing the Pāti into disrepute”.
20. On any matter that is before the committee, no person shall engage legal counsel on behalf of the Pāti without the full agreement of the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.

Schedule 4: Candidate Selection Guidelines

The purpose of the candidate selection and Pāti list process is to seek representative candidates who are credible, respected and reflective of Te Pāti Māori values. The application of these procedures are guided by the kaupapa of the Māori Pāti, which comprise Part 1 of Te Pāti Māori Constitution and will be applied in a fair, efficient and transparent manner.

The candidate selection and Pāti list process is managed by Te Pāti Māori National Executive (Māori Pāti Constitution; Part Two; Rule 8).

Any person who is a fully paid up member of Te Pāti Māori is eligible to be nominated as a candidate in accordance with the regulations set out in the Electoral Act (Māori Pāti Constitution; Rule 3.5).

The principles guiding the candidate selection process are:

- consistency of process
- transparency of selection
- strategic approach to selection
- fairness, participation, reasonable notice and inclusiveness.

The goal is to ensure that the electorate and list candidates representing Te Pāti Māori:

- Work for the benefit of all citizens of Aotearoa
- Work within the kaupapa of the Māori Pāti
- Have a vision of a nation of cultural diversity and richness, where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenuatanga by Māori; and
- Acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation.

1. National Council and Electorate Roles

- a) The selection of Māori constituency candidates in each of the seven Māori seats, for general election or by-election can be managed by the National Council in consultation with the electorate chairs and the respective Māori electorate.
- b) The National Council will select a National Executive member to observe the process as an independent facilitator of the Candidate Selection Hui.
- c) The electorate will advertise for expressions of interest to stand as a Māori Pāti candidate and subsequently undertake a nomination process for that electorate.
- d) The electorate will provide names and a list of ideal candidates for the constituency and Pāti list to the National Council.

For the purposes of selecting candidates, the Electorate shall organise with the National Executive representative to have selection hui where the recommended short listed candidates shall be interviewed.

- a) There shall be no more than TWO selection hui where interviews will take place. The hui shall be held within the electorate at places elected and organised by the electorate itself. All financial members of Te Pāti Māori may attend this hui.
- b) The panel shall organise appropriate tikanga and kawa for this meeting.
- c) The process shall include:
 - i. An opportunity for the candidates to present a statement on their suitability to be a candidate as set out in the candidate profile
 - ii. An opportunity for the panel to ask questions
 - iii. An opportunity to the hui to ask questions within a structure facilitated by the chair
 - iv. An opportunity for kaituara of the candidate to make a statement of support
- d) The final deliberation by the Electorate shall take place without the candidate/s.
- e) A report should be provided to the National Executive of the process applied, and decisions made. The National Executive shall communicate the outcome of the deliberations about candidates to the National Council as soon as is practical whether they have a candidate or not.
- f) Where no shortlist has been provided or no candidate has been selected from the electorate, the National Executive shall work with the respective electorate to consider a strategy to confirm a candidate.
- g) It is the responsibility of the National Executive to declare a candidate for confirmation by the National Council.
- h) The National Executive shall set the timetable for selection of all candidates.

2. Duty of Electorate Committees

- a) The National Council requires electorate committees in a non- election year to scout for 'potential' candidates for future candidacy selection with the approval of the National Council.
- b) It is the responsibility of the electorate to eventually compile a short list of candidates who have the necessary skills, attributes, knowledge and experience to make a positive contribution to Te Pāti Māori campaign.
- c) Electorate secretaries shall be responsible for providing clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed including the opening and closing dates of the selection of candidates. This must be provided to the National Council and endorsed by them. The notice must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the nominations opening
- d) All electorate secretaries shall receive all nominations
- e) The electorate shall ensure that all of the documentation requirements are adhered to and then provided to the National Council through the National Secretary

3. Electorates Registering Potential Candidates

- a) Members of Māori Pāti electorates will be invited to register their expression of interest with an electorate committee once 'candidacy' is deemed open by the National Council.
- b) Potential candidates who register with the electorate committee will be sent the 'candidate profile', and a questionnaire to help them carefully consider their nomination for a Māori electorate seat.
- c) All members wishing to stand as candidates in the coming general election must be current members and reside in the electorate or returning home to the electorate.
- d) The candidate must be nominated by at least 10 Te Pāti Māori members who are prepared to act as referees.

