

SPECIAL EDITION

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POU TUARA ELECTIONS 2015

Every three years Te Runanga o Ngati Ruanui Trust (TRONRT) hold General Elections for the appointment of Pou Tuara (*Trustees*) & Alternate Pou Tuara (*Alternate Trustees*) to the Te Runanga o Ngati Ruanui Trust Board.

The Election Process will commence from 17 August 2015 for the three year term commencing **21 November 2015**. The Election Meeting date is confirmed as 18 October 2015 and will be held in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of TRONRT.

This special edition of Te Pou Korero is designed to inform Uri of the election process, assist to answer any questions that Uri may have in regard to elections and identify key dates throughout the election process.

Representation on the Board

The Board is made up of Pou Tuara representing each of the 16 Hapu of Ngati Ruanui. The Hapu are Araukuku, Ahitahi, Hamua, Hapotiki, Kotuku, Nga Ariki, Ngaati Hawe, Ngaati Hine, Ngaati Ringi, Ngaati Takou, Ngaati Tanewai, Ngaati Tupaea, Ngaati Tupito, Rangitaawhi, Tuatahi and Tuwhakaaehu (16 Pou Tuara in total).

Representation is determined through the Election Process whereby Hapu Members of each hapu will elect **one** person to act as a Pou Tuara. Hapu Members must be registered on the Ngati Ruanui Registration Database to the respective hapu they will represent as a Pou Tuara.

Once the 16 Pou Tuara are elected, one is elected (by majority vote cast by Pou Tuara) as the Tumu Whakaae (Chairman) and another (by majority vote cast by Pou Tuara) as *Deputy* Tumu Whakaae (*Deputy* Chairman).

Nominations

Uri that are interested in being nominated for the TRONRT Board are to complete a Nomination Form. These forms are included in a Nomination Pack that will be available from the TRONRT Office. Nominations are open and can be received from 9am Monday 24 August 2015 until 5pm Monday 14 September 2015.

Included in the Nomination Pack will be:

- A Nomination Form;
- A Roles & Responsibilities Paper of the Pou Tuara and *Alternate* Pou Tuara Position;
- A copy of the Trust Deed; and
- A copy of the current Strategic Plan



Contact Details

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In order for a nomination to be validated the Nominee must ensure that:

- They are registered on the Ngati Ruanui Registration Database and have identified affiliation to the hapu they are wanting to be considered for as a Pou Tuara;
- That the Nomination Form is completed in full and signed by the Nominee.; and
- That the Nomination form is received by the TRONRT Office no later than 5pm 14 September 2015.

All Nominations completed in full will then be transferred to the relevant Hapu Voting Slips.

For the avoidance of doubt - where only one Nomination is received for the Position of Pou Tuara for any particular hapu, the person nominated in the Nomination Form shall be duly elected as the Pou Tuara for that hapu and there shall be no Alternate Pou Tuara.

Candidate Wananga

This Wananga is open to all Uri to attend. The focus will be on the role and responsibility of a Pou Tuara and *Alternate* Pou Tuara and give Uri an insight into the types of decisions and work required of these positions.

One Wananga has been scheduled for all those interested as follows:

Wednesday 29 July 2015
Te Runanga o Ngati Ruanui Offices
6pm - 8pm

Please RSVP your attendance to the TRONRT Office by **5pm, Monday 20 July 2015**

Voting

Voting opens at 9am on Monday 21 September 2015 and closes at 5pm on Sunday 18 October 2015 (Election Meeting date) at the Annual General Meeting. Postal Votes will be distributed to Registered Hapu Members aged 18 years or older when voting opens.

All **postal votes** must be cast by 5pm Friday 16 October 2015 (this being the last working day before the Election Meeting). Alternatively Hapu Members can cast their vote at the Election Meeting on Sunday 18 October 2015.

Uri must ensure they are registered on the Ngati Ruanui Registration Database by 5pm Friday 18 September 2015 to receive a Postal Voting Slip.

Any Other Eligible Voter whose details are not recorded on the Ngati Ruanui Registration Database can cast a vote however will be required to complete a Registration Form in full and attach it to their Election Voting Slip. Votes cast in this manner will only be counted **IF** their registration form is completed in full and has been accepted by the Secretary.

Each Hapu Member and Other Eligible Voter is entitled to vote for one Nominee for each Hapu that they have nominated on their Registration Form, **provided that every Hapu Member is entitled to only one whole vote.** A Hapu Member may vote for one Nominee in any number of Hapu they have nominated on their Registration Form. However if you vote for more than one member your vote will be divided, and a fraction of a vote to be recorded in respect of each Hapu. **For example** if have identified 4 Hapu being affiliated to on your Registration Form you will receive 4 voting slips (1 per Hapu), should you cast a vote on all 4 voting slips you one whole vote will be fractioned in to 4 part votes. However if you chose to only cast a vote on 2 voting slips, your vote will be fractioned in to 2 part votes.

The Returning Officer will be the Secretary of this Election who is responsible for receiving and counting all votes. The Scrutineer will be Te Puni Kokiri who will be responsible for supervising the conduct of the counting of the votes.

Votes will be counted by no later than Monday 2 November 2015 and results notified to all Uri by no later than Tuesday 24 November 2015 through various media.

Votes will be rejected if they are not cast on the authorised Voting Slip and where the Voting Slip does not clearly indicate the Nominee for which the voter intended to vote.

Make your vote count

Currently we have 6,308 Hapu Members eligible to vote in this years elections (18 years and over), Of the 6,308 only 3,887 Hapu Members hold current contact information and will be the only ones that receive notification of the election process. including voting papers. It is important that whanau are updating their contact information to ensure they are kept informed at all times. If you are aware of whanau members that are not receiving any information from the TRONRT Office, please make contact asap.

Election 2015 Checklist

- Aged 18 years or older?
- Registration Form completed correctly?
- Contact Details Updated?
- Information Received to make an informed vote on your preferred Pou Tuara for the respective Hapu?

If you have answered yes to all these questions you are in a great position to vote in the 2015 Pou Tuara General Elections. If you have answered no to one or more of these questions please contact the TRONRT Office where we can assist you.

Contact us or come and see us!

TE RUNANGA O NGATI RUANUI TRUST

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Te Runanga o Ngati Ruanui

KEY DATES FOR POU TUARA ELECTIONS 2015

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|----------------------------|---|
| Monday 17 August 2015 | Advertising of the 2015 Pou Tuara Election Process COMMENCES |
| Monday 24 August 2015 | Nominations for Pou Tuara / <i>Alternate</i> Pou Tuara OPEN |
| Monday 14 September 2015 | Nominations for Pou Tuara / <i>Alternate</i> Pou Tuara CLOSE |
| Saturday 19 September 2015 | Public & Private Notice of Election Meeting & AGM RELEASED |
| Monday 21 September 2015 | Voting OPEN (Voting Papers are posted to Registered Hapu Members) |
| Friday 16 October 2015 | Last day to receive POSTAL VOTES |
| Sunday 18 October 2015 | Last day to CAST A VOTE at the Election Meeting to be held at TSB Hub, Camberwell Street, Hawera |
| Monday 2 November 2015 | Last day that votes can be COUNTED & a WRITTEN DECLARATION can be made |
| Tuesday 24 November 2015 | Last day that all Uri can be NOTIFIED of the ELECTION RESULTS |