4. Nomination Process

- a) Electorate committees shall be responsible for providing clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed including the opening and closing dates of the selection of candidates to the National Council. This must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the nominations opening
- b) All electorate committees shall receive all nominations
- c) There shall be hui of each electorate committee to select a short-list of candidates at which all financial members who live within the boundaries of that electorate, shall be entitled to attend and to participate in the selection of the nomination provided they are members on the date that candidate nominations open.
- d) Only financial members of Te Pāti Māori as at the opening date of nominations can participate in the selection process
- e) In the case of Māori electorate seats, financial members of Māori descent or on the Māori roll who live within the boundaries of that electorate are eligible to participate.
- f) Where the electorate has reached a consensus as to who the nominations shall be, an agreed national process will be followed.
- g) The electorate shall consider those nominations, make a decision on the best candidate. They will provide a recommendation to National Council and National Executive for confirmation.
- h) Where no nominations are provided to the National Council for a Māori seat or general seat, the National Council are authorised to act in the best interests of the Pāti to seek a candidate for that 'electorate'.
- i) One nomination does not mean that that nomination has the candidacy as of right for that electorate. The final decision is for the National Council and the electorate committee.

5. Documentation required for Nomination

All nominations must be accompanied with:

- a) The official nomination form
- b) A declaration for internal Pāti purposes
- c) Resume and personal profile available for circulation
- d) Police Check indicating that the candidate does not have any convictions
- e) Credit check indicating that the candidate is financially solvent
- f) A detailed list of 10 financial members of Te Pāti Māori who have declared their support of the nomination.
- g) Confirmation that the nominee is a financial member of the Māori Pāti

All documentation shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the particular electorate in the first instance.

6. Candidate Profile

Those wishing to be considered as candidates to contest an election should have the following attributes:

- ✓ High profile, renowned for advocacy for Māori e.g, social justice, economic development, Whanau Ora, te reo Māori
- ✓ Established or existing strong public profile / brand recognition
- ✓ Experience in public office e.g, board of trustees, local government
- ✓ Experience in campaigning for a cause
- ✓ Demonstrated commitment to the kaupapa of the Māori Pāti
- ✓ The support of 10 signed-up members

- ✓ Has a strong team of supporters willing to provide emotional and moral support that will also be the candidate's team to support, among other activities, campaigning
 - ✓ Demonstrated team-player
 - ✓ Political nous
 - ✓ Articulate and capable, including public speaking
 - ✓ Strong personality
 - ✓ A paid up financial member of the Māori Pāti
 - ✓ Clean record
 - ✓ Financial viability
 - ✓ Media savvy

7. Candidate Interviews

- a) The electorate shall carry out interviews with candidates to determine their suitability for the role. The candidates will be interviewed to assess their support for the kaupapa of Te Pāti Māori and to examine the candidate's commitment to the Pāti. It is expected that electorate committees should have made checks of a candidate's background and of the referees and provide results to National Executive before interviews progress.
- b) The electorate's decisions shall be determined by consensus. (as described in Section 5.1 of Te Pāti Māori Constitution)
- c) Each electorate will be able to conduct an indicative poll of participants in selection hui. This decision shall be facilitated by an Electorate Chair or another designated representative.
- d) Should this happen, the voting shall be conducted by the electorate secretary or nominated representative
- e) Results of the poll shall be confidential to the electorate until confirmed by National Council and can only be used by them on their request and can only be declared to the panel at the end of their determination of the candidate.

8. Candidates who are Officers of the Pāti

- a) Any member of Te Pāti Māori who holds an elected office in an electorate or is a paid officer in any position, and is approved as a candidate, is automatically suspended from the position, until final selection is approved by the electorate .
- b) The following provision shall be added to his or her nomination paper: "I agree to abstain from taking part as an officer in Te Pāti Māori in my electorate committee for the period from the opening of the nominations until final selection is made".
- c) This rule shall not operate to preclude a candidate for selection, nor preclude he/she from being appointed as a delegate to Te Pāti Māori National Annual Conference, nor from speaking and voting at such conference.

9. Selection of General Seat candidates

- a) The selection criteria for Māori seats shall apply to the selection of the general seat candidates
- b) Individuals, whānau or Māori electorates wishing to stand candidates in the general electorates must formalise their desire to stand in writing to the National Secretary

- c) A National Council sub-committee shall consider nominations for the purposes of this selection, the sub-committee shall consist of:

Consistent Members

- A Member of the office of the President – the National Executive
- Co-Leaders and or one of the Members of Parliament (two members in total), subject to having Members of Parliament
- A National Council nominee. This member shall not be of the same electorate that is selecting a candidate

Electorate representation

- Up to three (3) members of the electorate that is selecting the candidate

10. Sitting members

- a) Sitting Māori Pāti Members of Parliament are required to formally indicate in writing their wish to stand and this must be provided to the electorate committee at their request or before the AGM one year in advance of an election year. Where only one nomination has been made for selection, that nominee must be approved by the National Council Selection Panel (and therefore the National Council), even if the nomination is an existing Member of Parliament.
- b) The National Council Selection Panel may use its discretion to modify the level of scrutiny applied before forming a judgment as to the candidate's continuing suitability. Should it be deemed that a member is unsuitable to continue, this matter shall be referred to the National Council.

11. Candidates for List Seats

- a) All nominations for the Pāti list shall be Pāti members
- b) The National Council Selection Panel will submit its prioritised list to the National Council. The National Council will finalise the list based on the recommendation of the National Council Selection Panel.
- c) All electorates are able to nominate candidates for the list.
- d) All nominations must be submitted to National Council Selection Panel in a timeline that shall be circulated to electorates. The final ordered list shall be considered after the selection of all Māori seat candidates
- e) Each nomination must include the same documentation as is required for the nominations for general seats except that a list of 15 financial members who support a nomination to the list must be provided.

The National Council identifies a set of criteria to be applied in determining priorities including:

- i. skills and expertise;
- ii. gender/age;
- iii. inclusiveness; (i.e. ethnicity, sexuality, religious belief);

- iv. sector networks and credibility;
- v. mana whenua
- vi. All criteria set out for all Māori Pāti candidates

12. Conduct and Confidentiality of Proceedings

- a) The National Council must observe and document a process which safeguards the integrity of the overall selection process
- b) The proceedings of selection shall be confidential to the participants and each nominee is expected to extend manaakitanga towards other people by acting in ways that are mana-enhancing.
- c) Every nominee, or member of the candidate's whanau will declare any conflict of Interest, and must withdraw from any Pāti role that may unduly influence their selection or privilege their position in the Pāti.
- d) Every person participating including every candidate for a Māori seat or general seat shall sign an undertaking to keep the proceedings confidential. The chair of the National Council Selection Panel is authorized to report to the Electorate committees and National Council on how the interview process was conducted.
- e) National Council will ensure strict conflict of interest policies are established and complied with for the candidate selection processes to ensure neither selection processes nor do prospective candidates improperly influence the selection process.

13. Early election candidate selection process

Where an early election is called, and where there is less than three months to polling day the electorate with National Council may decide to use the following process as an alternative to the process set out in the first schedule:

- a) Where an early election is called, all current sitting Members of Parliament will be automatically selected to stand in their electorates for that election.
- b) All other electorate candidate selections shall be completed on a date determined by the National Council
- c) Conditions set out in this schedule shall apply in this circumstance
- d) Where electorates are unable to complete their selection of candidates on the date determined by the National Council shall have the authority to select candidates according to an agreed process.

Schedule 5: Procedures for Special General Meetings

1. A Special General Meeting may be called by the National Council at any time, or at the written request of three electorates, or by written request of at least 200 financial members, and will be held within six (6) weeks of the lodging of the request for a Special General Meeting to the President.
2. The request shall state clearly the purpose of the meeting, in no more than 150 words, and also the desired outcome.
3. On receipt of a request for a Special General Meeting, the President shall call the meeting within one (1) calendar month from the date of receipt.
4. If the meeting is not called within the timeframe, the electorate/s requesting the meeting shall call such a meeting themselves, and any motion passed at such a meeting shall be binding on the Pāti.
5. Failure by the electorates to call the meeting within the timeframe shall render the original request invalid.
6. The Special General Meeting will be a meeting of the National Council and membership at large.
7. Membership status will be checked by a Pāti Official.
8. The costs for the Special General Meeting venue shall be met by the National Council.
9. All arrangements for the Special General Meeting shall be coordinated by the National Secretary.
10. The venue for any such Special General Meeting shall be the sole responsibility of the National Executive.
11. Only matters notified in the agenda for the Special General Meeting shall be considered at the meeting.
12. Special General Meetings shall be open to all current financial members of the Pāti.

